

PRESS RELEASE

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF INDIANA

Court Enacts New Electronic Device Restrictions

INDIANAPOLIS, Indiana (July 27, 2021): Chief Judge Tanya Walton Pratt announced that, with the approval of the judges and the Facility Security Committee of the Southern District of Indiana, effective August 2, 2021, all courthouses in the Southern District of Indiana will enact new restrictions on electronic devices. Specifically, people will be required to power off and secure electronic devices before entering the federal courthouses in Indianapolis, Evansville, New Albany, and Terre Haute.

Full details of this policy may be found in [General Order 2021-19](#). The following individuals are exempt from the restrictions:

- All attorneys with either valid evidence of their admission to the bar or credentials of the U.S. Department of Justice or the Office of the Federal Public Defender, and support staff in their company;
- Summoned and seated petit or grand jurors, subject to any restrictions imposed by the presiding Judge;
- Judicial officers; employees of the U.S. District Court, U.S. Bankruptcy Court, U.S. Probation Office, or the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Seventh Circuit; other federal court employees and contractors on official business; and employees of courthouse tenant agencies with valid courthouse identification cards and contractors on official business;
- Volunteer law clerks and/or interns for the U.S. District Court and tenant agencies with valid court-issued identification or documentation;
- Law enforcement officials on official business with valid identification or badge;
- Members of the press or media representatives on official business, who have previously registered with the court for media access and been approved for such access. Approved media members must turn off (not place on silent or vibrate mode) their devices before entering the courtroom. Information on how members of the media may register with the court for the purpose of bringing in an electronic device can be found [here](#).

Security personnel stationed at courthouse entry points will provide guidance and instructions on securing electronic devices.