



## Dorchester, Somerset, Wicomico, and Worcester Counties - District 2 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.
- An electronic device may not be used to facilitate or achieve a violation of an order entered for the exclusion of witnesses or the non disclosure of testimony, exhibits, or other evidence.
- A person may not take or record a photograph, video, or other visual image in a court facility.
- A person may not transmit a photograph, video, or other visual image from or within a court facility.
- An electronic device shall not be used in a manner that interferes with court proceedings or the work of court personnel.
- An electronic device may not be brought into a jury deliberation room while the jury is deliberating.
- **All electronic devices inside a courtroom shall remain off and no electronic device may be used to receive, transmit, or record sound, visual images, data, or other information.**
- Attorneys in a proceeding currently being heard and persons associated with the attorney may be allowed by the court to make reasonable and lawful use of an electronic device in connection with the proceeding.
- An administrative judge or the presiding judge may enter an order limiting or prohibiting the possession of electronic devices in a courtroom or other designated areas of the court facility upon a finding the circumstances of a particular case raise special security or privacy issues.
- Security personnel or other court personnel may confiscate and retain an electronic device that is used in violation of these restrictions and prohibitions, subject to further order of the court or until the owner leaves the building. No liability shall accrue to the security personnel or any other court official or employee for any loss or misplacement or damage to the device.
- An individual who willfully violates these restrictions and prohibitions may be found in contempt of court and sanctioned accordingly.

Hon. Gerald V. Purnell, Administrative Judge