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STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA
COUNTY OF ROWAN

IN THE GENERAL COURT OF JUSTICE
SUPERIOR AND DISTRICT
COURT DIVISIONS

FILED

2025 FEB 24 P 1:06 JUDICIAL DISTRICT 27

IN RE:

ROWAN COUNTY AOC ADMINISTRATIVE ORDER

CELL PHONES AND OTHER
ELECTRONIC DEVICES
IN COURTHOUSE

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The undersigned Senior Resident Superior Court Judge and Chief District Court Judge for Judicial District 27 enter this administrative order regarding cell phones and other electronic devices in the Rowan County Courthouse.

IT IS ORDERED that:

1. Except as otherwise authorized, all cell phones, computers, electronic tablets, cameras, smart watches or other electronic devices capable of recording or transmitting sound or images are prohibited in the courtrooms of the Rowan County Courthouse.
2. This prohibition does not apply to authorized persons. Authorized persons include courthouse staff, licensed North Carolina attorneys, law enforcement officers present on an official capacity, county staff entering the building on county business, and AOC staff. Authorized persons also include any person who has been provided an access card to the Rowan County Courthouse.
3. Any *pro se* litigant or party to a case may seek authorization of the presiding judge to bring a restricted electronic device into the courtroom if necessary for court business. The elected clerk or designee may authorize the same for matters appearing before him/her staff. If authorization is given, then courthouse security shall permit such persons to bring the approved device in the courtroom.
4. The use by any person, including authorized person, of television, motion picture, video, recorder, audio recorder or still photography cameras, or any device capable of recording or transmitting sound or images in any hearing or trial is prohibited unless specifically authorized by the judge presiding in said court. Request for authorization should be made a reasonable time in advance of the trial or hearing as to not cause a delay in the court's business. The presiding judge's authority is limited by and must conform to the provision of Rule 15 of the Superior and District Court Rules.

5. Violation of any provision of this order may be punished by sanctions, which may include contempt to the extent permitted by law, and forfeiture of device privileges and/or revocation of access card privileges.
6. This order shall replace any prior orders related to use of electronic devices in the courthouse.
7. Given that the devices are prohibited in the courtrooms, the undersigned recommend that the County Commissioner and the RCSO also enact a policy prohibiting their presence anywhere in the courthouse except as otherwise provided herein.
8. This order shall become effective upon signing.

This the 24th day of February 2025.



Michael S. Adkins
Senior Resident Superior Court Judge

With the concurrence of:



Beth S. Dixon
Chief District Court Judge

Superior/District Court Judges Office
Rowan County
Salisbury, NC

APPLICATION FOR ONE TIME ELECTRONIC DEVICE ENTRY PERMIT

Applicant's Contact Information

Full Name: _____

Physical address: _____

Phone Numbers – Cell: _____

Description of Device (check all that apply):

_____ Cell Phone _____ iPad _____ Computer _____ Tablet

_____ Other – Please describe: _____

Courtroom: _____

Purpose to be used in Courtroom: _____

I understand that this permit does not authorize use of any electronic device in or around the courthouse for any other purpose.

Applicant's Signature _____ Date: _____

_____ Granted _____ Denied

Judge/Designee