

**STATE OF ILLINOIS  
CIRCUIT COURT  
TENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT**

**KATHERINE S. GORMAN**  
Chief Circuit Judge



**PEORIA COUNTY COURTHOUSE**  
324 Main Street - Room 215  
Peoria, Illinois 61602-1363

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

March 20, 2023

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**PORTABLE ELECTRONIC DEVICES ADMINISTRATIVE ORDER 2023-03**

The Supreme Court of Illinois established a policy regarding the use of portable electronic devices in court facilities. Chief Judge Katherine Gorman has today issued Administrative Order 2023-03, which modifies current court practices to comply with the new Supreme Court policy. Court visitors will be permitted to bring portable electronic devices (i.e., smartphones, tablets, computers, smartwatches, and e-books) into the Tenth Judicial Circuit Court facilities (i.e., Marshall, Peoria, Putnam, Stark, and Tazewell County Courthouses, and all branch court facilities) effective March 20, 2023.

Administrative Order 2023-03 (attached) allows individuals to bring portable electronic devices into court facilities but restricts the time, place, and way such devices may be used. All devices brought into Court facilities must be put on “silent” mode. Within common areas of court facilities, visitors will be able to use portable electronic devices if they are not causing a disruption to court facility operations or to others within court facilities. However, the taking of photos, audio recordings, or video recordings, whether they are in the courtrooms or in common areas is strictly prohibited. Individuals violating the Administrative Order may have their device confiscated and destroyed, be removed from court facilities, be found in Contempt of Court, or be subject to penalties as provided by law.

“Electronic devices such as cell phones and tablets have become essential tools today, and the Courts must adapt to the times. Many of these devices are used by self-represented litigants in their cases, and they have become more vital for presenting evidence,” said Chief Judge Katherine Gorman. “We greatly appreciate the cooperation of Sheriff Watkins and all elected and appointed officials in creating and implementing this Order. Of course, there will be some challenges along the way, but I am confident that our bailiffs, court security officers, and judges will be able to balance the need for these devices with the safety of everyone working and using the Courts.” Chief Judge Gorman added.

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