

Dear Fellow Alamance County Bar Members:

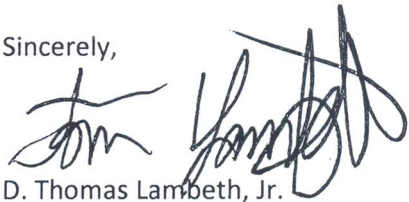
As you have likely already heard, effective June 1, 2019, cell phones will be banned from all Alamance County Courthouses to the general public. Attached please find two Administrative Orders which we have signed after extensive consultation with all of our Alamance County judges. This is not a decision which anyone takes lightly but cell phones have become a security issue. We have had numerous incidents of members of the public using or attempting to use cell phones to take video or still pictures of jurors, prosecutors, judges and other court personnel. Our bailiffs have also shown us a product that is on the market wherein a gun capable of firing two rounds has been created that looks exactly like a cell phone.

As you will see from the Administrative Orders, it is not our intention to interfere with attorneys, their staffs and court personnel's ability to transact their daily business. The County has agreed to generate identification badges for any attorney's staff member who needs to bring a cell phone or other device into the courthouses and the County has asked that attorneys simply show your Bar identification card to bring cell phones or other devices into the courthouses. If an attorney does not have a current copy of their Bar ID, the State Bar has indicated they can provide duplicate copies on short notice. In order to make an appointment for any staff IDs, please contact Jennifer Thompson at 336-570-4034. The County has ordered a printer which has not yet arrived so for the initial couple of weeks after June 1, please have your staff simply identify who they work for and the security guards will allow them in. If attorneys are waiting on a duplicate Bar I.D., the security guards will likewise let you bring your devices in. The County will also provide lockers for those members of the public who do not have a car to leave their phone in during court. Those lockers have been delayed and should be installed by the last week of June or the first week of July. The bailiffs during this transition period will allow people to bring their phones as long as they remain turned off and out of view.

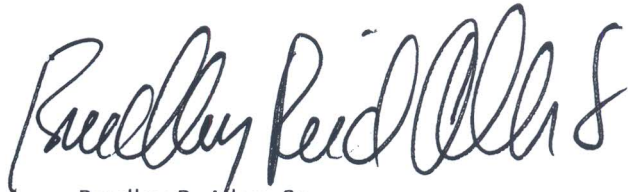
As you will see from the Administrative Orders, all of our judges are asking attorneys and others who are on the list of exempted persons allowed to bring devices into the courthouses to please keep those devices out of view unless you ask the presiding judge for permission to use your device while you are waiting in court for business purposes such as proofreading documents or receiving texts necessary to your work day or otherwise using a device in the handling of your cases. We ask that if you need to receive or place a telephone call, that you please go to the secure back hallway to do so.

On behalf of our judiciary and the safe and efficient administration of our courts, we thank you for your assistance in implementing this new policy.

Sincerely,



D. Thomas Lambeth, Jr.  
Senior Resident Superior Court Judge



Bradley R. Allen, Sr.  
Chief District Court Judge