



**THE SIXTEENTH JUDICIAL DISTRICT
STATE OF COLORADO
BENT COUNTY, CROWLEY COUNTY,
AND OTERO COUNTY**

**JOINT ORDER REGARDING PROHIBITED
CONDUCT IN COURT FACILITIES**

2021-02

In accordance with the inherent authority of the Sixteenth Judicial District, the Otero County Combined Courts, the Crowley County Combined Courts, and the Bent County Combined Courts to manage their facilities, the Chief Judge of the Sixteenth Judicial District and the presiding judges of district and county courts, enter the following Order governing conduct inside all trial court-related facilities, which include the Department of Probation, located within the Counties of Otero, Crowley, including, but not limited to: the Otero County Courthouse, Crowley County Courthouse, and Bent County Courthouse.

The Courts have the responsibility and authority to ensure performance of judicial functions and to protect the dignity, independence, and integrity of the Courts. Specifically, the Courts must ensure that individuals who work in, transact business in, and visit Court facilities are able to access the justice system freely, in a safe and orderly fashion, and unhindered by violence, abuse, threats, interference, intimidation, or harassment. The Courts also must provide a secure environment for all who enter and work in Court facilities. A secure and efficient environment are central to the public's confidence in the integrity of the judicial system as well as the proper functioning of our entire system of government. To carry out their missions, the Courts must minimize activities that unreasonably disrupt or interfere with the orderly and peaceful conduct of Court business. It is imperative that the Courts provide for the fair and orderly conduct of hearings and trials and maintain proper judicial decorum by ensuring neutral forums that are free from actual or perceived partiality, bias, prejudice, or favoritism. Accordingly, the Courts find that it is reasonably necessary and appropriate to impose certain restrictions on conduct in the Court facilities without regard to the content or viewpoint of any particular message, idea, or form of speech.

This Order applies to all areas of the Otero County Courthouse, Crowley County Courthouse, and Bent County Courthouse

This Order does not limit the authority of judicial officers to issue necessary and reasonable orders governing conduct and decorum in their courtrooms or in matters pending before them.

DISRUPTIVE, THREATENING, OR ABUSIVE CONDUCT PROHIBITED

All conduct in the Court facilities must be consistent with the purpose and use of the Court facilities, which is to house and support the Trial Courts and Probation. The following

conduct is specifically prohibited in the Court facilities as inconsistent with the purpose and use of the Court facilities.

Displaying signs or other materials; distributing literature or other materials; obstructing the passage of any other person; interrupting judicial proceedings; yelling or making other audible outbursts; using sound amplification; harassing, intimidating, or threatening Court personnel or others; or engaging in similar conduct that interferes with the ability of employees to carry out the business of the Courts or the ability of other persons to effectively access the Courts.

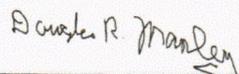
In addition to the responsibilities and authorities of the Courts outlined above, the Courts have the responsibility and authority to protect the public health within the Court facilities. Therefore, **those entering the Court facilities are required to be appropriately and fully clothed, including shoes.**

This Order shall be enforced by the Otero County Sheriff's Department, Crowley County Sheriff's Department, Bent County Sheriff's Department, and any other security staff or law enforcement officer as necessary and appropriate. This specifically includes enforcement of 18-9-111 and 18-9-117, C.R.S., and enforcement orders in furtherance of the Courts' contempt authority under C.R.C.P. 107. All persons shall comply with the lawful requests, directions, and orders of law enforcement officers and security staff in the performance of their duties. Failure to do so will constitute a violation of this Order. This Order shall not preclude law enforcement officers or security staff from taking additional appropriate steps to ensure the orderly and peaceful conduct of Court business at the Court facilities.

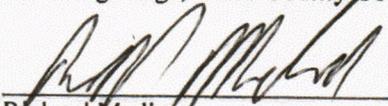
Entered this 18th day of May 2021



Mark A. MacDonnell
Chief Judge, Sixteenth Judicial District



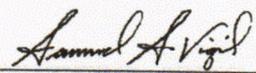
Douglas R. Manley
Presiding Judge, Otero County Court



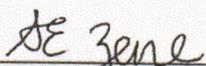
Richard Medina
Presiding Judge, Crowley County Court



District Judge, Michael Schiferl
Michael A. Schiferl
Presiding Judge, District Court



Samuel S. Vigil
Presiding Judge, Bent County Court



Sarah E. Zane
Presiding Magistrate, District Court