SUPERIOR COURT OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

ADMINISTRATIVE ORDER 20-08

Prohibiting Recording or Videoing of Remote Proceedings

WHEREAS, Superior Court rules prohibit the use of electronic recording equipment (other than equipment used by court personnel in their official capacity) to record proceedings held before a judge or magistrate judge;[1] and

WHEREAS, the Superior Court has also prohibited the use of devices to take photographs, broadcast, and record video or audio in the courthouse and courtrooms through its building regulations, administrative orders, court rules, and directives from presiding judicial officers;[2] and

WHEREAS, by Order issued on May 14, 2020, the Court announced an expansion of case types it will hear remotely to ensure the safety and well-being of Court staff, counsel, parties, and members of the public; and

WHEREAS, under the Order issued on May 14, 2020, all case types will be heard remotely;

NOW, THEREFORE, it is hereby

ORDERED, that the prohibition on recording proceedings before a judge or magistrate judge extends to recording the audio or video of remote proceedings before a judge or magistrate judge; and it is

FURTHER ORDERED, that that all lawyers, litigants, participants, or observing members of the press or public are prohibited from taking photographs or recording video or audio during remote proceedings, except with written authorization by the Chief Judge; and it is

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[1] *See* Super. Ct. Civ. R. 201(g), Super. Ct. Crim. R. 36-I(g); D.C. Fam. Ct. R. N(g).

[2] *See* Regulations Governing Conduct and Use of the District of Columbia Courts Buildings and Grounds, Regulation 13. Photography, video-recording, and audio-recording; Administrative Order 11-17; Super. Ct. Crim. R. 36-I and 53, Super. Ct. Civ. R. 201 (as incorporated by Super. Ct. L&T R. 2, Super. Ct. Sm. Cl. R. 2, Super. Ct. Prob. R. 1, and Super. Ct. Dom. Vio. R. 1), D.C. Fam. Ct. R. N, Super. Ct. Juv. R. 53, and Super. Ct. Neg. R. 45.

FURTHER ORDERED, that no person participating in, or listening to, such a proceeding may rebroadcast, live-stream, or otherwise disseminate any live or recorded audio or video of the court proceeding, except with written authorization by the Chief Judge; and it is

FURTHER ORDERED, that violation of this order may subject the offender to removal, contempt of court, and such other penalties as are provided by law.

SO ORDERED.

Robert E Morin

Date: May 28, 2020

Robert E. Morin
Chief Judge