



UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT  
CENTRAL DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE MATTER OF: )  
)  
AMENDMENTS TO LOCAL CIVIL )  
RULE 28, CONDUCT IN )  
COURTROOM AND ENVIRONS )  
\_\_\_\_\_ )

GENERAL ORDER NO. 96-16

WHEREAS, the Judges of this Court have adopted revisions to Local Civil Rule 28, CONDUCT IN COURTROOM AND ENVIRONS, and

WHEREAS, the proposed new revisions and rules were published for public comment pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 2071 (b) and Rule 83 of the Federal Rules Of Civil Procedure and such comments as were made having been considered by the Court,

IT IS HEREBY ORDERED that effective November 4, 1996, Local Civil Rule 28 is amended, as follows:

**"RULE 28. CONDUCT IN COURTROOM AND ENVIRONS**

**28.1 PROHIBITION OF BROADCASTING, TELEVISION, PHOTOGRAPHY**

- Between 7:00 o'clock a.m. and 7:00 o'clock p.m., Monday through Friday, and at all other times when the Court is in session, the use of any forms, means or manner of radio or television broadcasting and the taking or making of photographs, motion pictures, video or sound recordings is prohibited in the areas specified below:

28.1.1 United States Courthouse - The following areas of the United States Courthouse, 312 North Spring Street, Los Angeles, California

(a) The garage;

(b) The Main Street, Spring Street, second through fifth floors, eighth, ninth, tenth and sixteenth floors, except any area designated as a Press Room;

28.1.2 ROYBAL BUILDING - The following areas of the Roybal Federal Building and United States Courthouse, 255 East Temple Street, Los Angeles, California:

(a) The garage;

(b) The Temple Street and Terrace floors, except the area designated as a Press Room;

(c) The fifth through eighth and eleventh floors.

28.1.3 SANTA ANA COURTHOUSE - The following areas of the United States Courthouse, 751 W. Santa Ana Blvd., Santa Ana, California;

(a) The parking area; and

(b) The entire Courthouse.

28.1.4 SANTA ANA FEDERAL BUILDING

(a) The garage and parking area; and

(b) The ninth floor.

28.2 OFFICIAL RECORDINGS - EXCEPTION - Local Rule 28.1 shall not prohibit recordings made by official court reporters, recorders or United States Magistrate Judges in the performance of their official duties. No other use may be made of an official recording of a court proceeding without an express, written order of the Court.

28.3 CEREMONIAL FUNCTIONS - EXCEPTION - The prohibition of Local Rule 28.1 shall not apply, when specifically authorized in writing by the judge who is presiding, at ceremonial sessions or non-judicial functions.

28.4 VIDEOTAPE - Local Rule 28.1 does not prohibit the videotaping or other electronic recording of depositions for trial purposes, nor the preparation and perpetuation of testimony taken by or under the direction of a judge or magistrate judge of this Court, or any duly designated visiting judge. Any equipment taken into or through the areas enumerated in Local Rule 28.1 is subject to such security regulations as may be adopted from time to time by the Court.

#### 28.5 POSSESSION OF EQUIPMENT

28.5.1 IN GENERAL - Video or sound recording, photographic, radio or television broadcasting equipment shall not be possessed in the courthouse unless expressly authorized by a judge or magistrate judge of this Court, except as provided in Local Rules 28.3, 28.5.2, 28.5.3 and 28.5.4.

28.5.2 DICTATING EQUIPMENT - ATTORNEYS - Attorneys admitted to practice before the Court are authorized to possess dictating equipment in the courthouse. Any dictating equipment possessed by an attorney in the courthouse shall be used only in the Attorney's Lounge, a witness room, the library, or the Clerk's Office.

28.5.3 DICTATING EQUIPMENT - MEDIA - Members of the print or electronic media, i.e., newspaper, magazine, radio or television, are authorized to possess dictating or audio tape recording equipment in the courthouse. Any dictating or audio tape

recording equipment possessed by a bona fide member of the media in the courthouse shall be used only in the press room, the Attorney's Lounge, a witness room, or the Clerk's Office.

**28.5.4 PRESS CONFERENCES** - The provisions of this rule shall not apply to press conferences or public announcements by the U.S. Attorney or the Federal Public Defender, who will provide the Court Security Office advance written notification of such press conferences or public announcements. A Court Security Officer will escort communications media personnel and their equipment to and from the site of such press conference or public announcement.

**28.6 ENFORCEMENT OF RULE** - The United States Marshal, the General Services Administration police, and the security force contracted for service in the United States Courthouse shall enforce the provisions of Local Rules 28.1 and 28.5.

**28.7 VIOLATION OF RULE - CONTEMPT** - A violation of Local Rule 28.1 or 28.5 shall constitute contempt of Court. All proceedings for such contempt occurring in or in connection with a case assigned to a judge shall be heard by the judge presiding over such case. All other proceedings for such contempt shall be brought before a Criminal Duty Judge."