IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT FOR THE EASTERN DISTRICT OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN RE:	:	
	:	
PROCEDURES REGARDING THE	:	STANDING ORDER
POSSESSION AND USE OF CAMERAS	:	
AND PERSONAL ELECTRONIC	:	
DEVICES BY VISITORS TO UNITED	:	
STATES COURTHOUSES AND OTHER	:	
FEDERAL COURT LOCATIONS IN	:	
THE EASTERN DISTRICT OF	:	
PENNSYLVANIA	:	

Effective June 3, 2019, the United States Marshal will implement a new procedure to regulate the possession and use of cameras and personal electronic devices, such as cellular telephones, smart phones, laptop computers, recording devices, and tablet computers, by all visitors to all United States courthouses and other federal court locations in the Eastern District of Pennsylvania. This procedure is intended to ensure the personal security and privacy of parties, witnesses, judges, jurors, and counsel involved in court proceedings.

The Court orders the following:

- 1. All cameras and personal electronic devices shall be subject to inspection upon entry at all designated court security checkpoints. Such devices may not be used in violation of Federal Rule of Criminal Procedure 53 (prohibiting courtroom photography and broadcasting in criminal cases), and Local Civil Rule 83.3 (prohibiting courtroom photography and broadcasting in all cases, except upon approval by the Chief Judge for investiture, ceremonial, or naturalization proceedings);
- 2. Subject to the exemptions set forth in Paragraph 4 of this Standing Order, all cameras, cellular telephones, smart phones, and similarly sized personal electronic devices shall be turned off in the presence of court security officers upon entry to the courthouse and placed in a locked pouch provided by the U.S. Marshal. Devices shall remain in the locked pouch in the possession of the owner while in the courthouse;
- 3. The locked pouch may not be intentionally opened, damaged, or tampered with while in the visitor's possession, and must be returned to the court security officers before leaving the courthouse, at which time the personal electronic device will be returned to the visitor. Intentional damage to, or theft of, the locked pouch will subject the visitor to possible criminal penalties;
- 4. Unless otherwise ordered by the Chief Judge, or the presiding judge in a specific case, only the following persons shall be exempt from placing their personal electronic devices in a locked pouch:

- a. All attorneys with either a valid bar identification card or credentials of the U.S. Department of Justice or the Office of the Federal Public Defender;
- b. Summoned and seated petit or grand jurors, subject to any restrictions imposed by the presiding judge;
- c. Judicial officers, employees of the U.S. District Court or the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Third Circuit, and other federal court employees on official business with valid court-issued identification;
- d. Volunteer law clerks and/or interns for the U.S. District Court or the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Third Circuit with valid court-issued identification or documentation;
- e. Law enforcement officials on official business with valid identification or badge;
- f. Members of the press or media representatives on official business with valid identification from their news organization, whose electronic devices must be turned off (not on silent or vibrate mode) before entering the courtroom;
- 5. Any person listed as exempt in Paragraph 4 shall comply with the ban on photography, broadcasting, and recording in Federal Rule of Criminal Procedure 53 and Local Civil Rule 83.3, and shall not allow their camera or personal electronic device to be used by others, or used in violation of any law, rule, or judicial order.

n. Juan R. Sanchez

Chief Judge