



Office of the City Constable

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Major Reginald R. Brown, Sr.
City Constable

April 28, 2009

MEDIA RELEASE

ATTN: All Media

The Baton Rouge City Court Judges have issued an En Banc Order which prohibits **ALL** electronic devices, including cell phones, cameras, tape recorders and computer laptops, from entering the facility. Effective May 1, 2009, no electronic devices will be allowed into the Baton Rouge City Court building. Law enforcement personnel, with a valid commission card, will be allowed to enter the building with electronic devices. Attorneys, upon presentation of a current "Louisiana Bar Card" will be allowed to enter the facility with such devices to be utilized in a manner which does not interfere with court operations or violate ethical and professional standards of conduct. Practicing attorneys will be allowed a 30-day grace period to prepare for compliance with this order.

For additional information, please contact Sgt. Marc J. Tabor, Public Information Officer, Baton Rouge City Constable's Office @ (225) 928-4808 or (225) 315-7519 cell.

Clerk of Court Lon Norris
City Court Administrator

Major Reginald R. Brown, Sr.
Baton Rouge City Constable

"Service Above and Beyond"

En Banc Order

City Court of the City of Baton Rouge, Louisiana, sitting EN BANC with the Honorable Yvette Alexander, Administrative Judge presiding, was opened pursuant to adjournment, on this 31st day of March 2009.

City Constable's Security Procedures Effective May 1, 2009

IT IS ORDERED THAT the Constable of the City of Baton Rouge shall be empowered to institute at the Baton Rouge City Courthouse any security measures necessary to insure the safety and protection of Courthouse employees and visitors, and that:

1. The Constable shall maintain and operate a system to screen Courthouse visitors for weapons and/or dangerous instrumentalities.
 - A. The Constable shall prohibit the introduction of all electronic devices, including cell phones, cameras, tape recorders, and computer laptops, from entering the facility. Furthermore, attorneys upon presentation of a current "Louisiana Bar Card" shall be allowed to enter the facility with such devices to be used in a manner that will not interfere with court operations or violate ethical and professional standards of conduct.
 - B. Employees and law enforcement personnel will be allowed to enter the building with electronic devices. However, the use of such devices by Clerk of Court employees will be regulated by the Departmental Rules governing court employees. City Court Employees must display their official court identification at all times.
 - C. The Constable is authorized to increase and impose any additional security measures during times of emergency crisis, natural/man-made disasters or elevated threats of attack.
2. The Constable shall operate a security checkpoint at the entrance of the Courthouse at which he shall have the authority to conduct visual examinations and x-ray of the contents of visitors' hand-carried bags, packages, briefcases and/or any other items. Visitors shall be required to empty their pockets, remove metal items and walk through a metal detecting device known as a magnetometer before gaining entrance into the building.
3. The Constable is hereby authorized to screen visitors with hand held magnetometers at any location within the facility.

4. The Constable is hereby authorized to waive or expedite the screening process of any holder of public office, law enforcement officers and/or other officers of the court with proper identification.
5. The Constable is hereby authorized to request the recess of court and direct the judges and their staffs to report to their respective chambers or other designated area in the event of a security threat.

This order supersedes any previous order concerning the subject.

Baton Rouge, this 31st day of March 2009.

Laura P. Davis
 Laura P. Davis, Judge, Division A

Preston Castille
 Preston Castille, Judge Pro Tempore,
 Division B

Alex "Brick" Wall
 Alex "Brick" Wall, Judge, Division C

Yvette M. Alexander
 Yvette M. Alexander, Judge, Division D

Suzan S. Ponder
 Suzan S. Ponder, Judge, Division E

Court Adjourned Sine Die