



Policy on the Media's Use of Cameras and Electronic Recording Devices in U.S. Courthouses in the District of Minnesota

(Effective December 1, 2017)

The following policies concerning cameras and electronic recording devices apply to members of the media:

1. **Subject to inspection.** Any camera or electronic recording device brought into a U.S. Courthouse may be inspected by a Deputy U.S. Marshal or Court Security Officer.
2. **No photography, recording, broadcasting, or transmission allowed inside the courthouse, except as specified in paragraph 3.** Unless specifically authorized by the Chief Judge or by a judge presiding over a ceremonial court proceeding, no person may use a camera or other electronic recording device to photograph or record any court proceeding, courtroom, court office, or court staff member, or to broadcast or otherwise transmit any part of any court proceeding.
3. **Limited exception for using cameras or electronic recording devices in courthouse lobbies and U.S. Attorney's Office space.** Members of the media may use cameras or other electronic recording devices in courthouse lobbies and, with the permission of the U.S. Attorney, in the U.S. Attorney's Office space. The U.S. Marshal may limit the ability to use these devices within the courthouse lobbies by controlling where and when the media may use such devices in order to protect the ability of the public to ingress and egress the building and for other purposes related to court security.
4. **Storing cameras and electronic recording devices in news media rooms.** Members of the media who have applied for and obtained permission to use the news media rooms in the Minneapolis and St. Paul courthouse may store their cameras or other electronic recording devices in the news media rooms, but such equipment must be rendered inoperable while it is outside of the areas designated in paragraph 3.
5. **Violations of this Policy.** Any person who violates this Policy must be removed from a courtroom or courthouse by a Deputy U.S. Marshal or Court Security Officer. In addition, a Deputy U.S. Marshal or Court Security Officer may confiscate any electronic device from any person who violates paragraph 2 of this policy, provided that the Deputy U.S. Marshal or Court Security Officer immediately presents the device and the alleged violator to the presiding judge or Chief Judge.