

MIDDLE DISTRICT OF GEORGIA
ELECTRONIC DEVICE POLICY FOR MEMBERS OF THE PRESS

Members of the press, who present credentials to security personnel showing that they are employees of a news gathering organization, shall be permitted to bring into any courthouse and courtroom the following electronic devices subject to screening by court security personnel: mobile phones, mobile devices such as iPads, tablets, and laptop computers.

UNDER NO CIRCUMSTANCES SHALL ANY ELECTRONIC DEVICE BE USED TO PHOTOGRAPH, VISUALLY RECORD, OR AUDIBLY RECORD ANYTHING INSIDE THE COURTHOUSE, AND NOTHING MAY BE BROADCAST FROM THE COURTROOM. For purposes of this policy, a reporter may electronically transmit the reporter's description of the proceedings via e-mail, instant messaging, or other electronic media such as Twitter/X.

All electronic devices shall be set to a "silent" mode so that no audible sounds are detectable from the device, and the user of such device shall ensure that the use of the device is not otherwise disruptive to the proceedings.

The use of any electronic device may be prohibited by the Judge presiding over the proceeding depending upon the nature of the proceeding and applicable law.

Court security personnel shall notify the presiding Judge when a member of the press is permitted in the Courtroom with an electronic device.

This press policy shall be made an addendum to the "Electronic Device Policy in the United States District Court for the Middle District of Georgia" and shall be effective November 21, 2025.