

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF THE STATE OF ARIZONA  
IN AND FOR THE COUNTY OF PINAL

IN THE MATTER OF: )  
THE USE OF SECURITY )  
SURVEILLANCE RECORDINGS )  
\_\_\_\_\_ )

ADMINISTRATIVE ORDER

No. 2022 - 0025

To provide for the safety, security and protection of judges, employees, the public and the courthouse itself, the court(s) have installed surveillance camera systems that monitor activities inside and outside the Courts in Pinal County. The systems record and temporarily store the images it receives for the purpose of later review in the event of a security incident or breach.

Rule 123 of the Rules of the Supreme Court of Arizona governs public access to court records. It constitutes the Supreme Court's open records policy and establishes a presumption that court records will be open and accessible to the public. However, under section (e)(4) of that rule, "all security plans, codes and other records that provide for the security of information individuals, or property .... are closed." Thus, the digital recordings made by all court security surveillance cameras are excluded from public access under Rule 123.

Practical concerns underscoring the need to retain such recordings exclusively for the court's security use include:

1. It is not possible to exclude from the security recordings jurors, minor victims and other participants in court proceedings whose images may be protected by law.
2. The recordings may capture protected communications between attorneys and his or her clients.
3. The recordings could be used to plan attacks on, or damage to, court property.

For the reasons cited above, **IT IS HEREBY ORDERED** that:

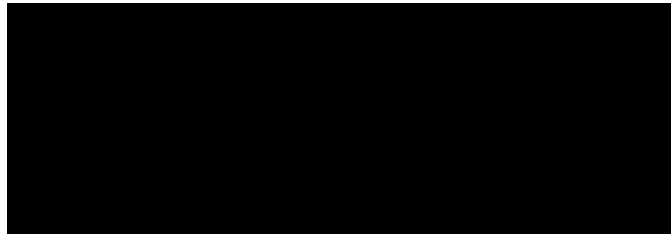
Administrative Order:  
Use of Security Surveillance Recordings

1. The video recordings made by the court's security surveillance camera systems are to be used only for the purpose of ensuring the safety and security of judges, employees, the public and the integrity of the courthouse.
2. Such video recordings are to be retained only for the minimum time dictated by characteristics of the installed surveillance system, unless otherwise directed by the presiding judge or court administrator.
3. Requests by law enforcement agencies, for investigatory purposes, shall be evaluated by the court administrator.
4. Only court security officers in the course of performing his or her official duties are permitted access to these recordings without the authorization of the presiding judge or court administrator.

If a request is received to view such a recording other than as stated in (4), above, court security staff shall be directed to retain the requested portion of the recording, if available, until such time as the presiding judge or court administrator has determined whether to authorize the release of the recording. The requestor shall complete the Security Video Release Form and submit it to the court administrator.

In Justice Courts, the Justice of the Peace will determine whether to authorize the release of a recording.

Dated this 21<sup>st</sup> day of March, 2022



Honorable Joseph R. Georgini,  
Presiding Judge

Original: Clerk of the Superior Court

Copies: Pat Magill, Court Security Manager  
Todd D. Zweig, Superior Court Administrator