

VIRGINIA: IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE CITY OF VIRGINIA BEACH

IN RE: TEMPORARY ORDER REGARDING POSSESSION AND USE OF PORTABLE ELECTRONIC DEVICES

In order to fully implement Virginia Code §§ 16.1-69.35:4 and 17.1-128.2, which were enacted on May 20, 2026, in light of time and fiscal constraints, the Court issues this temporary order regarding possession and use of portable electronic devices by visitors to the court, upon finding it necessary to maintain safety, security, proper behavior, order and the administration of justice. Therefore, it is ORDERED as follows:

“Visitor to the court” means a member of the public who is not an active or retired judge, a magistrate, an attorney-at-law who possesses and presents a valid state bar identification card, a law-enforcement officer as defined in § 9.1-101, or court security officer, a probation officer who possesses and presents proper credentials and who is at the courthouse in the conduct of his official duties, a state or local agency employee who possesses and presents proper credentials and who is at the courthouse in the conduct of his official duties, a licensed bail bondsmen possessing identification issued by the Department of Criminal Justice Services, a court reporter during the course of his official duties within the courthouse, and any other individual who has been authorized to possess a portable electronic device in the court upon a determination by the Sheriff that such individual's possession of a portable electronic device does not pose a security risk or threat and that access to such portable electronic device is necessary for conducting such individual's work or business in the court..

The Court’s current policy regarding portable electronic devices, which is attached hereto and incorporated into this order, shall remain in full force and effect for visitors to the court, until further order.

A willful violation of this order may be punished as contempt under Virginia Code § 18.2-456. This order shall be posted in an accessible, prominent, and conspicuous manner at the entrance of the circuit court and on any applicable websites.

This order shall be in effect until rescinded by the Court.

IT IS SO ORDERED.

ENTER:

6/26/26



Tanya Felton, Chief Judge