

**UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT  
FOR THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA**

**NOTICE OF PROPOSED LOCAL RULE CHANGE  
AND OPPORTUNITY TO COMMENT**

Pursuant to Local Civil Rule 1.1(b) and Local Criminal Rule 1.1, the United States District Court for the District of Columbia is publishing for comment a proposed change to two Local Rules.

The proposed rule changes, which are set forth below, will be adopted and become effective unless modified or withdrawn by the Court after receiving comments from organized bar associations, members of the bar and public. Such comments must be made in writing within 45 days of publication of this Notice and should be addressed to Kevin M. Hodges, Esq., Chairman, Advisory Committee on Local Rules, Williams & Connolly LLP, 680 Maine Avenue, SW, Washington, DC 20024.

[New Language is underlined, old language stricken]

**LCvR 83.1**

**PHOTOGRAPHING, TAPE-RECORDING,  
BROADCASTING, AND LIVESTREAMING IN THE COURTHOUSE**

~~The taking of photographs and operation of tape recorders inside the United States Courthouse and radio or television broadcasting from inside the courthouse during the progress of or in connection with judicial proceedings, including proceedings before a United States Magistrate Judge, whether or not court is actually in session, are prohibited. A judge may, however, permit (1) the use of electronic or photographic means for the presentation of evidence or the perpetuation of a record, (2) the broadcasting, televising, recording, or photographing of investiture, ceremonial, or naturalization proceedings, and (3) the videotaping or audio taping of educational programs with prior approval of the Chief Judge and under such conditions as he or she may prescribe. The use of the above equipment is permissible within a judge's chambers at the discretion of the judge. Contents of official tapes that are made as part of the record in a case will be treated in the same manner as official stenographic notes.~~

The taking of photographs, recording by audio and video means, broadcasting, and livestreaming of judicial proceedings, are prohibited, unless explicitly permitted under the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure or by the Judicial Conference of the United States. Such activities are also prohibited generally in the courthouse, regardless of whether court is in session. See *Electronic Device Policy of the U.S. Courts of the D.C. Circuit*. Photographing, recording, broadcasting, and livestreaming investiture, ceremonial, or naturalization proceedings, as well as educational programs, may be permitted with prior approval of the Court.

## **LCvR 83.2**

### **SKETCHING OR DRAWING JUDICIAL PROCEEDINGS**

Sketch artists credentialed by the Court may sketch or draw judicial proceedings from a courtroom, overflow room, or media room with prior authorization of the Court. Under no circumstances may an artist depict the faces or other identifying characteristics of jurors or prospective jurors (simple silhouettes are permissible). Only authorized sketch artists are permitted to draw or sketch in District Court courtrooms, overflow rooms, or media rooms. See *D.D.C. Sketch Artist Policy*.