



No matter your role in a court case - litigant, defendant, attorney, witness, or juror - making a good impression on the presiding Judicial Officer is of utmost importance. This starts with some basic courtroom etiquette.

Your actions and appearance show that you respect the Court, the Judge, and the importance of the proceedings.

- * Respect the Court's time by being on time.
- * Turn off cell phones before entering the courtroom.
- * Electronic recording of any kind is strictly prohibited.
- * Be courteous and act in a professional manner to all those involved in the proceedings. This includes the Judge, court staff, opposing litigants, and attorneys.
- * No profanity.
- * Do not interrupt others while they are talking.
- * Refer to the Judge or Commissioner as "Your Honor" or "Judge /Commissioner".
- * Stand up when the Judge and /or jury enter and leave the courtroom.
- * Stand when speaking to the Judge.
- * No food, beverages, gum or smoking are allowed in the courtroom.
- * In most situations, children are not allowed in the courtroom unless specifically directed by the Judge.

While it is not necessary to "dress up" to come to court, all members of the public should dress in a respectful and appropriate manner in keeping with the dignity and serious nature of court proceedings. Individuals wearing inappropriate clothing may be excluded from the courtroom by the Judge or the Bailiff.

- * NO sunglasses
- * NO hats, except those worn for religious purposes
- * NO shorts
- * NO tank tops, halter tops or bare midriffs
- * NO exposed underwear or sleepwear
- * NO clothing with messages or images that are obscene, intimidating or contain sexual or drug references
- * NO flip-flops or bedroom slippers