

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
WESTERN DISTRICT OF MICHIGAN

IN RE: THE HANDLING OF FIREARMS
AS EXHIBITS

Administrative Order
No. 22-RL-107

At a regular meeting of the Judges of this Court conducted on December 7, 2022, the Court approved modifications to Administrative Order No. 96-012 governing the handling of firearms to be used as exhibits in trials and hearings, as referenced by Local General Rule 4.2(d).


Accordingly, effective immediately, IT IS ORDERED that the following procedures will govern the handling of firearms which are to be used as exhibits in trials and hearings:

As used in this Administrative Order, the term “courthouse” shall refer to any federal court facility in the Western District of Michigan.

1. Upon determining that a firearm will be admitted as an exhibit in a trial or hearing in the courthouse, it will be the responsibility of the case agent to obtain an order from the trial judge permitting the United States Marshals Service (USMS) to allow the firearm to enter the courthouse for the proceeding.
2. Upon arriving at the courthouse, the case agent bringing the permitted firearm will announce the intention and present the Court’s order to the court security officers at the security screening post.
3. The court security officer will escort the case agent, along with the firearm into the USMS office where the firearm will be inspected and secured by the Supervisory Deputy United States Marshal.
4. Once the firearm is determined to be safe, the court security officer and the case agent will transport the firearm to the designated courtroom. The case agent will be responsible for the security of the firearm while it is in the courtroom and shall not leave it unattended. For the duration of the trial or the hearing, it will be the responsibility of the case agent to coordinate transport with the USMS personnel to and from the appropriate courtroom.
5. Any overnight storage of the firearm shall be at the discretion of the USMS. If stored overnight in the courthouse, the firearm must be held and secured by the USMS.
6. When the trial or hearing is completed, the Court’s order will expire, and the firearm will be removed from the courthouse by the case agent.

FOR THE COURT:

Dated: December 7, 2022



HALA Y. JARBOU
CHIEF UNITED STATES DISTRICT JUDGE