

CLERK OF COURTS
DELAWARE COUNTY, OHIO
COMMON PLEAS COURT
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IN THE COURT OF COMMON PLEAS OF DELAWARE COUNTY, OHIO

Judgment Entry Addressing Courthouse Security

This order replaces all prior orders of this Court on the subject of courthouse security, except any established Courthouse Security Plans, and it establishes the security procedures for the Delaware County, Ohio Courthouse at 117 N. Union Street, Delaware, Ohio 43015 (“Courthouse”).

1. The Delaware County Sheriff’s Office (“Sheriff’s Office”) or Contracted Security Personnel will operate an x-ray machine and a walkthrough magnetometer at the public entrance on the 100 level of the Courthouse for the purpose of screening persons entering the building. Throughout their time in the Courthouse, all persons who enter the building are, with probable cause, subject to search by the Sheriff’s Office or Contracted Security Personnel, and those searches may extend to any belongings carried by Courthouse employees or visitors.
2. All persons, including all Delaware County, Ohio (“County”) employees, who enter the Courthouse through the 100 level public entrance, except those indicated in item numbers 4, 5, and 7 listed below, must pass through the walkthrough magnetometer for the purpose of detection of any Deadly Weapon, Dangerous Ordnance, pepper spray, mace, or other similar or dangerous chemicals, or any other item prohibited by law, regulation, or court order to be brought into a courthouse. Courthouse employees and all other persons must submit to further screening – such as screening by a portable handheld metal detector or other screening procedures as necessary – by the Sheriff’s Office or Contracted Security Personnel if the readings of the magnetometer indicate the presence of metallic objects. Any person who refuses to submit to any facet of the screening process will be barred from entering the Courthouse.
3. All persons, including all County employees, who enter the Courthouse through the 100 level public entrance, except those indicated in item numbers 4 and 7 listed below, who are carrying, delivering or otherwise transporting any briefcase, suitcase, purse, backpack, box, bag, package, electronic device – including cellular phones, portable computers, or other devices – or any other container must surrender that item for screening through an x-ray device or a personal inspection by the Sheriff’s Office or Contracted Security Personnel. Any person who refuses to submit the item to any facet of the screening process will be barred from bringing the item into the Courthouse. Any person delivering an item such as a package or food may wait in the area between the Courthouse’s main entrance and the

walkthrough magnetometer for the recipient of the delivery if the delivery person does not wish to submit to security screening. Persons making deliveries will not proceed or be let through security or any locked or secured entrances without complying with the security procedures in this Judgment Entry.


4. The following persons – with appropriate official identification – are exempt from the screening procedures set forth above:
 - a. Judges of the Delaware County Common Pleas Courts;
 - b. Other judges who are serving by designation or assignment in the Courthouse;
 - c. On-Duty Law-Enforcement Officers who are authorized by law and agency regulations to carry a Deadly Weapon or Dangerous Ordnance, and who are in the Courthouse as part of their official duties;
 - d. On-Duty Contracted Security Personnel who are authorized by law and regulations to carry a Deadly Weapon or Dangerous Ordnance, and who are in the Courthouse as part of their official duties.
 - e. Probation officers who are authorized by law and regulations to carry a Deadly Weapon or Dangerous Ordnance, and who are in the Courthouse as part of their official duties.
5. Persons with medical conditions that prevent them from passing through the walkthrough magnetometer or from being scanned by a portable handheld metal detector must be screened by the Sheriff's Office or Contracted Security Personnel using other appropriate screening procedures as necessary.
6. No person with authorized access to the Courthouse who has passed through the security screening process in accordance with this Judgment Entry or who has entered the Courthouse with a key, key fob, or other entry device may permit any other person to enter the Courthouse, or any secured portion of it, without proper authorization from a Judge, the Sheriff's Office, or Contracted Security Personnel, except a) a person may enter the parking garage in accordance with item 7(b) below or b) office staff working in a secured portion of the Courthouse may allow persons who have properly passed through the security screening process in accordance with this Judgment Entry to enter the secured portion of their office.

