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**JUDGE'S STANDING ORDER NO. 18A**  
**STANDING ORDER REGARDING CONDUCT AND USE OF**  
**CELLULAR PHONES, PORTABLE COMPUTERS, PHOTOGRAPHIC**  
**RECORDING OR OTHER ELECTRONIC EQUIPMENT**

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WHEREAS, the Rules of Forney Municipal Court of Record No. 1 in the City of Forney, Texas and Chapter 21 of the Texas Government Code give the Courts the responsibility and authority of ensuring the integrity and impartiality of court proceedings; and require that proceedings be conducted with dignity and in an orderly and expeditious manner with control of the proceedings so that justice is done; and

WHEREAS, a person's conduct, and use of technology in the Forney Municipal Court of Record No. 1 building impacts the dignity and the orderly and expeditious manner in which the proceedings are conducted so that justice is done; and

WHEREAS, this Order is established to address protocols on conduct and usage of technology in a court setting; and

WHEREAS, the City of Forney Municipal Court of Record No. 1 Judges encourage the appropriate conduct and use of expanding technology in an effort to provide opportunities for all parties, in order to process court matters in a timely and efficient manner without disruption to court proceedings; and

WHEREAS, the City of Forney Municipal Court of Record No. 1 Judges also wish to protect the privacy of parties, observers and court personnel conducting business from unwanted conduct and intrusion from others in the courthouse.

NOW THEREFORE IT IS HEREBY ORDERED by the City of Forney Municipal Court of Record No. 1 Judges that the following policy is in effect from this day forward to maintain proper order and decorum and the appearance of impartiality:

1. **Conduct:** No person shall be permitted to remain within the City of Forney Municipal Court of Record No. 1 building if engaged in loud, disruptive, or offensive language or actions.
2. **Recording Prohibited:** The photographing, recording, broadcasting or televising of any person, object or proceeding inside the Forney Municipal Court of Record No. 1 building is not permitted, unless previously authorized by the Court. The Court Security Officers and Court Bailiffs shall be extra vigilant in ensuring that cellular telephones/devices with camera capabilities, cameras, or other recording devices are not used to photograph, record, and broadcast or televise any person, object or proceeding; any individual who violates this Order may be subject to being removed from the Forney Municipal Court of Record No. 1 building and having his/her/their electronic device forfeited to the Court Security Officers and/or Bailiffs. All forms of audio recording, video recording and use of photographic applications are strictly prohibited in the Forney Municipal Court of Record No. 1 except as specified in this order. Audio recording, video recording, and photographic devices may be permitted during a court proceeding only with written prior approval from the Judge.
3. **General Public Provision:** Cellular devices, laptop computers, tablet computers, GoPro style recorders, and any other electronic recording devices or photographic equipment shall not be used in the courtroom and must be turned off, unless approval is granted by the Judge. Cellular devices,

laptop computers and tablet computers may be used in the lobby areas provided that they are used in a reasonable and non-disruptive manner, subject to the recording prohibitions in number two above. All persons appearing in Forney Municipal Court of Record No. 1 shall adhere to the Rules of the Forney Municipal Court of Record No. 1. Dignity and solemnity shall be maintained in the courtroom. Social media shall not be accessed while in the courtroom. Such usage is allowable in the public lobby areas. Broadcasting of Court proceedings is strictly prohibited. Unnecessary conversation, loud whispering, newspaper or magazine reading or other distracting activity in the courtroom while Court is in session is strictly prohibited.

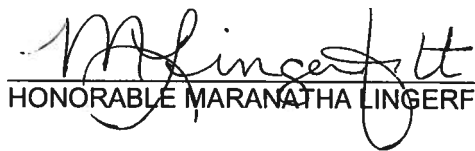
4. **Violations:** Violation of this Court Order may result in the individual being asked to leave the Forney Municipal Court of Record No. 1, being removed from the Forney Municipal Court of Record No. 1, the confiscation of cellular devices, laptop computers, tablet computers, GoPro style recorders, and any other electronic recording devices or photographic equipment, and/or a finding of Contempt of Court. Any confiscated item may be returned upon exiting the building.

APPROVED: March 14, 2022

Judges of the Municipal Court of Record no. 1  
City of Forney  
Kaufman County, Texas



  
HONORABLE JESSICA SPAIN

  
HONORABLE MARANATHA LINGERFELT