

**The Circuit Court for Dorchester County  
State of Maryland**

Administrative Order

2023-03

Cell Phone Policy

WHEREAS, Maryland Rule 16-208 provides for the regulation, possession and use of cell phones, computers, cameras and other electronic devices; and

WHEREAS, Maryland Rule 16-208 allows the Court to limit or prohibit the possession or use of electronic devices in designated areas, including courtrooms; and

WHEREAS, the Circuit Court for Dorchester County has determined it to be in the best interests of those who conduct business at the Circuit Court for Dorchester to be afforded all reasonable protection from harm, to be free from harassment, intimidation and other conduct detrimental to the hearing before the Court while at the Courthouse;

NOW, THEREFORE, IT IS HEREBY ORDERED this 26<sup>th</sup> day of MAY, 2023, by the Circuit Court for Dorchester County, Maryland that the possession and use of electronic devices, cell phones, computers, and cameras shall be prohibited on the second floor of the Courthouse, including but not limited to hallways, courtrooms, and law library; and be it further


ORDERED, that members of the Bar and local agencies are hereby excluded from this restriction and may be permitted to possess and use electronic devices, cell phones, computers, and cameras pursuant to Maryland Rule 16-208; and be it further

ORDERED, that the Sheriff for Dorchester County or his designee shall cause a Notice in the form attached to and incorporated by this Administrative Order to be posted in conspicuous locations at all entrances to the Dorchester County Circuit Courthouse;

ORDERED, that security personnel who are assigned by the Sheriff for Dorchester County to provide security services to the Dorchester County

Circuit Court shall implement and enforce compliance with the terms of the aforesaid Notice to the fullest extent required and as permitted by law; and

ORDERED, that any individual who willfully violates this Administrative Order may be found in contempt of court and may be subject to sanctions in accordance with the Rules in Title 15, Chapter 200.



Hon. William H. Jones