

SEP 13 2005

AMENDED

GENERAL ORDER

JOHN A. CLARKE, CLERK

NOTICE TO ALL PERSONS ENTERING COURTHOUSES IN LOS ANGELES COUNTY

BY J. FERNAND, DEPUTY

To reduce risks to the safe and orderly use of court facilities, and to minimize activities which have unreasonably disrupted, interrupted, and interfered with the fair and orderly conduct of trials, and the orderly and peaceable conduct of the court business in a **neutral forum free of actual or perceived partiality**, and to facilitate safe and orderly public access to courthouses unhindered by threats, confrontation, noise, pollution or harassment:

1. **No demonstrations, distributions or solicitation in courthouse or within 10 feet of entrance.** No person (other than authorized court personnel or peace officers in the performance of their official duties) shall in any way interfere with individuals entering or leaving a Los Angeles County courthouse or with any line of individuals waiting to enter such courthouse, by demonstrating or picketing, or the general distribution of literature or other materials, or soliciting sales or donations; and no person (other than authorized court personnel or peace officers in the performance of their official duties) shall, within 10 feet of any entrance to the grounds of such a courthouse (or within the area between such entrance and public sidewalk or street, if the sidewalk or street is closer to the entrance than 10 feet), or within public areas of such courthouse occupied by the Superior Court, engage in demonstrations, picketing, the general distribution of literature or other materials, or soliciting sales or donations in person or by postings, without a written space permit, license, or lease from the County of Los Angeles or other owner of the building authorizing that activity in a specific space not dedicated to court functions.
2. **Restrictions on weapons.**
 - A. All persons are prohibited from entering a Los Angeles County courthouse with a firearm or deadly or dangerous weapon unless they are State or Federal law enforcement officers on official business, or persons lawfully entitled to carry such a weapon who have the written consent from the Presiding Judge or the Supervising Judge of the affected courthouse to bring such weapon into the courthouse.
 - B. Under no circumstances shall any peace officer bring a weapon into a Los Angeles County courthouse if the peace officer is entering the courthouse as party litigant in a private action unless written permission to do so has first been obtained from the Presiding Judge or the Supervising Judge of the affected courthouse to bring such weapon into the courthouse.
 - C. Upon entering any courtroom or court office, all persons in the possession of a firearm or deadly or dangerous weapon, including armed peace officers must immediately identify themselves to the courtroom bailiff, court liaison, or court clerk, and indicate they are carrying a weapon and the purpose for their visit.
3. **Compliance with law enforcement directions.** While on or in the premises of any courthouse in Los Angeles County, all persons are ordered to comply with the lawful requests, directions, and orders of Sheriff Deputies and their agents in the performance of their security duties.
4. **Posting and Service of Order.** This Order shall be posted at each entrance to every courthouse in Los Angeles County, at each elevator entrance or at such other places as will reasonably apprise all persons entering such courthouses of its provisions. The Sheriff of Los Angeles County and his deputies and their agents are directed to serve a copy of this Order personally on any person who appears to be in violation of this Order, and, if the violation continues to bring such person immediately before the Supervising Judge of the affected courthouse.
5. **Penalties.** Violation of this Order may result in the imposition of sanctions in amounts of up to \$1,500 per violation pursuant to Code of Civil Procedure section 177.5 and/or prosecution for criminal violations.

GOOD CAUSE APPEARING THEREFORE, IT IS SO ORDERED, on September 13, 2005.


WILLIAM A. MacLAUGHLIN, Presiding Judge