

## ROCKWALL MUNICIPAL COURT RULES

The following Order for ***COURTROOM ATTIRE AND BEHAVIOR*** shall apply to all persons entering 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:

- No hats, caps or other headwear not required by religion
- No shorts
- No tank tops or halter tops
- No exposed underwear or bras
- No sagging or drooping pants
- No short skirts or dresses
- No bare feet
- No offensive, violent, obscene or suggestive slogans or pictures on clothing
- No drug related images, symbols or affiliations on clothing or depicted on jewelry
- No sunglasses, unless required by prescription

**All Electronic Devices, including Cell/Mobile Phones, IPODs, IPADs, PDAs, Cameras, Handheld Games and Laptop Computers** must be turned **OFF** while in Court, unless expressly authorized by the Court for trial presentation purposes. No recording or photography is permitted in the courtroom.

No weapons allowed (including, but not limited to guns, knives, pepper spray/mace, razorblades, scissors, etc.). The only exception is for peace officers assigned as bailiffs to the Municipal Court or peace officers on official business. All other persons are prohibited from possessing the aforementioned items within the Municipal Courtroom. Off-duty police officers, federal agents or other law enforcement officials who are armed must make it known to the bailiff, who will inform the Presiding Judge. The Presiding Judge may limit who carries a weapon into the courtroom.

**All persons shall act in a dignified and respectful manner.** Conduct that disrupts court proceedings or offends the dignity of the court, and offensive or childish behaviors that tend to bring the court into disrepute, may constitute direct contempt. The following acts are prohibited, unless authorized by the Court for legitimate reasons:

- No disruptive conversation/talking while the court is in session.
- No leaning or placing of arms on the Judge's bench.
- No eating, drinking or chewing gum, unless expressly permitted by the Court.
- No offensive, vulgar, racist, sexist or obscene language, except as evidence of conduct or testimony of facts in trial.
- No horseplay or disruptive behavior.

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

Cathy Penn      April 13, 2016  
Honorable Cathy Penn      Date  
Presiding Judge  
Rockwall Municipal Court