

**UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
DISTRICT OF MASSACHUSETTS**

GENERAL ORDER 11-04
September 6, 2011

**ORDER REGARDING PILOT PROGRAM,
USE OF CAMERAS IN FEDERAL CIVIL COURT PROCEEDINGS**

This court, having been selected as one of fourteen federal trial courts to participate in the federal Judiciary's digital video, three year pilot program that will evaluate the effect of cameras in the courtrooms, has amended Local Rule 83.3 and drafted a new Local Rule 83.3.2 to allow for the court's participation in the pilot program.

The new Local Rule 83.3.2 and the amended Local Rule 83.3 are attached with changes noted.

So Ordered.

Mark L. Wolf

Mark L. Wolf
Chief Judge

Rya W. Zobel

Rya W. Zobel
United States District Judge

Douglas P. Woodlock

Douglas P. Woodlock
United States District Judge

Richard G. Stearns

Richard G. Stearns
United States District Judge

George A. O'Toole

George A. O'Toole
United States District Judge

Denise J. Casper

Denise J. Casper
United States District Judge

Michael A. Ponsor

Michael A. Ponsor
Senior United States District Judge

Joseph L. Tauro

Joseph L. Tauro
United States District Judge

William G. Young

William G. Young
United States District Judge

Nathaniel M. Gorton

Nathaniel M. Gorton
United States District Judge

Patti B. Saris

Patti B. Saris
United States District Judge

F. Dennis Saylor IV

F. Dennis Saylor IV
United States District Judge

Edward F. Harrington

Edward F. Harrington
Senior United States District Judge

RULE 83.3 —PHOTOGRAPHING, RECORDING, AND BROADCASTING

(a) **Photographing, Recording, and Broadcasting Generally Prohibited.** Except as specifically provided in these rules or by order of the court, no person shall take any photograph, make any recording, or make any broadcast by ~~radio, television, or other~~any means, in the course of or in connection with any proceedings in this court, on any floor of any building on which proceedings of this court are or, in the regular course of the business of the court, may be held. ~~This prohibition shall apply specifically but shall not be limited to the second, third, ninth, eleventh, twelfth, thirteenth, fifteenth, sixteenth, eighteenth, nineteenth and twentieth floors of the John W. McCormack Post Office and Courthouse Building in Boston and the fifth floor of the Courthouse Building in Springfield.~~

(b) **Voice Recordings by Exceptions.**

(1) Court Reporters. Official court reporters are not prohibited ~~by section (a)~~ from making voice recordings for the sole purpose of discharging their official duties. No recording made for that purpose shall be used for any other purpose by any person. ;

(c2) Presentation of Evidence. The court may permit ~~(1)~~ the use of electronic or photographic means for the preservation of evidence or the perpetuation of a record, ~~and (2).~~ ;

(3) Miscellaneous Proceedings. The court may permit the broadcasting, televising, recording, or photographing of investitive, ceremonial, or naturalization proceedings.

(d4) File Review. The use of dictation equipment is permitted in the clerk's ¹office ~~of this court~~ by persons reviewing files in that office.

Effective September 1, 1990; amended effective September 6, 2011.

RULE 83.3.2 PARTICIPATION IN PILOT PROGRAM

Notwithstanding the general prohibition on photographing, recording, and broadcasting of district court proceedings set forth in Local Rule 83.3, the District Court may participate in the three year pilot program established by the Judicial Conference of the United States in September 2010 (JCUS-SEP 10, pp. 3-4) to study the use of cameras in district courtrooms for civil case proceedings.

Any recording and broadcasting conducted pursuant to the pilot program must comply with the program guidelines issued by the Judicial Conference Committee on Court Administration and Case Management, pursuant to the pilot program (available at www.uscourts.gov).

Adopted September 6, 2011