

199th Judicial District, Judge Angela Tucker
219th Judicial District, Judge Jennifer Edgeworth
296th Judicial District, Judge John Roach, Jr.
366th Judicial District, Judge Tom Nowak
380th Judicial District, Judge Benjamin N. Smith
401st Judicial District, Judge Kimberly M. Laster
416th Judicial District, Judge Andrea Thompson
417th Judicial District, Judge Cynthia Wheless
429th Judicial District, Judge Jill Renfro Willis
468th Judicial District, Judge Lindsey Wynne
469th Judicial District, Judge Piper McCraw
470th Judicial District, Judge Brook Fulks



471st Judicial District, Judge Bryan Gantt
493rd Judicial District, Judge Christine A. Nowak
494th Judicial District, Judge Kathryn L. Pruitt
County Court at Law No. 1, Judge Corinne Mason
County Court at Law No. 2, Judge Barnett Walker
County Court at Law No. 3, Judge Lance Baxter
County Court at Law No. 4, Judge David Rippel
County Court at Law No. 5, Judge Randy Johnson
County Court at Law No. 6, Judge Jay Bender
County Court at Law No. 7, Judge David Waddill
Probate Court No. 1, Judge Sarah Duff

DISTRICT COURTS AND STATUTORY COUNTY COURTS IN AND FOR COLLIN COUNTY

COURTHOUSE POLICIES ORDER

In the exercise of the inherent power to provide for the orderly disposition of all proceedings taking place in and for the Courts of Collin County, the undersigned agree to the following rules and procedures for the Russell Steindam Courthouse. The Judges of the District Courts and Statutory County Courts unanimously ORDER, as follows:

I. COURTROOM DEMEANOR FOR ALL CASES

- a. In all cases, the atmosphere in the courtroom must be quiet, calm, and deliberative. Evidence in a case may be complex, graphic, emotional, and sometimes very tedious. All persons attending proceedings must be willing to commit to a serious attitude.
- b. Persons in the courtroom should remain silent during all proceedings. Talking, shaking of heads, gestures, or any other signals of approval or disapproval of the proceedings are prohibited.
- c. Persons may not cause distractions with devices, books, papers, or other materials during the court proceedings in the courtrooms. All electronic devices must be silenced in the courtrooms. No one may make voice calls in the courtrooms.
- d. Children not mature enough to maintain proper decorum are not permitted in the courtrooms. Exceptions for special events or special proceedings shall be made by the presiding judge
- e. There will be no drinks, snacks, or chewing gum in courtrooms.
- f. Persons in the courthouse must be dressed in appropriate courtroom attire; no shorts, tank tops, or flip flops. Obscene, revealing, derogatory articles of clothing or clothing tending to advocate for an outcome in a court proceeding are prohibited in the courthouse.

- g. No signs, banners, or other distracting, disruptive, or potentially improperly prejudicial material may be brought into, worn, or displayed in the courthouse.
- h. Any attempt by anyone to communicate with or influence a member of any jury panel, juror, or alternate, before the return of a final judgment in the trial may be investigated, cited for, or possibly punished in a criminal cause of action, for criminal contempt of court, and such other sanctions as deemed necessary by the LAJ or presiding judge for the due and proper administration of justice.

II. PHOTOGRAPHY AND RECORDING

In an effort to protect the privacy of those individuals appearing before the court, to maintain one official court record, ensure the safety of individuals, and prevent distractions, recording and photography of individuals with matters before the Courts is prohibited without prior approval of the Courts. This prohibition extends to all persons in the courtrooms, hallways, and common areas of the courthouse past the security checkpoint. Furthermore, photographs, audio recordings, or video recordings made in contravention of this policy cannot be made part of the official court record.

- a. **PRESENCE OF CAMERAS/RECORDING DEVICES** - Devices capable of photography, audio, or visual recording, with the exception of personal cell phones or personal computers, are prohibited inside the courthouse.
- b. **REQUESTS FROM THE MEDIA** - Media members may make requests for access to specific proceedings in the courtroom to the presiding judicial officer in accordance with each court's individual media policy.
- c. **JUROR PRIVACY** - At no time shall a potential juror, juror, or alternate be photographed, recorded, or filmed. Influence, intimidation, harassment of potential or active jurors, or attempts at the same, made on or off courthouse grounds are subject to investigation, citation, or possible punishment in a criminal cause of action, criminal contempt of court, and/or such other sanctions as deemed necessary by the LAJ or presiding judge for the due and proper administration of justice.
- i. **MINORS** - At no time shall a minor witness or an accompanying minor of those in the courtroom be photographed.

- j. **COURT STAFF** - No visual recording or photographing of court employees is permitted in the courtrooms without prior approval. This includes the judge, bailiff, sheriff's deputies, court reporter, court coordinator, and others.
- d. **PROTECTION OF PRIVILEGE** - Audio and visual recording, if permitted, shall be limited to those proceedings open to the public. In order to protect the attorney-client privilege and the right to effective assistance of counsel, no audio or visual recording is permitted of conferences involving counsel or between counsels.

