

## **ROCKWALL MUNICIPAL COURT STANDING ORDERS**

### **STANDING ORDER NO. 1—COURTROOM DECORUM**

The following shall apply to all persons entering the courtroom of the Rockwall Municipal Court:

All persons shall be dressed in a dignified and respectful manner. The following are expressly prohibited unless authorized by the Court for legitimate reasons:

1. No baseball hats or caps or other non-religious headwear;
2. No shorts;
3. No tank tops or halter tops;
4. No exposed underwear or bras;
5. No sagging or drooping pants;
6. No short skirts or dresses;
7. No bare feet;
8. No offensive, violent, obscene, or suggestive slogans or pictures on clothing;
9. No drug related images, symbols, or affiliations on clothing or depicted on jewelry;
10. No gang related images, symbols, or affiliations on clothing or depicted on jewelry;
11. No sunglasses unless required by prescription.

All electronic devices, including cell/mobile phones, pagers, iPods, iPads, PDAs, cameras, handheld games, laptop computers, etc., must be placed on silent (this includes no vibration or other audible notification). Making audio or video recordings in the courtroom is expressly prohibited without the express prior permission of the presiding judge.

No weapons of any kind are allowed in the courtroom. This includes, but is not limited to, guns, knives, pepper spray, mace, razorblades, scissors, etc. The only exception to this rule is for licensed on-duty police officers on official business. Off-duty police officers, federal agents, or other law enforcement officials who are armed must inform the bailiff on duty, who will then inform the presiding judge.

All persons shall act in a dignified and respectful manner at all times. Conduct that disrupts court proceedings, offends the dignity of the Court, childish or offensive behaviors that tend to bring the Court into disrepute, all may constitute direct contempt of Court.

The following acts are prohibited unless authorized by the Court in advance for legitimate reasons:

1. No disruptive conversation/talking while the Court is in session;
2. No food may be brought into the courtroom;
3. No offensive, vulgar, racist, sexist, or obscene language, except as evidence of conduct or testimony of facts;
4. No horseplay or other behavior that could disrupt the Court or the proceedings.

All persons should stand when the presiding judge enters or leaves the bench. All persons addressing the Court should stand unless the Court has given them permission to sit.

During jury trials, all persons, including attorneys, witnesses, and spectators, should rise when the jury enters or leaves the courtroom.

During jury trials, attorneys and pro se Defendants should ask permission to approach the witness, and once permission is granted, it continues while the attorney or pro se Defendant examines the witness.

Attorneys may confer quietly with their clients and pass notes at counsel table.

Only water may be consumed at counsel tables.

Anyone violating this Order may be asked to leave the courtroom, may be found in contempt of Court, and/or may be subject to a fine, jail, or both, pursuant to section 21.002(c) of the Texas Government Code.

SO ORDERED.

Signed this 24<sup>th</sup> day of June, 2021.



HON. MATTHEW R. SCOTT, PRESIDING JUDGE  
ROCKWALL MUNICIPAL COURT



HON. RYAN K. LEE, ASSOCIATE JUDGE  
ROCKWALL MUNICIPAL COURT