

STATE OF MICHIGAN



SAGINAW COUNTY TRIAL COURT
111 South Michigan Avenue
Saginaw, MI 48602-2086

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JUDGES:

JAMES T. BORCHARD

DARNELL JACKSON
CHIEF JUDGE

DAVID D. HOFFMAN

ANDRE R. BORRELLO

JANET M. BOES
CHIEF JUDGE PRO-TEM

M. RANDALL JURRENS

TERRY L. CLARK

PATRICK J. MCGRAW

ELIAN FICHTNER

BARBARA METER

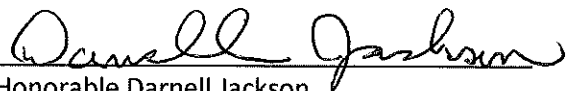
A. T. FRANK

MANVEL TRICE III

Saginaw County Policy 2020 - 01
ELECTRONIC DEVICE POLICY

1. This policy is issued in accordance with MCR 8.115 and is effective immediately.
2. Portable electronic devices are permitted in Michigan courthouses.
3. Attorneys, parties, and members of the public are permitted to use portable electronic devices in a courtroom to retrieve and store information (including notetaking), to access the Internet, and to send and receive text messages or information, but must silence them while in a courtroom. No audible function may be used in a courtroom. Portable electronic devices may not be used to communicate in any way with any courtroom participant, including a party, witness, or juror. Use of portable electronic devices is permitted outside of a courtroom, provided their use is not disruptive or in violation of an order of the court.
4. Jurors must turn off their portable electronic device while in the courtroom and the court may order jurors to turn in their portable electronic device during deliberation.
5. Witnesses must silence their portable electronic device while in a courtroom and may only use a device while testifying with permission of the judge.
6. Attorneys, parties, and members of the public may use a portable electronic device to reproduce public court documents in a clerk's office as long as the device leaves no mark or impression on the document and does not unreasonably interfere with the operation of the clerk's office.
7. In the courtrooms, and court areas (Circuit, District and Probate courtrooms; Juvenile facility, court administrative offices, friend of court offices, probation offices) no photographs or audio or video recording, broadcasting, or live streaming may occur.

8. Any allowed use or possession of a portable electronic device is subject to termination by a judge if that use "is disruptive or distracting to a court proceeding, or...is otherwise contrary to the administration of justice."
9. If a rule is violated, the presiding judge may confiscate the device for the remainder of the day or order that the device be turned off and put away. Violations are punishable by appropriate sanctions up to and including contempt of court.
10. Each Court Administrator is directed to post conspicuous notice of this policy in appropriate locations.
11. This policy is not intended as an exhaustive expression of standards of decorum to be observed in court related facilities, or to otherwise limit judges' express or inherent authority.


Honorable Darnell Jackson
Chief Judge, Saginaw County Trial Courts

5-1-20
Date