III. PROHIBITED ITEMS

- a. No firearms, knives, chemical agents (including pepper spray), Tasers, batons, or any other item that could be used as a weapon shall be brought into any courthouse except as provided for in this order or as necessary for court proceedings.
- b. This prohibition applies to all individuals, including members of the public, parties to a case, attorneys, and law enforcement officers who are present for personal business and not acting in an official agency capacity.
- c. "Personal business" includes, but is not limited to: attending court for a personal legal matter (civil or criminal), accompanying a friend or family member, or observing proceedings unrelated to the officer's official duties.
- d. Licensed peace officers and other law enforcement or security personnel who are appearing in an official capacity and whose duties reasonably require the possession of a weapon, may carry such weapons, consistent with their agency policy and courthouse security protocols.
- e. Any person prohibited from carrying a weapon into a courtroom under this order — including off-duty law enforcement officers attending court on personal business — must secure such weapons at the security desk located in the courthouse lobby prior to entering any courtroom or secure court area. Weapons may be stored in a designated lockbox or other secured location as provided by courthouse security personnel.

IV. SANCTIONS

Any violation of this or any other court orders, and any conduct the judge finds disruptive of the proceedings may result in:

- a. An order of temporary or permanent exclusion of the offender from the courtroom and/or courthouse,
- b. Contempt of court sanctions, punishable by confinement in the Collin County jail for up to 6 months or a fine not to exceed \$500, for each offense,
- c. Confiscation or prohibited items,
- d. Referrals to appropriate licensing or disciplinary bodies
- e. Referrals for investigation, arrest, and/or charges to proper law enforcement agencies for violations of the laws of the State of Texas and/or United States.
- f. Such other sanctions as deemed necessary by the judge to ensure the due and proper administration of justice.

V. ENFORCEMENT OF THIS ORDER

Courthouse security is the purview of the Collin County Sheriff. To effectuate the ends of justice within the courthouse, other peace officers, including Sheriff's deputies, constables, and court bailiffs, are authorized to enforce this order as situations dictate. Such officers may conduct screening to prevent prohibited items from entering the courthouse. Such officers may deny entry to the courthouse, direct removal of individuals, from the courthouse or the courthouse grounds, and prohibited items as necessary.

Permanent exclusion from the courthouse may only be made by written order of the LAJ, subject to review, upon request by request of law enforcement, courthouse staff, or presiding judge.

Orders for temporary exclusion from the courthouse may be made at the discretion of courthouse security personnel or by verbal order of a presiding judge. At no time shall exclusion be for a period of longer than 72 hours without written order. Persons who have been previously temporarily prohibited may require or agree to be escorted by security personnel until such individual's courthouse business is concluded.

APPROVED FOR THE DISTRICT COURTS AND STATUTORY COUNTY COURTS IN AND FOR COLLIN COUNTY ON JUNE 11, 2025.

Angela Tucker

Judge Angela Tucker
199th Judicial District Court

John Roach, Jr.

Judge John Roach, Jr.
296th Judicial District Court

Benjamin Smith

Judge Benjamin N. Smith
380th Judicial District Court

Andrea S. Thompson

Judge Andrea Thompson
416th Judicial District Court

Jill Renfro Willis

Judge Jill Renfro Willis
429th Judicial District Court

Piper McCraw

Judge Piper McCraw
469th Judicial District Court

Bryan Gantt

Judge Bryan Gantt
471st Judicial District Court

Kathryn L. Pruitt

Judge Kathryn L. Pruitt
494th Judicial District Court

Jennifer Edgeworth

Judge Jennifer Edgeworth
219th Judicial District Court

Tom Nowak

Judge Tom Nowak
366th Judicial District Court

Kimberly Laseter

Judge Kimberly M. Laseter
401st Judicial District Court

Cynthia Wheless

Judge Cynthia Wheless
417th Judicial District Court

Lindsey Wynne

Judge Lindsey Wynne
468th Judicial District Court

Brook Fulks

Judge Brook Fulks
470th Judicial District Court

Christine A. Nowak

Judge Christine A. Nowak
493rd Judicial District Court

Corinne Mason

Judge Corinne Mason
County Court at Law No. 1



Judge Lance Baxter
County Court at Law No. 3

Randy Johnson

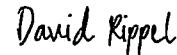
Judge Randy Johnson
County Court at Law No. 5

David Waddill

Judge David Waddill
County Court at Law No. 7

Judge Barnett Walker

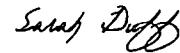
Judge Barnett Walker
County Court at Law No. 2



Judge David Rippel
County Court at Law No. 4



Judge Jay Bender
County Court at Law No. 6



Judge Sarah Duff
Probate Court No. 1