

1 One of the most effective ways to ensure proper courthouse security is by use of weapons screening.
2 Courthouse weapons screening should be no more intrusive than is reasonably necessary to ensure effective
3 detection of items that could reasonably be used as weapons and to ensure such items are not allowed to be
4 brought within the courthouse.

5 As the Court Security Officer, the Sheriff should develop a list of items that could reasonably be used as
6 weapons and not therefore are not permitted within the courthouse. Said list should be submitted to the Presiding
7 Judge for approval. Said list should be revised from time to time, as needed.

8 All persons entering the courthouse should be given reasonable notice by way of appropriate signage that
9 their persons and property shall be subject to search and screening as they are necessary to ensure proper court
10 security.

11
12 **IT IS ORDERED:**

13 To the extent reasonably and economically practical, the Santa Barbara County Sheriff, in conjunction
14 with court contracted private security personnel, shall conduct weapons search and screening at all court
15 locations. Such search and screenings may include use of metal detection equipment; x-ray equipment; physical
16 pat-downs of persons; inspections of property; and by use of other methods and equipment reasonably calculated
17 to detect items that could reasonably be used as weapons.

18 All persons entering or otherwise present in any court location are subject to weapons screening
19 procedures established by the Court and Sheriff of Santa Barbara County. Any person refusing to comply with
20 the lawful order of security personnel assigned to conduct weapons screening shall be prohibited from entering
21 the courthouse.

22 The court may utilize non-sworn, private security personnel to effectuate and conduct such search and
23 screening. A request to search and/or screen by such private security personnel shall be deemed a request by the
24 Sheriff under the authority of this order.

25 Appendix "A" hereto is a list of items that pose an unacceptable security risk within a court location. No
26 person shall be allowed to enter a court location while in possession of any items described in Appendix "A".
27 Appendix "A" may be revised from time to time. Each revision shall be submitted to the Presiding Judge for
28 approval and incorporation herein.

1 No person entering, or otherwise present, within a court facility shall possess any alcoholic beverage,
2 controlled substance (including marijuana) and related paraphernalia (whether medicinal or recreational), a
3 firearm, knife, teargas, taser, stun gun, or similar weapons or devices, as defined or listed in Penal Code §§ 171b,
4 244.5, and 22810 (see Appendix "A"). This prohibition shall be enforced whether or not the person possesses a
5 valid license, certificate, permit or prescription therefore.

6 All persons are prohibited from entering a Santa Barbara County courthouse with a firearm or deadly or
7 dangerous weapon unless they are state or federal law enforcement officers displaying current, valid and official
8 photographic identification and are present on official business within the court facility.

9 Under no circumstances shall any law enforcement officer bring a firearm or deadly or dangerous weapon
10 into a Santa Barbara County courthouse if the officer is entering the courthouse as a party litigant in a private
11 action.

12 At each court location, the Court shall cause to be posted signage that is clearly visible to the public prior
13 to entry, declaring the prohibition of the possession of items referenced herein and further notifying that all
14 persons are subject to search.

15 Except as provided in California Rules of Court 1.150, court proceedings may not be photographed,
16 recorded, or broadcast. This rule does not prohibit courts from photographing or videotaping sessions for judicial
17 education or publications and is not intended to apply to closed-circuit television broadcasts solely within the
18 courthouse or between court facilities if the broadcasts are controlled by the court and court personnel. Media
19 coverage may be permitted only on written order of the judge as provided in California Rules of Court 1.150. The
20 judge in his or her discretion may permit, refuse, limit, or terminate media coverage.

21 While on or in the premises of any courthouse, all persons are ordered to comply with the lawful requests,
22 directions, and orders of any law enforcement officers and their agents in the performance of their duties.

23 Nothing in this order is intended to, nor shall be construed as to, diminish the legal and lawful authority of
24 the Sheriff to perform any and all functions of a peace officer.

25 The Court may enforce this order by sanctioning any violation of the order as a contempt of court and
26 imposing any monetary or other punishment provided by law, including, without limitation, Code of Civil
27 Procedure §§ 177.5 and 1218. However, nothing in this order shall limit arrest and prosecution under any other
28 law, including, without limitation, Penal Code § 166 and/or Penal Code § 602(y).

1 This Order is effective immediately and is to remain in effect until otherwise ordered by the Presiding
2 Judge.

3 GOOD CAUSE APPEARING THEREFORE, IT IS SO ORDERED.

4 DATED: 10/13/2025

5 *Patricia L. Kelly*
6 PRESIDING JUDGE
7 SANTA BARBARA COUNTY SUPERIOR COURT
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APPENDIX 'A'

1.0 Prohibited items – by Statute:

1.1 Prohibited items shall include all weapons or instruments described in the following California Penal Code sections:

1.1.1 171b(a) P.C. - Unauthorized possession of weapons in state or local public buildings or at public meetings.

