

UNITED STATES COURT OF APPEALS
FIFTH CIRCUIT

POLICY ON ADMITTANCE OF ELECTRONIC DEVICES
INTO THE
JOHN MINOR WISDOM
UNITED STATES COURT OF APPEALS BUILDING

- A. Cameras and recording devices are not permitted in the John Minor Wisdom United States Court of Appeals Building (“Building”) without the court’s permission. Laptops, tablets, cell phones, and other similar devices that contain cameras or recording functions are exempt from this subsection but are still subject to (B)–(D).
- B. After visual inspection and x-ray by a Court Security Officer, electronic devices may be admitted into the Building.
- C. Unless prior court permission is obtained, **all electronic devices must be *turned off* (not “vibrate-only” mode or airplane mode)** when inside a courtroom where a Fifth Circuit argument is being held. However, an attorney presenting argument or assisting at counsel table may use a laptop, tablet, or similar device. If the laptop, tablet, or similar device has a camera or recording device, those functions may not be used inside the courtroom. **At no time may anyone use social media inside a courtroom.**
- D. Under no circumstances will disruptive behavior be tolerated in any courtroom where a Fifth Circuit argument is being held. Violators will be promptly removed.

Approved: January 20, 2015