

CASS COUNTY COMMISSIONERS ORDINANCE NO. 2023- 08

AMENDED ORDINANCE REGULATING THE USE  
OF CELLULAR TELEPHONES/TABLETS IN THE  
CASS COUNTY GOVERNMENT BUILDING/COURTHOUSE

WHEREAS, the Cass County Commissioners periodically implement policies and procedures regarding the use of the Cass County Government Center/Courthouse by the citizens of Cass County and others; and

WHEREAS, technology has advanced to the point that nearly everyone possesses and uses a cellular telephone or tablet; and

WHEREAS, it is imperative that the Cass County Courts carry on their business and legal responsibilities without unnecessary disruption often caused by the use of cellular telephones; and,

WHEREAS, important information and documents necessary to conduct County business is often stored on cellular telephones or tablets; and

WHEREAS, the Commissioners thus implement the following ordinance to facilitate an efficient and balanced policy regarding the use of cellular telephones in the Cass County Government Center/Courthouse.


NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED AND ORDAINED AS FOLLOWS:


To facilitate Court and County office procedures, the Cass County Commissioners hereby adopt this Amended Ordinance to regulate the use of cellular telephones/tablets within the Cass County Government Building/Courthouse. Except as provided below, the possession of cellular telephones and tablets is permitted within the “public areas” of the Cass County Government Building for business use only. Cellular Telephones and tablets may not be used in “private areas” of the Government Center where the general public is not permitted. The use of cellular telephones and tablets for personal use within the Government Center is strictly prohibited and the use of cellular telephones or tablets for personal use may result in the phone or tablet being


confiscated or the offender being asked to leave the Government Center. Further, possession of cellular telephones and tablets within the Cass Circuit, Cass Superior 1 and Cass Superior 2 Courts is prohibited. The primary purpose of restricting possession of cellular phones and tablets within the Courts is to protect the safety of Judges, staff, parties, witnesses, and jurors who may appear before the Courts and to protect the integrity of the judicial process. Before entering the above-referenced courts, cellular telephones and tablets must be placed in locked storage boxes located outside each Court room. Each individual is responsible for selecting and memorizing a personalized code for the use of the cell phone storage box. Failure to place your cell phone or tablet in the storage box prior to entering the courtroom may, and likely will, result in the seizure and forfeiture of the cell phone or tablet per court policy. This Ordinance is not intended to prohibit those persons attending public meetings at the Cass County Government Center from possessing cellular telephones and tablets for the purpose of recording public meetings or for other County business.

Passed and adopted by the Commissioners of Cass County, Indiana this 15 day of May 2023.

CASS COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS:

  
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Ruth Baker, President

  
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Michael W. Stajduhar, Vice President

  
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Mike Deitrich

Attest:

  
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Cheryl Alcorn, Auditor