

HON. THOMAS K. BYERLEY  
CHIEF JUDGE  
PROBATE COURT JUDGE

HON. JANICE K. CUNNINGHAM  
CIRCUIT COURT JUDGE

HON. JEFFREY L. SAUTER  
CIRCUIT COURT JUDGE

HON. HARVEY J. HOFFMAN  
DISTRICT COURT JUDGE

HON. JULIE H. REINCKE  
DISTRICT COURT JUDGE

# EATON COUNTY TRIAL COURTS

56<sup>TH</sup> CIRCUIT COURT  
EATON COUNTY PROBATE COURT  
56A DISTRICT COURT

1045 INDEPENDENCE BLVD.  
CHARLOTTE, MI 48813  
(517) 543-7500  
WWW.EATONCOUNTY.ORG

BERYL J. FRENGER  
TRIAL COURTS ADMINISTRATOR

AMY M. ETZEL  
DEPUTY TRIAL COURTS  
ADMINISTRATOR

Circuit Administrative Order    C56 2015-02J  
District Administrative Order    D56 2015-04J  
Probate Administrative Order    P23 2015-01J

## COURTHOUSE DECORUM

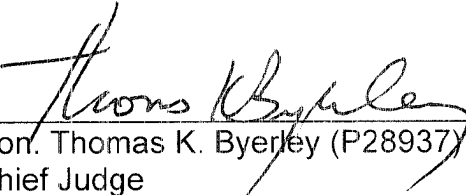
IT IS ORDERED:

This administrative order is issued in accordance with MCR 8.112. The purpose of this order is to regulate the conduct and dress of all those persons using the courthouse.

1. This administrative order applies to the conduct and dress of those who attend court or engage in business in any court facility, including attorneys, law enforcement officers, litigant, witnesses, jurors, and interested persons.
2. Court proceedings shall be conducted in a manner that protects the dignity and seriousness of the proceedings. Conduct by any person that may interfere with the decorum of the court is prohibited and may result in removal of that person from the court.
3. Persons attending court are required to abide by the following guidelines, which are representative rather than all-inclusive.
  - a. Eating, drinking (except water), reading newspapers or magazines, and gum chewing are not allowed in any courtroom at any time, whether during sessions of the court or at recess.
  - b. Taking photographs as well as audio and video recording is not allowed in any court facility without the express written permission of the court.
  - c. Demonstrations, placards, badges, T-shirts, and clothing that pose a serious and imminent threat to the fair and orderly administration of justice will not be allowed.
  - d. All cellular telephones, pagers, electronic tablets, computers, or other electronic device of any kind must be turned off or set for silent notification during sessions of the court. Individuals shall not answer telephones, pagers or other electronic communication devices in any courtroom at any time. Failure to comply with this section may result in confiscation of the device, a fine, or incarceration, in the discretion of the court.
  - e. The use of profane language is prohibited.
4. Dress
  - a. Attorneys shall wear proper business attire while attending court, unless excused from doing so by the court.
  - b. Jurors, parties, and witnesses should wear proper attire while attending court, unless excused from doing so by the court.
  - c. Clothing such as short shorts, mini-skirts, halter tops, sweat suits, camouflage garments (except military personnel on active duty), swimwear, exercise garb, and revealing garments such as tank tops or garments that expose a bare midriff shall not be permitted in the courtroom. The top of pants shall not be below the hip line. No person shall appear in court without a shirt or shoes.

- d. All persons are required to remove hats, caps, sunglasses, and hoods in the courtroom, unless worn for bona fide religious, medical, or health reasons.
  - e. The jury clerk shall assist the court in ensuring compliance with this sub-rule, and may require a juror whose clothing does not comport with 4(b) and (c) to obtain appropriate attire or to report for service on a later date. A juror who fails to return to court as directed may be found in contempt of court and is subject to the penalties permitted by statute and court rule.
  - f. Law enforcement officers on official department business, and in uniform, are permitted to carry their holstered firearm. Law enforcement officers on official department business and dressed in plain clothes may carry their holstered firearm if that firearm is fully concealed. A law enforcement officer who is in the courthouse as a litigant is prohibited from carrying his/her firearm in that court facility.
5. It is within the judge's discretion to have an individual removed from the courtroom if the individual's conduct or dress does not comport with this rule.

IT IS SO ORDERED, this 30<sup>th</sup> day of July, 2015.

  
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Hon. Thomas K. Byerley (P28937)  
Chief Judge