

THE UNITED STATES BANKRUPTCY COURT
FOR THE EASTERN DISTRICT OF VIRGINIA
Alexandria Division

In re:)
)
ELECTRONIC DEVICES) General Order No. 12-1
IN ALEXANDRIA DIVISION)

ORDER CONCERNING ELECTRONIC DEVICES IN THE
MARTIN V.B. BOSTETTER, JR. UNITED STATES BANKRUPTCY COURTHOUSE

Upon consideration of the request of the bar concerning electronic devices, it is

ORDERED that effective August 1, 2012, electronic devices will be allowed in the Martin V.B. Bostetter, Jr., United States Bankruptcy Courthouse at 200 South Washington Street, Alexandria, Virginia, in accordance with the terms of this order.

1. Attorneys. Attorneys are permitted to bring electronic devices into the courthouse without prior approval of the court.

2. Non-Lawyers. Non-lawyers are not permitted to bring any electronic device into the courthouse without prior approval of the court. Prior approval may be obtained from the judge who will be presiding at the proceeding. The request shall be directed to the judge's Judicial Assistant and include the date of the hearing, the case name, and the reason for the request.

3. No use in Courtrooms. No electronic device shall be used in any courtroom without the express approval of the presiding judge. For example, electronic devices may not be used to read emails, send text messages, tweets or other communications, search the web, engage in electronic research, record proceedings, or take photographs.

4. Photography and Sound Recordings.

a. No photographs, either stills or videos, or audio recordings shall be made in the courthouse.

b. A national policy prohibits photography and voice recordings in courthouses. The objective of the policy is to enhance security for all participants in a judicial proceeding; to prevent proceedings from being influenced or having the appearance of being influenced by photography or voice recordings; to assure that litigants have the opportunity to fully prosecute or defend their cases without being influenced by concerns of being photographed or recorded or having photographs or recordings of them disseminated; and to further assure the candid and uninfluenced testimony of witnesses.

c. No photograph, video or recording made in violation of this order shall be transferred, disseminated, broadcast or made available to be transferred, disseminated or broadcast. Anyone who comes into possession of a photograph, video or recording made in violation of this order shall immediately surrender it to the Divisional Manager or destroy it and report the incident to the Divisional Manager and shall not transfer, disseminate, broadcast or make it available for transfer, dissemination or broadcast.

5. The court security officers are directed to take immediate possession of any electronic device violating this order and maintain possession of it until the owner leaves the courthouse.

6. These procedures apply only to the Martin V.B. Bostetter, Jr., United States Bankruptcy Courthouse. Each courthouse has its own rule with respect to electronic devices.

DONE at Alexandria, Virginia, this 31st day of July, 2012.

/s/ Robert G. Mayer
Robert G. Mayer
Bankruptcy Judge

/s/ Brian F. Kenney
Brian F. Kenney
Bankruptcy Judge