

NOV 15 2005

N.A. CLARKE, CLERK
J. Hernandez
J. HERNANDEZ, DEPUTY

SUPERIOR COURT OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA

GENERAL ORDER

AMENDED

NOTICE TO ALL PERSONS ENTERING COURTHOUSES IN LOS ANGELES COUNTY

To ensure the safe and orderly use of court facilities, and to minimize activities which unreasonably disrupt, interrupt, and interfere with the fair and orderly conduct of trials, and the orderly and peaceable conduct of the court business in a neutral forum free of actual or perceived partiality, and to facilitate safe, peaceful and orderly public access to courthouses unhindered by threats, confrontation, noise pollution or harassment, the Court hereby orders:

I. Demonstrations, Distributions and Solicitation

A. The following definitions apply to this Section.

1. "Prohibited Activity" shall mean demonstrating, picketing, distributing literature or other materials to the general public, soliciting sales or donations, or engaging in oral protest, education or counseling.
2. "Walkway" shall mean: (1) the area of any paved corridor or sidewalk, or other path of pedestrian movement, directly from (a) the edge of the public sidewalk nearest an entrance to any building, or part of a building, containing a courtroom to (b) that entrance; (2) the area of any paved corridor or sidewalk leading directly from (a) any parking lot located in a Curtilage to (b) an entrance to any building, or part of a building, containing a courtroom; or (3) a corridor within a multi-purpose building that leads directly to the part of the building containing a courtroom.
3. "Curtilage" shall mean the area between any building containing a courtroom and the edge of the public sidewalk surrounding the building. It shall not include the area adjacent to or near that portion of a multi-purpose building that is not used for court-related facilities.

B. Prohibitions

1. No person (other than authorized court personnel or peace officers in the performance of their official duties) shall engage in any Prohibited Activity within a courthouse, or within that portion of any other building containing courtrooms and/or court-related offices.
2. No person (other than authorized court personnel or peace officers in the performance of their official duties) shall obstruct or unreasonably interfere with individuals entering or leaving a courthouse or the portion of any other building containing courtrooms and/or court-related offices, or with any line of individuals waiting to enter a courthouse or pass through an entrance to any building, or part of a building, containing a courtroom and/or other court-related offices.
3. No person (other than authorized court personnel or peace officers in the performance of their official duties) shall engage in any Prohibited Activity within 15 feet from either side of, or 15 feet in front of, a doorway to any building, or part of a building, containing a courtroom.
4. No person (other than authorized court personnel or peace officers in the performance of their official duties) shall engage in any Prohibited Activity on, or within 15 feet from any edge of, a Walkway.
5. No person (other than authorized court personnel or peace officers in the performance of their official duties) shall, within 100 feet of any doorway to any courthouse, or the portion of any other building containing a courtroom, knowingly approach another person, within eight feet of such person, unless such other person consents, for the purpose of passing a leaflet or handbill to, displaying a sign to, or engaging in oral protest, education or counseling with such other person.
6. No person (other than authorized court personnel or peace officers in the performance of their official duties) shall engage in any Prohibited Activity on the Curtilage.

7. No amplification equipment shall be permitted within the Curtilage, or within 25 feet of a Walkway or a doorway to any building, or part of a building, containing a courtroom.

C. Exclusions

1. Parts I(B)(1), (3), (4) and (6) shall not apply to individuals engaged in the stationary solicitation of sales as part of any commercial, primarily non-expressive activity (including the sale of newspapers or reading items in conjunction with the sale of non-speech-related items such as candy or snacks or other food) that is affirmatively authorized by a written space permit, license, or lease from the County of Los Angeles or other owner of a building containing one or more courtrooms authorizing that activity in a specific space not dedicated to court functions.
2. Only Parts I(B)(2) and (5) shall apply to individuals located on a public sidewalk.

D. Severability Clause

1. If any provision of this General Order or the application thereof to any person or circumstances is held invalid, the validity of the remainder of the Order and of the application of such provision to other persons and circumstances shall not be affected thereby.

II. Restrictions on weapons

- A. All persons are prohibited from entering a Los Angeles county courthouse with a firearm or deadly or dangerous weapon unless they are state or Federal law enforcement officers on official business, or persons lawfully entitled to carry such a weapon who have the written consent from the Presiding Judge or the Supervising Judge of the affected courthouse to bring such weapon into the courthouse.
- B. Under no circumstances shall any peace officer bring a firearm or deadly or dangerous weapon into a Los Angeles County courthouse if the peace officer is entering the courthouse as party litigant in a private action unless written permission to do so has first been obtained from the Presiding Judge or the Supervising Judge of the affected courthouse to bring such weapon into the courthouse.
- C. Upon entering any courtroom or court office, all persons in the possession of a firearm or deadly or dangerous weapon, including armed peace officers, must immediately identify themselves to the courtroom bailiff, court liaison, or court clerk, and indicate they are carrying a weapon and the purpose for their visit.

III. Compliance with law enforcement directions. While on or in the premises of any courthouse in Los Angeles County, all persons are ordered to comply with the lawful requests, directions, and orders of Sheriff Deputies and their agents in the performance of their duties.

IV. Posting and Service of Order. This Order shall be posted at each entrance to every courthouse in Los Angeles County, at each elevator entrance or at such other places as will reasonably apprise all persons entering such courthouses of its provisions. The Sheriff of Los Angeles County and his deputies and their agents are directed to serve a copy of this Order personally on any person who appears to be in violation thereof, advise such person of the apparent violation, and, if the apparent violation continues after such notice, to bring such person immediately before the Supervising Judge of the affected courthouse.

V. Penalties. Violation of this Order may result in the imposition of sanctions in amounts of up to \$1,500 per violation pursuant to Code of Civil Procedure section 177.5 and/or prosecution for criminal violations.

GOOD CAUSE APPEARING THEREFORE, IT IS SO ORDERED, on November 15, 2005.



A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "William A. MacLaughlin".

WILLIAM A. MacLAUGHLIN, Presiding Judge