



UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
District of Rhode Island

**NOTICE REGARDING THE USE OF ELECTRONIC DEVICES BY
MEMBERS OF THE MEDIA**

Pursuant to LR Gen 112, members of the media may bring electronic devices into the U.S. Courthouse and the portion of the John O. Pastore Building (“Courthouse”) occupied by the Court, and may use those devices in a courtroom for reporting on proceedings, including electronic transmissions, if the following conditions are met:

1. A **Request for the Use of Electronic Devices Form**, which is available on the Court’s website or by [clicking here](#), must be completed and approved. A completed form must be submitted to the Clerk’s Office via email to media@rid.uscourts.gov. The Clerk’s Office will promptly notify the applicant of the action taken on the request. Approved requests are non-transferrable, and are valid for as long as the member of the media maintains employment or affiliation with the media organization identified on the form. If there is a change in media organization affiliation, the member of the media must submit a new request.
2. Upon arrival at the Courthouse, members of the media who have an approved request for the use of electronic devices must present valid picture identification to the court security officers, and submit to standard security screening. The identification must match the name appearing on the approved list in order to enter the Courthouse with electronic devices. No exceptions will be made.
3. Pursuant to LR Gen 112(b), the photographing, recording, and video or audio broadcasting of any proceedings, events, or activities in or from any interior portion of the Courthouse are strictly prohibited.
4. In addition to the prohibition on photographing, recording, and video or audio broadcasting, members of the media are expected to operate any devices in such a manner as to not interfere with or distract from the proceedings. All devices must be in silent mode, with ring tones and other functional sounds disabled. Only quiet keyboards may be used. Please note: there is no Wi-Fi access in the Courthouse.

5. The use of electronic devices is permitted in public areas in the Courthouse and in areas designated for use by members of the media. However, members of the media should not use a device for voice telephone or audible electronic communication in close proximity to a courtroom.
6. A presiding judge may always limit the use of electronic devices by members of the media in any given case. Members of the media with any questions should consult the courtroom deputy prior to the start of the proceeding.
7. Members of the media who violate any of these provisions will be asked to leave the Courthouse. Failure to abide by these rules and practices may result in court sanctions, including the revocation of an approved Request for the Use of Electronic Devices.

December 1, 2017

HANORAH TYER-WITEK
Clerk of Court