TACOMA MUNICIPAL COURT

LOCAL GENERAL RULES

**TMCLGR 16.1**

**COURTROOM PHOTOGRAPHY AND RECORDING**

1. Video and audio recording and still photography by the news media is allowed in the courtroom, provided that permission is obtained in accordance with Washington Court Rule GR 16;
2. Procedures for video and audio recording and still photography by the news media will be conducted in accordance with GR 16;
3. A judicial officer may permit inconspicuous personal audio recording devices to be used by persons in a courtroom to make audio recordings as a personal note of the proceedings. A person proposing to use an audio personal recording device must obtain advance permission from the judge. The recording must not be used for any purpose other than as a personal note;
4. Video recording and still photography by non-news media persons is prohibited;
5. “Personal audio recording device” is a device used to record audio only, and that is on, held by, or immediately next to the person who is operating the device;
6. Prohibitions: (1) no video or audio recording or still photography is permitted when the judicial officer is off the bench; (2) there will be no video or audio recording or still photography of jurors, jurors statements or jurors conversations; (3) ) there will be no video or audio recording or still photography of minors; (4) ) there will be no video or audio recording or still photography of members of the public who are not participants observing present in the courtroom; (5) there shall be no video recording or still photography of readable images of documents or other materials, whether in electronic or other form, that are located on counsel table, the judge’s bench, the work area of judicial staff, or the jury box;
7. No video, audio, photograph, or audio reproduction of a judicial proceeding that is obtained pursuant to this rule may be used to modify or supplement the official record of that proceeding, nor is it admissible at that or any other proceeding unless it is offered for another purpose allowed under the Washington Rules of Evidence;
8. Any violation of this rule or an order made under this rule is an unlawful interference with the proceedings of the court and may be the basis for an order terminating media coverage, a citation for contempt of court, or an order imposing monetary or other sanctions as provided by law.