

**NOTICE OF PROPOSED AMENDMENTS TO THE LOCAL RULES
OF THE CHILlicothe MUNICIPAL COURT**

TO: Ross County Bar Association
Local Attorneys
Members of the Public
Local Media
FROM: Chillicothe Municipal Court
DATE: February 2, 2018
RE: Publication of Amendment to Local Rules
I(13): Admission to courthouse.

LOCAL RULE I(13). The Chillicothe Municipal Court proposes to amend Local Rule I(13) as follows:

13. Admission to courthouse. Prohibited items. Dress Code. Conduct.

B. *Prohibited items.* The following items are prohibited from being brought into the Chillicothe Municipal Court:

1. firearms
2. switchblades
3. knives
4. any cutting blade that can be used as a weapon
5. brass knuckles
6. ammunition
7. explosives
8. chemical agents
9. stun guns
10. expandable batons or clubs
11. hammers, screwdrivers, pliers, and other similar tools
12. box cutters
13. hacksaws and blades
14. scissors
15. razor blades
16. nail files
17. large safety pins
18. knitting needles
19. letter openers
20. handcuffs and handcuff keys
21. illegal drugs, controlled substances, and drug paraphernalia
22. other tools or items which can be used as a weapon
- 23. syringes**
- 24. any device used in violation of Local Rule I. E.**

D. *Dress code.* The following dress code shall be posted at the court entrance:

“The Chillicothe Municipal Court has enacted the following guidelines for all persons appearing before the judges and magistrate. These guidelines were developed in order to maintain order and to uphold the dignity and decorum of the Court. These rules are intended to ensure that persons in the Courtroom do not obstruct or interfere with the orderly transaction of Court business and that they not degrade or insult the dignity of judicial proceedings, judicial officers and employees, witnesses, or others in the Courtroom.

“Any person may be removed from the Courtroom for violating these guidelines. This removal could result in an arrest warrant for failure to appear at a scheduled hearing or a default in a civil case.

“Guidelines for Dress

- “1. Clothing should be consistent with the seriousness and dignity of the judicial process. It should be constructed and worn in such a manner that it is not unduly revealing or offensive.
- “2. Shirts and shoes must be worn at all times.
- “3. Shorts may be worn as long as they are ~~modest, of reasonable~~ **at least mid-thigh in** length, ~~and in good taste.~~
- “4. ~~Excessive tattoos and body piercing shall be covered.~~

“Clothing that WILL NOT be permitted includes:

- “1. Anything that is obviously dirty, torn, ripped, cut, or mutilated.
- “2. Anything associated with drugs or gangs.
- “3. Anything containing words, pictures, or symbols that are obscene, profane, or sexually suggestive.
- “4. Halter tops, tank tops, tube tops, see-through tops, bare-midriff tops, or tops with open backs.
- “5. **Short Shorts (less than mid-thigh in length).**
- “56. Swim wear, bathing suits, lingerie, pajamas.
- “67. Pants that allow undergarments or bare skin to show such as low cut hip-huggers and loose fitting pants that expose boxer shorts.
- “78. All hats or headgear unless otherwise approved by a Judge.”

E. *Conduct.* No smoking is permitted in or on the court facilities under any circumstances, including electronic cigarettes. No eating or drinking is permitted in a courtroom or within the court without the express permission of the presiding judge, except in the employee break room.

No ~~cellular phones~~, cameras, **or audio or video** recording devices, **including cell phones used for these purposes**, or other electronic devices shall be used in the **Court facility** courtroom without the express permission of the **presiding** judge. **No cellular phones may be used for any**

purpose in the courtroom without the express permission of the courtroom judge. Any devices used without such permission may be confiscated and **will be considered contraband. Such items will be returned only with the express permission** held until the next recess of court at discretion of the judge.

Any person may be removed from the **court facilities or the** courtroom if the person's conduct is disruptive or otherwise interferes with court proceedings.

COMMENT PERIOD. The court will accept written comments on the proposed rule changes through the close of business on March 2, 2018. Written comments may be mailed or delivered to the Chillicothe Municipal Court, c/o Local Rules Comments, 95 East Main Street, Chillicothe, OH 45601, or submitted through the court's website: www.chillicothemunicipalcourt.org.