

IN THE SAHUARITA MUNICIPAL COURT
COUNTY OF PIMA
STATE OF ARIZONA

IN THE MATTER OF) Administrative Order
) No. 2026-01
USE OF PHOTOGRAPHY AND) (Replacing SMC Administrative Order 2021-01)
AND ELECTRONIC DEVICES IN)
THE COURTHOUSE AND OTHER)
COURT FACILITES OUTSIDE OF)
COURTROOMS)

The presiding judge is responsible for establishing court security policies and procedures in accordance with Supreme Court Administrative Order No. 2017-79. Supreme Court Administrative Order No. 2012-22 recognizes the safety of those who participate in the judicial process is essential to serving the citizens and doing justice in all cases and therefore, the need to protect the privacy and security interests of all parties including crime victims, individuals seeking protective orders, witnesses, and jurors, and to ensure the safety of all who visit or work in court facilities,

Many people at a court facility are compelled to be there for jury service, to appear as a witness, including undercover law enforcement officers, or to conduct business that is private or not yet public and can only be done at a court. Having their image recorded and displayed on the internet can put these persons in jeopardy, expose them to embarrassment and intimidation, and discourage participation in the judicial process. Additionally, recordings of the interior of court facilities, including security officers and devices could be used to circumvent court security protocols.

Rule 122 of the Arizona Rules of the Supreme Court governs the use of recording devices in court proceedings;

Rule 122.1 of the Arizona Rules of the Supreme Court governs the use of portable electronic devices in a courthouse and specifically provides that, by local administrative order, a court may adopt reasonable limitations on photography and audio or video recording in a courthouse that are not inconsistent with Rule 122 or Rule 122.1 of the Arizona Rules of the Supreme Court;

Pursuant to Rule 122(d), the court may make reasonable provisions to prevent interference with court employees and members of the public who are conducting business in a courthouse; to maintain the security of the court, employees, and the public; and to secure the privacy of the jurors serving the court;

Now therefore it is ORDERED:

1. No person may use a recording device during a court proceeding or in a courtroom except in compliance with Rule 122.
2. Photography or video recording, including live streaming to social media sites, or other types of broadcasting are not permitted within a courthouse without a written request (including building entrances, exits, and adjacent restricted parking areas). This prohibition extends to recording the inside of a court facility through a door or window. The written request shall be submitted to the designated court staff and shall contain the name of the requester, the written consent of persons to be recorded, and the proposed

recording location, date, time, and manner. To assure timely response, the request should be made at least two business days prior to the proposed date.

3. Pursuant to Rule 122(d), if permission for the proposed activity is denied due to an unacceptable location, date, time, or manner, and some alternative is acceptable, the court must inform the requester of that alternative.
4. Pursuant to Rule 1 at juvenile court, electronic coverage of proceedings is not permitted except in adoption proceedings, and then only with the agreement of the parties to the proceeding and the court.
5. All persons wishing to use a recording device or portable electronic device of any type during court proceedings, in courtrooms or in any other area of the courthouse are expected to be familiar with Rules 122 and 1 22.1 of the Arizona Rules of the Supreme Court, copies of which will be made available, upon request, at the Security Screening Station in the Sahuarita Municipal Court.
6. Any use of portable electronic devices, photography, audio recording or video recording in a courthouse is subject to the authority of any judge, court administrator or court security officer to limit or terminate activity that may be disruptive to court operations, may affect the fair administration of justice or that may compromise courthouse security.
7. Any individual who uses or has used an electronic device to record activities or to take photographs or audio/video without the express written permission required by this order or in any manner except as permitted by either Rule 122 or Rule 1 22.1 will be required to delete the photographs or video or the recording, may be removed from the building and may be subject to sanctions by the court.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that scheduled court-connected ceremonial proceedings, such as marriages, or other events may be recorded without written permission subject to the authority of judges, or court administrator to limit or terminate recording that is disruptive to court operations or that compromises court security.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that this Order does not prohibit use of a personal recording device or scanner to copy a case file document that is otherwise available for public inspection and copying.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that a law enforcement officer with a body-worn camera may activate the recording function of the camera when providing security within a court facility or when responding to a call for law enforcement assistance.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that court personnel provide notice and enforce this Order as follows:

1. The court will post a copy of this Order on the court's website.
2. The court will post a warning sign regarding the conduct prohibited by this Order at every public entry point of facilities governed by this Order.
3. Assigned court staff, security officers, or police officers who observe a person violating this Order will:
 - a. advise the person of the violation orally and/or provide a copy of the attached document (Photography and Electronic Recording Violation Warning),
 - b. direct the person to immediately stop and delete the recording,
 - c. if the person does not comply, direct the person to leave the facility and
 - d. if the person does not comply, contact law enforcement.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that persons failing to comply with this order may be required to leave the court facility, may be arrested, may be held in contempt of court, and may be charged with criminal offenses, including:

- A.R.S. §§ 13-1502 or 13-1503: Criminal Trespass
- A.R.S. § 13-2402: Obstructing Governmental Operations
- A.R.S. § 13-2810(A)(1)-(2), (4): Interfering with Judicial Proceedings
- A.R.S. § 13-2904(A)(1)-(4): Disorderly Conduct
- A. R.S. § 13-2921(A)(2)-(4): Harassment

Dated this 8th day of January 2026.



María M. Avilez
Presiding Judge, Sahuarita Municipal Court

CC: Hon. María M. Avilez, Presiding Judge
Dina Troutwine, Court Administrator

PHOTOGRAPHY AND VIDEO RECORDING VIOLATION WARNING

1. Arizona Supreme Court Rule 122: Use of Recording Devices in a Courtroom, prohibits use of recording devices in a courtroom unless permission is given by the judge in advance.
2. Arizona Supreme Court Rule 122.1: Use of Portable Electronic Devices in a Courthouse, authorizes judges, clerks of court, and court administrators to “limit or terminate [recording] activity that is disruptive to court operations or that compromises courthouse security.”
3. Arizona Supreme Court Administrative Order No. 2017-79: Authorizes the presiding judge in each county to establish court security policies and procedures.
4. Sahuarita Municipal Court Administrative Order No. 2026-01: Regulating Use of Photographic and Video Recording Devices in the Courthouse and Other Court Facilities Outside of Courtrooms, prohibits use of recording devices unless permission is given by the presiding judge in advance.
5. You have been observed violating one or more of the above rules and orders governing photography, videotaping, and filming in a court facility, you are:
 - a. Directed to immediately stop photographing and video recording.
 - b. If you refuse, you will be directed to immediately leave the court facility.
 - c. If you refuse, law enforcement will be called and you will be required to leave the court facility, may be arrested, may be held in contempt of court, and may be charged with criminal offenses including:
 - A.R.S. §§ 13-1502 or 13-1503: Criminal Trespass
 - A.R.S. § 13-2402: Obstructing Governmental Operations
 - A.R.S. § 13-2810(A)(1)-(2), (4): Interfering with Judicial Proceedings
 - A.R.S. § 13-2904(A)(1)-(4): Disorderly Conduct
 - A. R.S. § 13-2921(A)(2)-(4): Harassment