

VISITING THE COURT

Welcome to the Court of Appeal, Fourth Circuit. We are committed to making the Court accessible to our visitors. All oral arguments are open to the public, on a first-come, first-seated basis. The Court's monthly docket, which lists the cases scheduled for oral argument, is available on our court website and can be found here: [Fourth Circuit Docket](#).

To maintain the dignity and decorum of the Court, we have provided the following information regarding your visit to the Court. We encourage you to consult our website for the most up-to-date information on scheduled oral arguments and other pertinent details.

Security Screening Process

Upon entering the court building, all visitors are required to pass through a security screening process. Please be prepared for the following procedures:

1. **Metal Detector Screening:** All visitors must walk through a metal detector to detect any prohibited items on your person.
2. **X-ray Machine Screening:** All belongings, bags, and items you bring into the court building will be screened by an X-ray machine to ensure they do not pose a security threat.

Prohibited Items

For the safety and security of all individuals in the court building, the following items are strictly prohibited:

1. **Food and Beverages:** No food or beverages are allowed inside the court building.
2. **Aerosol Containers and Non-Aerosol Spray:** Aerosol and non-aerosol sprays including mace and pepper spray, are prohibited.
3. **Weapons and Weapon-like Items:** Weapons or any device that may be used as a weapon, including guns, replica guns, electric stun guns, ammunition, razors, box

cutters, martial arts weapons or devices, and fireworks, are strictly prohibited. Knives or any pointed objects, except pens and pencils, are also not allowed.

Security personnel is authorized to determine if any other items pose a potential safety threat and may ask visitors to remove or store such items off-site.

Medical or Special Needs Exceptions

If you have a prohibited item that is determined to be necessary or required for medical or special needs, please notify security personnel upon arrival.

Attending Oral Argument

When attending oral argument, please be mindful of the following guidelines:

1. **Prohibited Items:** Inside the courtroom, the following items are strictly prohibited:
 - a. Food or beverages
 - b. Inappropriate clothing
 - c. Hats
2. **Appearance:** Proper attire is essential to maintain the decorum and respect required in our courtroom. Visitors shall appear neat and clean, within the limits of propriety, and are expected to adhere to these guidelines when attending court sessions. The court recognizes the need for some individuals to appear in attire dictated by their religion, culture, and/or gender-identity and allowances will be made accordingly.
 - a. **Acceptable attire** includes business or business-casual attire, such as suits, dress shirts, blouses, dresses, and dress shoes.
 - b. **Unacceptable attire** includes clothing that is overly casual, revealing, offensive, or disruptive to the proceedings, including but not limited to shorts, flip-flops, tank tops, and clothing with offensive slogans or graphics.
3. **Electronic Devices:** The use of recording devices or taking photographs of the courtroom and areas immediately adjacent to it is strictly prohibited. Additionally, the use of electronic devices, including cellular telephones, is not allowed during court proceedings.

Etiquette

At the Court of Appeal, Fourth Circuit, we consider cases arising under the Constitution, the laws of the United States, and those laws specific to the State of Louisiana. To maintain the dignity and decorum of the Court, we ask that all visitors adhere to the following guidelines:

1. Be prepared to pass through the security screening process at your point entry.
2. Please keep conversations to a quiet minimum while in the court building, as working offices are adjacent to the public hallways.
3. Photography, audio recording, and video recording are strictly prohibited in the courtroom. This includes using cell phones for such purposes. All cell phones must be turned off. Respecting this rule helps preserve the integrity of court proceedings.
4. Smoking, including the use of e-cigarettes or vaping devices, is strictly prohibited within the court building.
5. Touching, handling, or tampering with portraits, busts, or other artifacts on exhibit is strictly prohibited.
6. Visitors are expected to maintain proper decorum and behavior at all times. Disruptive or disrespectful behavior, including loud conversations or disruptions during court proceedings, will not be tolerated. Visitors unable to adhere to these guidelines may be asked to leave by security personnel.