1.1.2 244.5 P.C. - Stun gun or taser.

1.1.3 21510 P.C. - Switch blade knife/gravity knife having a blade longer than two inches.

1.1.4 22 P.C. - Tear gas weapon.

1.1.5 16590 P.C. - Generally prohibited weapons.

2.0 Prohibited items by order of the Court shall include the following:

2.1 General prohibited items listed as follows:

2.1.1 Firearms possessed by anyone other than peace officers, regardless of a permit to carry a concealed weapon (CCW). The only exceptions to this are judicial officers who possess a valid CCW and authorized armored car personnel during the course of business.

2.1.2 Firearms possessed by peace officers when attending court as a participant/party in an action pending before the Court, e.g. as a party in a Family Law matter.

2.1.3 All bullets and ammunition possessed by anyone other than peace officers, regardless of a permit to carry a concealed weapon (CCW). The only exceptions to this are judicial officers who possess a valid CCW and authorized armored car personnel during the course of business.

2.1.4 All taser guns.

2.1.5 All stun guns.

2.1.6 All gun-shaped lighters.

2.1.7 Toy or replica guns.

2.1.8 Handcuffs, except those possessed by sworn peace officers.

2.1.9 Breakable containers including, but not limited to ceramic and glass.

1 **2.2** Chemical agents listed as follows:

2 **2.2.1** All mace, pepper gas, animal repellent, butane fuel, and aerosol cans.

3 **2.2.2** Spray bottles larger than three (3) oz.

4 **2.3** Knives as listed:

5 **2.3.1** Buck type - all size blades.

6 **2.3.2** Swiss Army/Pen knives - all size blades.

7 **2.3.3** Utility knives - all size blades.

8 **2.3.4** Butter/steak knives - all size blades.

9 **2.3.5** Multi-tool type knives - all size blades.

10 **2.3.6** Concealable/disguised knives - all size blades.

11 **2.3.7** All locking blade knives - all size blades.

12 **2.4** Scissors listed as follows:

13 **2.4.1** All types.

14 **2.5** Razors listed as follows:

15 **2.5.1** Single blades.

16 **2.5.2** All box cutters.

17 **2.5.3** All "Exacto" type tools (open retractable razor with handle).

18 **2.6** Clothing items listed as follows:

19 **2.6.1** Excess clothing beyond what is reasonable for personal use and current weather
20 conditions.

21 **2.7** Tools listed as follows:

22 **2.7.1** All tools, including but not limited to, screwdrivers, pliers, wrenches, hammers, etc.,
23 unless possessed by authorized maintenance personnel of the Court or County or Court/County
24 approved maintenance/contractor personnel.

25 **2.7.2** Ice picks.

26 **2.7.3** Corkscrews.

27 **2.8** Miscellaneous items include:

28 **2.8.1** Darts.

- 1 **2.8.2** Letter openers.
- 2 **2.8.3** Pieces of heavy-duty wire/heavy gauge chains.
- 3 **2.8.4** Laser pointers - except those for use by attorneys in courtroom presentations.
- 4 **2.8.5** Skateboards/skates.
- 5 **2.8.6** Needles/syringes (possessed by non-diabetic person(s) or persons without prescriptions).
- 6 **2.8.7** Handcuff keys - except those possessed by sworn peace officers.
- 7 **2.8.8** "Come-along" sticks/key chain size.
- 8 **2.8.9** Flammable liquids.
- 9 **2.8.10** Open alcohol containers.
- 10 **2.8.11** Knitting needles.
- 11 **2.8.12** Any item modified to incorporate brass knuckles, including but not limited to belt
- 12 buckles, purse handles, cell phone covers, etc.
- 13 **2.8.13** Sporting equipment that may be used as a weapon, including but not limited to
- 14 baseball/softball bats, tennis racquets, trekking poles, field hockey sticks, and cleated/spiked
- 15 shoes.
- 16 **2.8.14** Rocks over two inches in diameter.
- 17 **2.8.15** Torches
- 18 **2.8.16** Hiking sticks or walking sticks that have a sharp and/or pointy tip.

19 **2.9 Controlled Substances:**

- 20 **2.9.1** As defined under the California Health and Safety Code.
- 21 **2.9.2** California Penal Code section 4573(a).
- 22 **2.9.3** Controlled Substance Act, 21 U.S.C. section 812.
- 23 **2.9.4** Marijuana
- 24 **2.9.5** All associated paraphernalia.
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