



# Courtroom Decorum

In order to maintain the dignity and respect of proceedings, the First District Court of Appeals has adopted the following rules of decorum for when court is in session:

- Please turn off or silence your cell phone and other devices.
- Disruptive behavior of any kind may result in your removal from the courtroom. Disruptive behavior includes but is not limited to, talking or whispering in the gallery, outbursts of any kind, overt gestures, and any behavior which impedes the performance of the Court's official business.
- Only counsel or self-represented litigants associated with the case being argued may address the Court, unless otherwise directed by a judge.
- If physically capable, rise and stand when the judges enter and leave the courtroom as directed by the Court's bailiff.
- Follow all instructions by the Presiding Judge or court staff, including but not limited to the Court Deputy, Court Bailiff, Court Marshall, or Court Administrator.
- Be on time or early. Repeated entrances and departures should be avoided and if departures become disruptive, a visitor may be asked to wait for a break in between cases to enter the courtroom.
- Food is not permitted in the courtroom.
- Remove hats before entering the courtroom.
- Public seating is available on the benches in the gallery of the courtroom. Seating is available on a first-come, first-serve basis.
- Photographs, audio or video recording, broadcasting and live streaming is prohibited, unless permission is granted by order of the Court. Please note, the Court records and broadcasts arguments on its YouTube page.

## **\*\*Notice of Court's Local Rule\*\*\***

**Loc.R. 21(H)** During oral argument, no person present in the courtroom shall operate a cellphone or any other electronic device without prior approval of the Court. Counsel of record may use electronic devices at counsel tables or at the podium provided that the devices are set to silent, and are not used to photograph, record, or broadcast.