

**83.11 ELECTRONIC COMMUNICATION DEVICES**

- (a) **Definitions.** As used in this Rule, “electronic communication device” includes any computer, personal digital assistant, cellular telephone, digital camera or camcorder, pager, two-way radio, or other electronic device.
- (b) **General Prohibition on Possessing Electronic Communication Device.** No person may possess an electronic communication device in any District courthouse, except by:
1. Law enforcement officers;
  2. United States Attorneys and staff;
  3. Federal Public Defenders and staff;
  4. Bankruptcy panel trustees;
  5. District employees and other tenants of any District courthouse;
  6. Attorneys, including pro hac vice counsel, who present photo identification and a current bar registration card from this or any other federal or state court, and staff; and
  7. Others specifically granted permission by a judge.
- (c) **Restrictions on Use.** Individuals authorized under Rule 83.11(b) to possess an electronic communication device:
1. Are subject to proper screening and security clearance before entry into a District courthouse;
  2. May not allow an electronic communication device to be used by any unauthorized person or for any unauthorized purpose; and
  3. May not use an electronic communication device—except for a laptop computer—in a courtroom, unless the individual is court personnel or has been granted specific permission by a judge.
- (d) **Sanctions for Violations.** The Court, the United States Marshals Service, and Court Security Officers may confiscate any electronic communication device that is used in violation of this Rule or Rule 83.4. In addition, the Court may impose sanctions, including financial sanctions.