

**COURT OF COMMON PLEAS OF PHILADELPHIA COUNTY  
PHILADELPHIA MUNICIPAL COURT  
FIRST JUDICIAL DISTRICT OF PENNSYLVANIA  
CRIMINAL TRIAL DIVISION**

**Joint Administrative Order No. 4 of 2017**

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**ORDER**

**BANNING USE OF CELLULAR TELEPHONES AND AUDIO DEVICES FROM THE  
JUSTICE JUANITA KIDD STOUT CENTER FOR CRIMINAL JUSTICE**

AND NOW this 21<sup>st</sup> day of March, 2017 it is hereby **ORDERED** and **DECREED**, except as noted below, all mobile computing and telecommunication devices including, but not limited to, cellular telephones, smart phones, and other electronic devices capable of connecting to the internet or making audio or video recordings are prohibited from use in the Justice Juanita Kidd Stout Center for Criminal Justice ("Stout Center"). All such devices brought into the Stout Center must be placed into the Yondr™ mobile phone lock box- a thick, rubbery, silicon case with a self-locking closure that keeps the device from operating while in the Stout Center. Yondr™ will be supplied by the First Judicial District upon entrance to the Stout Center at no cost to entrants.

The following classes of individuals are exempted from this prohibition:

1. Current or former Judges and current employees of the First Judicial District;
2. Federal, state, or municipal law enforcement or probation and parole officers who display his or her proper credentials upon request;
3. Any attorney displaying a bar card or the employee of an attorney entering the courthouse for the purpose of conducting court or an official hearing, and who displays his or her proper credentials upon request;
4. An individual who displays a current jury summons or who is entering in response to such summons;
5. An official of a governmental agency entering the courthouse for the purpose of conducting court, an official hearing or court duties and who displays his or her proper credentials upon request;
6. Persons with disabilities, as defined by the Americans with Disabilities Act, that require them to have electronic devices to communicate;

7. Any person displaying written permission to bring such device into the courthouse issued by a resident Judge holding court in the Justice Juanita Kidd Stout Center for Criminal Justice;
8. Members of the news media with current proper valid identification and credentials;
9. Justice Juanita Kidd Stout Center for Criminal Justice building and maintenance workers; and
10. Case managers, treatment providers, victim witness coordinators, veterans justice outreach coordinators (VJO), veterans mentors, and forensic peer specialists, with proper identification.

This Order shall be effective April 3, 2017.

Nothing in this Order should be construed to limit a Judge's authority to permit attorneys and *pro se* litigants with cases before the Judge to use such devices in the courtroom for the purpose of making evidentiary and other presentations to the court, preparing orders and other court documents, making entries in case management applications, or any other purpose the Judge deems appropriate.

The Clerk is directed to post a copy of this Order on their bulletin board and to prominently display a copy of this Order on the doors of the Justice Juanita Kidd Stout Center for Criminal Justice.

Anyone violating the ban, directly or indirectly, could face prosecution for contempt of court. The device may be confiscated and the person or persons could face a fine or jail.

This Order supersedes all prior orders related to cell phones and other electronic devices.

**BY THE COURT:**

/s/ Jacqueline F. Allen

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Jacqueline F. Allen  
Administrative Judge, Court of Common Pleas

/s/ Sheila Woods-Skipper

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Sheila Woods-Skipper  
Chair, AGB  
President Judge, Court of Common Pleas

/s/ Marsha H. Neifield

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Marsha H. Neifield  
President Judge, Municipal Court