

SUPREME COURT OF LOUISIANA

ORDER

Acting in accordance with Article V, Sections 1 and 5 of the Louisiana Constitution of 1974, and the inherent power of this Court, and in considering the need to amend Canon 3 of the Louisiana Code of Judicial Conduct,

IT IS HEREBY ORDERED, ADJUDGED AND DECREED THAT:

Canon 3A(9) of the Louisiana Code of Judicial Conduct be and is hereby amended to read as follows:

CANON 3

A Judge Shall Perform the Duties of Office Impartially and Diligently

The judicial duties of a judge take precedence over all other activities. Judicial duties include all the duties of office prescribed by law. In the performance of these duties, the following standards apply:

A. Adjudicative Responsibilities.

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(9) Except as herein provided a judge should prohibit broadcasting, televising, recording, or taking photographs in the courtroom and areas immediately adjacent thereto at least during sessions of court or recesses between sessions.

A trial judge may authorize:

(a) the use of cameras placed inside the courtroom for security purposes without audio;

(b) the use of electronic or photographic means for the presentation of evidence, for the perpetuation of a record for the court or for counsel, or for other purposes of judicial administration;

(c) the broadcasting, televising, recording or photographing of investitive or ceremonial proceedings;

(d) the photographic or electronic recording and reproduction of appropriate court proceedings under the following conditions:

(i) the means of recording will not distract participants or impair the dignity of the proceedings;

(ii) the parties have consented, and the consent to being depicted or recorded has been obtained from each witness appearing in the recording and reproduction;

(iii) the reproduction will not be exhibited until after the proceeding

has been concluded and all direct appeals have been exhausted; and

(iv) the reproduction will be exhibited only for instructional purposes in educational institutions.

An appellate court may permit broadcasting, televising, recording, and taking photographs of public judicial proceedings in the courtrooms of appellate courts in accordance with the guidelines set forth in an appendix to this Canon, subject, however, to the authority of each court and the presiding judge of each court or panel to (a) control the conduct of proceedings before the court, (b) ensure decorum and prevent distractions, and (c) ensure the fair administration of justice in the pending cause.

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This rule change shall become effective upon signing, and shall remain in full force and effect thereafter, until amended or changed through future Orders of this Court.

New Orleans, Louisiana, this _____ day of April, 2015

FOR THE COURT:

Bernette Joshua Johnson, Chief Justice