

**UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
FOR THE
NORTHERN DISTRICT OF NEW YORK**

GENERAL ORDER #26

<p>U.S. DISTRICT COURT N.D. OF N.Y. FILED August 17, 2005 LAWRENCE K. BAERMAN</p>

In the Matter of: Courthouse Security and Limitations
 on the use of Electronic Devices within
 United States Courthouses in the
 Northern District of New York

Introduction: Currently the Federal Rules of Criminal Procedure and Judicial Conference Policy prohibit the taking of photographs in the courtroom during judicial proceedings or the broadcasting of judicial proceedings from the Courtroom.¹ In the past, enforcement of this policy was limited to the prohibition of cameras in the Courtroom. However, as technology advances, there are an ever-growing number of wireless communication devices that have the capability of recording and/or transmitting sound, pictures, and video. Currently, these devices include, but are not limited to, cell phones, camera phones, personal data assistants (PDA's) and laptop computers. Many of these devices are also capable of wireless internet access and have recording capabilities. In order to enforce the Federal Rules of Criminal Procedure and Judicial Conference Policy this General Order sets forth the limitations on the use of electronic devices inside United States Courthouses within the Northern District of New York.

¹FRCrP Rule 53 provides: Except as otherwise provided by a statute or these rules, the court must not permit the taking of photographs in the courtroom during judicial proceedings or the broadcasting of judicial proceedings from the courtroom.

Judicial Conference Policy states that the courtroom proceedings in civil and criminal cases in the district courts may not be broadcast, televised, recorded, or photographed for the purpose of public dissemination. Guide to Judiciary Policies and Procedure, vol.1, ch.3, part E.

