



## **Carroll and Howard Counties – District 10 Cell Phone Policy During Courts Phased Reopening**

- **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**
- All electronic devices may be inspected by Court Security Personnel.
- Security or other court personnel may confiscate an electronic device for misuse. As described below, personnel may also collect electronic devices from persons in certain designated areas of the court facility
- All electronic devices must remain OFF and INOPERABLE inside the courtroom unless the presiding judge has given express permission in a specific instance.
- Counsel may use electronic equipment for communicating with clients via text messages and Law Enforcement Officers may use an electronic device for officer communication only.
- All cell phones must be on mute during court proceedings and in vibrate only mode.
- The taking, recording, or transmitting of photographs, videos, or other visual images by cell phone or any other device is prohibited in the court facility at all times, unless the court expressly grants permission in a specific instance.
- An electronic device may not be used in a manner that interferes with court proceedings or the work of court personnel or that violates any court order.
- The court may decide to limit or prohibit the possession of electronic devices in designated areas, including courtrooms. In that event, the court will designate the restricted area and provide for the collection of devices from persons entering the area and the return of the devices to those persons when they leave the area.
- Security and other court personnel are not liable for any damage, misplacement, or loss to electronic devices confiscated or collected under the Rule or a court order

Hon. Pamela J. Brown, Administrative Judge