

COURTROOM DECORUM

All persons present in the courtroom shall be clean, neat, and dressed in a manner that shows dignity and respect for the court. It is important to be on time for a court appearance. Be sure to allow ample time for traffic, parking, and security screening when you arrive. You must be present in the courtroom when the docket is called. All persons entering the courtroom must pass through the metal detector. Purses and bags will be screened, and all persons are subject to search each time they enter the courtroom.

Unacceptable Courtroom Attire:

- Caps, hats, or bandanas (all types)
- Mid-Drifts Tops
- Muscles shirts and Tank Tops
- Oversized pants or shirts
- Shorts
- Trench Coats
- T-shirts or other clothing items displaying offensive, vulgar, racist, sexist, gang related, obscene language and/or graphics
- Provocative clothing styled or worn to disrupt/distract
- ALL SHIRTS THAT CAN BE TUCKED-MUST BE TUCKED

Courtroom Conduct:

- No CD players, MP3 players, including headphones
- All cell phones and pagers carried into the courtroom must be turned off
- No food or drinks
- No chewing gum

Inappropriate Language/Gestures:

- Racist, sexist, and other forms of discriminatory language or gestures, as well as obscene, or profane language or gestures are prohibited, unless they are pertinent to a case being heard by the court, or are elicited and quoting from facts in a case

Inappropriate Conduct:

- Conduct that disturbs or distracts the Judge, counsel, witnesses, or other court personnel is prohibited, and may be subject to a citation for Contempt of Court. Children under six years of age will not be allowed inside the courtroom unless pertinent to a case being heard by the court. Children six years of age or older will be allowed inside the courtroom, however if the child's conduct disrupts or distracts the Judge, counsel, witnesses, or other court personnel the guardian may be subject to a citation for Contempt of Court.

Weapons:

- Weapons (guns and knives) are strictly prohibited in the Court. This does not apply to law enforcement personnel. Items such as pocket knives, scissors, pepper spray (mace), or anything else deemed unacceptable by the Bailiff will not be allowed into the courtroom

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COURTROOM PROTOCOL

All persons present will rise when the Judge enters the Courtroom and will remain standing until instructed to be seated.

- A. The Judge's bench should not be approached without permission.
- B. The court shall be addressed as "Your Honor", "Judge", "Sir", and other individuals addressed respectfully.
- C. Persons addressing the court will not talk at the same time as the Judge, opposing counsel, or witnesses.