

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
WESTERN DISTRICT OF MICHIGAN

IN RE: AMENDMENT TO LOCAL
GENERAL RULE 4.3(c) REGARDING
EXEMPTED PERSONS PERMITTED TO
CARRY AND USE ELECTRONIC
COMMUNICATION DEVICES WITHIN
FEDERAL COURT FACILITIES

Administrative Order
No. 23-RL-067

At a regular Judges' meeting conducted June 9, 2023, the Court approved a recommendation from the General Services Administration to allow an additional category of persons who are exempt from carrying and using electronic communication devices under Local General Rule 4.3(c).

Accordingly, Local General Rule 4.3(c) is hereby amended as follows:

- (c) Exempted persons – The following persons are permitted to carry and use electronic communication devices within federal court facilities in the Western District of Michigan:
- (i) Officers of the court – attorneys appearing in their official capacity as officers of the court;
 - ...
 - (viii) Judicial authority – upon request to the court, a judicial officer may issue an order granting permission to an individual or group, otherwise not authorized to possess an electronic communication device. The U.S. Marshals Service shall be notified of such order;
 - (ix) Members of the press – members of the press who present official credentials satisfactory to the U.S. Marshals Service; and
 - (x) Federal credentialing clients – by written notice to the U.S. Marshals Service, the GSA property manager or his or her designee may authorize an individual, who is a newly-retained contractor or prospective Federal Government employee, and who has not yet received his or her credentials, to possess an electronic communication device to attend their appointment in the GSA credentialing office.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that the foregoing amendment shall take effect immediately, because it does not affect substantive or procedural rights and will help ensure necessary access

for federal credentialing clients to attend appointments. *See* 28 U.S.C. § 2071(e). Any member of the public may, however, submit a comment in writing no later than July 7, 2023, to the Clerk of Court by mail or electronically to ecfhelp@miwd.uscourts.gov. The Court will consider all comments and determine whether a further amendment to the Rule is required.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that the Clerk provide a copy of this Administrative Order to the Judicial Council of the Sixth Circuit and shall send electronic notice to all attorneys registered to use the CM/ECF system. In addition, the Clerk shall provide a copy of the amendment to the Federal Bar Association, West Michigan Chapter, the State Bar of Michigan Committee on United States Courts, and the Michigan Lawyer's Weekly. The official rules posted on the Court's website shall be amended accordingly.

FOR THE COURT:

Dated: June 12, 2023



HALA Y. JARBOU
CHIEF UNITED STATES DISTRICT JUDGE