



Baltimore City - District 1 Cell Phone Policy

- **Any individual who willfully violates Maryland Rule 16-208 and/or the limitations imposed by this policy may be found in contempt of court and may be subject to sanctions in accordance with the Maryland Rules, Title 15, Chapter 200.**
- This policy, pursuant to Maryland Rule 16-208 and effective January 1, 2011, applies to **everyone**, including attorneys (public defenders, state's attorneys, and private), and law enforcement officers, **without exception**.
- A person may possess a cell phone in a courtroom only if the phone is on a belt clip, in a pocket, briefcase, or pocketbook. The cell phone **may not be removed from the belt clip, pocket, briefcase, or pocketbook while in the courtroom**. If the person wishes to use or otherwise look at his/her cell phone for any reason, the person must do so outside the courtroom.
- Cell phones in the courtroom **must be turned off**.
- The wearing of Bluetooth earpieces and/or similar devices and accessories is prohibited in the courtroom **at all times**.
- **The taking, recording, or transmitting of photographs, videos, or other visual images by cell phone or any other device is prohibited in the courthouse at all times.**
- A violation of this policy will result in the confiscation of the cell phone and may result in the ejection from the courtroom of the violator. **If a cell phone is confiscated, it will be returned to the individual upon the completion of his/her business with the court.**

Hon. Barbara Baer Waxman, Administrative Judge