

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF NEWTON COUNTY  
STATE OF GEORGIA

IN RE: CELL PHONES IN THE JUDGE )  
HORACE J. JOHNSON, JR., )  
JUDICIAL CENTER )

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ORDER REGARDING ELECTRONIC RECORDING AND USE OF CELL PHONES IN  
THE JUDGE HORACE J. JOHNSON, JR., JUDICIAL CENTER

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Pursuant to Uniform Superior Court Rule 22, **electronic recording shall not take place in any courtroom** of the Judge Horace J. Johnson, Jr., Judicial Center unless permission is granted by the judge presiding in that courtroom. Any person wishing to record a judicial proceeding must first obtain permission from the judge presiding over the proceeding by filing a Request to Use a Recording Device Pursuant to Rule 22 on Recording of Judicial Proceedings. That form is located in the Clerk's Office and on the Alcovy Judicial Circuit website at [www.alcovycircuit.com](http://www.alcovycircuit.com). Any such request *must*:

1. set forth the style of the case, including the parties' names and the case number;
2. be filed with the clerk of the court in which the case is pending; and
3. be presented to the judge presiding over the case no later than 24 hours prior to the start of the proceedings.

Cell phones are allowed in the judicial center but must be turned off prior to entering any courtroom and remain turned off while in the courtroom in order to avoid disruption of court proceedings. Anyone who needs to turn on his or her phone while in the courtroom must ask permission of the judge presiding in that courtroom at the time.

**ANY PERSON VIOLATING ANY TERM OF THIS ORDER MAY BE HELD IN CONTEMPT AND PUNISHED BY CONFINEMENT IN THE COUNTY JAIL FOR UP TO 20 DAYS, IMPOSITION OF A FINE UP TO \$1,000.00, OR BOTH. O.C.G.A. § 15-6-8(5).**

SO ORDERED this 6<sup>th</sup> day of October, 2023.

  
Hon. W. Kendall Wynne, Jr.  
Chief Judge, Superior Courts  
Alcovy Judicial Circuit

  
Hon. Melanie M. Bell  
Chief Magistrate/Probate Judge  
Newton County

  
Hon. Candice Branche  
Judge, Juvenile Court of Newton County