

IN THE TWENTIETH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT IN AND FOR THE STATE OF FLORIDA

IN RE: COURTHOUSE AND) ADMINISTRATIVE ORDER
 COURTROOM SECURITY) NO.: 2.18
)
_____)

Pursuant to Rule 2.050, Florida Rules of Judicial Administration, the Twentieth Judicial Circuit hereby adopts the following circuit-wide policy with regard to courthouse and courtroom security.

1. Each courthouse and courtroom within the Twentieth Judicial Circuit is hereby designated as a secure facility.

2. Any person entering any courthouse (including branch courthouses established by Administrative Order 2.7), may be subject to a search of their person or property anywhere in the building by authorized security personnel through the use of perimeter placed metal detectors, hand held or other specialized electronic equipment or other means available. Exits may be limited in accordance with state and local laws and the intent of this Order.

3. Subject to the exceptions set forth in paragraph 7 of this Order, any person in possession of a weapon, hazardous material or contraband shall be denied access to the courthouse unless the weapon, hazardous material or contraband is surrendered to the proper authorities.

4. Persons who refuse to submit to a search of their person or their possessions shall be denied access to the courthouse or courtroom.

5. If any illegal or unauthorized weapons, hazardous materials or contraband are discovered, the proper law enforcement officials or officers shall be notified immediately for appropriate action, including, prosecution to the fullest extent of the law.

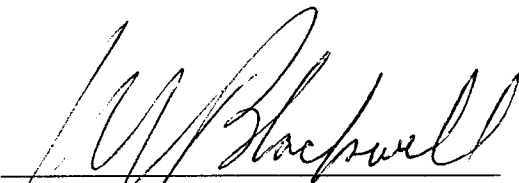
6. The following notice shall be posted at all courthouse entrances and at each security station:

FOR THE PROTECTION OF THE PUBLIC, CERTAIN AREAS WITHIN THIS BUILDING HAVE BEEN DESIGNATED AS SECURE AREAS. ALL PERSONS DESIRING TO ENTER A SECURE AREA MUST PASS THROUGH A METAL DETECTOR OR MAY BE SUBJECT TO INDIVIDUAL SEARCH BY AUTHORIZED SECURITY PERSONNEL. ALL PACKAGES, BRIEFCASES, PURSES, POCKETBOOKS OR OTHER CONTAINERS CARRIED BY ANY PERSON MUST BE OFFERED FOR INSPECTION AT ANY DESIGNATED AREA IF SUCH PERSON WISHES TO ENTER OR REMAIN IN THIS BUILDING. ALL PERSONS ENTERING THIS BUILDING ARE DEEMED TO HAVE GIVEN THEIR CONSENT TO ANY SEARCH CONDUCTED PURSUANT TO ADMINISTRATIVE ORDER 2.18 AND FLORIDA LAW. ALL WEAPONS, INCLUDING LEGALLY AUTHORIZED FIREARMS, MUST BE SURRENDERED PRIOR TO GAINING ENTRY AND ALL LEGAL WEAPONS MAY BE RECLAIMED UPON LEAVING. ILLEGAL WEAPONS OR OTHER CONTRABAND DISCOVERED IN THE COURSE OF ANY SEARCH WILL BE SEIZED AND CONFISCATED AND MAY RESULT IN PROSECUTION TO THE FULLEST EXTENT OF THE LAW.

7. Those individuals who are exempted from this Order include: Bailiffs, Courthouse Security Guards employed by any law enforcement agency or the Office of the Court Administrator, and Judges, both active and retired. However, based upon the local custom and practice in each county, an administrative judge, at his or her discretion, may permit individual exemptions from this Order, in addition to those listed within this provision.

8. Any individual entering any courthouse (including branch courthouses) shall not be permitted to bring any liquid in an open or sealed container into the courthouse. If for the purposes of an evidentiary proceeding, it is necessary to bring a liquid in an open or sealed container into the courthouse, the individual shall be escorted by a bailiff to the designated courtroom. This provision shall not apply to employees of any of the offices located within the courthouse. However, at the discretion of courthouse security personnel, an employee shall allow a container to be inspected.

DONE AND ORDERED in Chambers at Naples, Collier County, Florida, this 20 day of Jan., 2000.


William L. Blackwell
Chief Judge

History. - Administrative Order 2.18 (July 12, 1994).

STATE OF FLORIDA, COUNTY OF LEE
FILED FOR RECORD
This 21 Day of JAN 2000 Record in 14 Minute
Book 44 Page 1 and Record Verified.
CHARLIE GREEN By [Signature]
Clerk Circuit Court Deputy Clerk

I CERTIFY THIS DOCUMENT TO BE A TRUE AND CORRECT COPY OF THE ORIGINAL ON FILE IN MY OFFICE, CHARLIE GREEN, CLERK CIRCUIT COURT LEE COUNTY, FLORIDA.

DATED: 01-21-00

BY: [Signature]
Deputy Clerk