7. Only current authorized County employees or current authorized County contract employees possessing a key, key fob, or other entry device issued to that employee by their current County appointing authority or current County contracting authority may enter the Courthouse through any locked or secured entrance, including garage doors. No other persons may enter the Courthouse through any locked or secured entrance, unless a) that person first receives authorization to enter through any such entrance from a Judge, the Sheriff's Office, or Contracted Security Personnel, or b) the person is in a vehicle that has properly entered the parking garage and the person, before entering any other part of the Courthouse, immediately presents themselves to security at the 100 level public entrance and is screened in accordance with this Judgment Entry.
8. Cameras and recording devices (video/audio), including cellular phones, are permitted within the Courthouse but are subject to security screening and any restrictions and requirements imposed by a judicial officer in connection with a case pending before that judicial officer.
9. The use of cellular phones in courtrooms is prohibited unless specifically authorized by the judicial officer presiding in that particular courtroom. Cellular phones must be set so that no audible signal can be emitted from them while in any of the courtrooms within the Courthouse.
10. The use of portable computers and related electronic equipment in courtrooms and facilities adjacent to courtrooms is subject to restrictions and requirements imposed by a judicial officer.
11. Photographing and/or recording (video/audio) is permitted within the Courthouse, except in non-public areas. Also, a judicial officer may restrict and/or prohibit photography and/or recording (video/audio) in their courtroom and/or connection with a case pending before that judicial officer.
12. Except for current judges (elected and visiting), Contracted Security Personnel, courtroom bailiffs or other courtroom security personnel, probation officers, and On-Duty Law-Enforcement Officers who are authorized by law and agency regulations to carry a Deadly Weapon or Dangerous Ordnance in the performance of their official duties, no person shall convey or attempt to convey a Deadly Weapon or Dangerous Ordnance into the Courthouse or possess or have under the person's control a Deadly Weapon or Dangerous Ordnance in the Courthouse, unless those items are to be presented as evidence in a courtroom hearing. Before any such items to be presented as evidence in a courtroom may be brought into the Courthouse, the Sheriff's Office must a) first be notified of such item(s) being brought into the Courthouse and b) must approve a plan for the movement of the item(s) into and around

the Courthouse. All persons must comply with and follow the Sheriff's Office plan for the movement of these item(s).

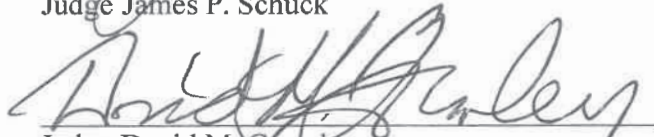
13. Doors designated as fire-exit doors are not to be used unless an actual emergency exists and shall never be propped-open.
14. Persons who violate any of the provisions listed above may be arrested, and any Deadly Weapon, Dangerous Ordnance, or other dangerous items will be confiscated by the Sheriff's Office or by Contracted Security Personnel.
16. For purposes of this Judgment Entry:
 - a. "Contracted Security Personnel" means security officers employed by that private entity currently under contract with the County to provide security services in, for, and around the Courthouse and who are currently assigned to provide security at the Courthouse.
 - b. "Courthouse" includes the Courthouse building located at 117 N. Union St., Delaware, Ohio 43015, including the parking garages located on Level 100, Level 200, and Level 300 of the Courthouse.
 - c. "Deadly Weapon" and "Dangerous Ordnance" have the same meanings as those terms are defined in R.C. § 2923.11.
 - d. "Law-Enforcement Officer" includes only the following:
 - i. A sheriff, deputy sheriff, constable, police officer of a township or joint police district, marshal, deputy marshal, municipal police officer, member of a police force employed by a metropolitan housing authority under R.C. § 3735.31(D), or state highway patrol trooper;
 - ii. An officer, agent, or employee of the state or any of its agencies, instrumentalities, or political subdivisions, upon whom, by statute, a duty to conserve the peace or to enforce all or certain laws is imposed and the authority to arrest violators is conferred, within the limits of that statutory duty and authority. "Law-enforcement officer" for purposes of this order does not include attorneys who are conducting criminal prosecutions.

- iii. A member of an auxiliary police force organized by county, township, or municipal law-enforcement authorities, within the scope of the member's appointment or commission; and,
- iv. Probation officers;
- e. "On-Duty" means a Law-Enforcement Officer or any Contracted Security Personnel who are acting within the scope of that individual's official duties at the time they enter the Courthouse. A Law-Enforcement Officer or any Contracted Security Personnel who enter the Courthouse on a personal matter are considered "off-duty," and must comply with all provisions of this Judgment Entry applicable to a person who is off-duty, including, but not limited to, complying with the screening procedures in item 4 and the prohibition on possessing a Deadly Weapon or Dangerous Ordnance as set forth in item 12.



Judge James P. Schuck

6-3-24
Date



Judge David M. Gormley

June 4, 2024
Date



Judge Randall D. Fuller

5-28-24
Date