

**IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE NINTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT
WARREN COUNTY, ILLINOIS**

Portable Electronic Device Usage in the)	ADMINISTRATIVE ORDER
Warren County Courthouse,)	
effective immediately)	25-WC-2 (AMENDED)
)	

Portable Electronic Device Usage

WHEREAS, the Illinois Supreme Court has adopted a Policy on Portable Electronic Devices (the "Policy");

WHEREAS, said Policy defines "Portable Electronic Devices" ("PEDs") to include personal computers, tablet computers, mobile phones, electronic calendars, e-book readers, smartwatches, and similar devices;

WHEREAS, the Illinois Supreme Court recognized that many courthouses have current policies banning PEDs except for lawyers, jurors, and other employees who need them and that this privilege should be extended to others including self-represented litigants and court visitors;

WHEREAS, the Policy respects the interest and needs of people who enter the courtroom while recognizing and serving the need to maintain order and safety;

WHEREAS, the Policy requires each courthouse to adopt a local order consistent with the Policy and that said local order be posted at the courthouse, including at its entrance, at the Circuit Court Clerk's Office, and each courtroom entrance;


THEREFORE, IT IS ORDERED THAT:

1. Any person may bring PEDs into the Warren County Courthouse;
2. PEDs may be used in the common areas including lobbies and hallways as long as it (a) does not disrupt others; (b) does not interfere with the operations of the courthouse business; and (c) does not threaten the safety and security of others. PEDs may not be used to photograph or record litigants and/or witnesses. Further, no court visitor may use a PED to harass, intimidate, or communicate about given testimony with a witness at any time;
3. All PEDs must be turned off or placed in "silent" mode at all times within the courthouse;
4. No person may use a PED in a courtroom, except that the judge presiding in that courtroom may allow lawyers, parties, self-represented persons, witnesses, and the

press to use a PED to check calendars, to present case-related information, or for other purposes approved by the judge;

5. Attorneys should advise their clients, witnesses, and support staff about this Administrative Order;
6. No person may take photographs or audio or video recordings except as authorized by Illinois Supreme Court Rule 44 (Ill. S. Ct. R. 44);
7. Court visitors are prohibited from taking photographs, video images, or making audio recordings of prospective jurors or jurors at any time. No court visitor may use a PED to communicate or attempt to communicate with a potential juror or juror at any time;
8. No camera, video camera, video recording equipment, or recording device is allowed in the courthouse except as permitted by a judge for ceremonial events such as marriages, investitures, graduations from problem-solving courts or as authorized by Illinois Supreme Court Rule 44 (Ill. S. Ct. R. 44);
9. Anyone violating this Administrative Order may be removed from the courthouse, may be found in contempt of court, or may be subject to other penalties under the law. A PED, camera, video camera, any video recording equipment, or a recording device which is possessed or used in violation of this Administrative Order, may be confiscated and held until the possessor or user leaves the courthouse. Court and Sheriff's personnel shall not be held responsible, or liable, for any damage to, or loss of, a confiscated item;
10. Administrative Order No. 22 WC 1 (eff. Feb. 1. 2022) is hereby vacated;
11. This Amended Administrative Order is effective September 15, 2025.

DATED: 9/15/2025

ENTERED: 
Kenneth J. Hogan, Circuit Court Judge
Administrative Judge
Warren County, Illinois
Ninth Judicial Circuit