

King County District Court
County of King, State of Washington
Office of the Presiding Judge

)
) General Administrative Order
)

) **No. 13-04**
)

) Order Amending GAO No. 04-95
) Regarding Screening for Security
) At King County District Court Facilities
)

This order applies to all King county District Court Facilities except those located in the King County Courthouse and Maleng Regional Justice Center. "District Court Facilities" are those areas within the buildings housing the district Court that are used or accessible by the public and/or district Court staff, prosecutors, public defenders, probation and judges for District Court business, including holding cells in those areas, during the times when district court staff, prosecutors, public defenders, probation or judges are or could be present.

To promote security at the King County District Court Facilities and to clarify those items which are excluded from being brought in to those facilities it is hereby ordered that effective immediately:

- (1) No person shall bring in to any of the aforementioned court facilities any item that constitutes a weapon under any applicable law, any firearm, knife, pocket knife, dagger club or similar items, or any items that may be used as a weapon such as box knives, hammers, screw drivers, scissors, or letter openers. Provided however, that the Court Security Officers and the Facilities Maintenance Security Officers may permit the following into King County District Court Facilities: (1) weapons or firearms carried by fully commissioned law enforcement officers which are issued to them or approved by their employing agency and who are on the premises on the official business of their office; (2) weapons or other items in the possession of law enforcement officers or deputy prosecuting attorneys which are brought into the building to be used as an exhibit in a pending case; (3) tools of the trade in possession of construction, repair and maintenance workers who are on assignment in the building; and (4) office equipment, supplies and ordinary kitchen utensils, in the possession of person employed in the building and which are brought into the building for their ordinary use.
- (2) No commissioned law enforcement officer who is not wearing a clearly identifiable uniform may be allowed to enter any King County District Court Facility subject to this order with any item identified in paragraph (1) above unless he or she clearly displays official departmental identification establishing that he or she is a fully commissioned law enforcement officer.

(3) No law enforcement officer may have in his or her possession any item identified in paragraph (1) above if he or she is present at any King County District Court Facility as a party to an action.

(4) The King County Sheriff's Office, acting through the Court Protection Unit/Court Security Officers and the Facility Maintenance Division, acting through the Facility Maintenance Security Officers, shall use appropriate electronic scanning devices and/or search all persons and property entering any King County District Court Facilities and excludes all items as set forth above.¹

(5) A copy of this order shall be posted at all King County District Court Facility entrances.

(6) This order supersedes General Administrative Order No. 01-76.

Entered this 28th day of March, 2013



Corinna Harn
Chief Presiding Judge
King County District Court

¹ Certain facilities have employee entrances. Only King County employees may use those entrances and exceptions may be made at those entrances with regard to searches of King County employees.