

**UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT  
DISTRICT OF MASSACHUSETTS**

**PUBLIC NOTICE**

**REGARDING AMENDED LOCAL RULE 83.3 -  
PHOTOGRAPHING, RECORDING AND BROADCASTING, AND  
NEW RULE 83.3.2 - PARTICIPATION IN PILOT PROGRAM**

After public notice dated June 10, 2011 and time for public comment having expired regarding proposed amended Local Rule 83.3 and new Rule 83.3.2, the Judges of the United States District Court for the District of Massachusetts have adopted on September 6, 2011 amended Local Rule 83.3 and new Rule 83.3.2 in the form attached hereto.

The addition of LR 83.3.2 is to allow for the court's participation in a three year pilot program established by the Judicial Conference of the United States in September 2010 and implemented by the Federal Judicial Center to study the use of cameras in district court courtrooms for civil case proceedings.

September 6, 2011

Sarah Allison Thornton  
Clerk of Court

## RULE 83.3 PHOTOGRAPHING, RECORDING, AND BROADCASTING

**(a) Photographing, Recording, and Broadcasting Generally Prohibited.** Except as specifically provided in these rules or by order of the court, no person shall take any photograph, make any recording, or make any broadcast by any means, in the course of or in connection with any proceedings in this court, on any floor of any building on which proceedings of this court are or, in the regular course of the business of the court, may be held.

### **(b) Exceptions.**

**(1) Court Reporters.** Official court reporters are not prohibited from making voice recordings for the sole purpose of discharging their official duties. No recording made for that purpose shall be used for any other purpose by any person.

**(2) Presentation of Evidence.** The court may permit the use of electronic or photographic means for the preservation of evidence or the perpetuation of a record.

**(3) Miscellaneous Proceedings.** The court may permit the broadcasting, televising, recording, or photographing of investitive, ceremonial, or naturalization proceedings.

**(4) File Review.** The use of dictation equipment is permitted in the clerk's office by persons reviewing files in that office.

Effective September 1, 1990; amended effective September 6, 2011.

### **RULE 83.3.2 PARTICIPATION IN PILOT PROGRAM**

Notwithstanding the general prohibition on photographing, recording, and broadcasting of district court proceedings set forth in Local Rule 83.3, the District Court may participate in the three year pilot program established by the Judicial Conference of the United States in September 2010 (JCUS-SEP 10, pp. 3-4) to study the use of cameras in district courtrooms for civil case proceedings.

Any recording and broadcasting conducted pursuant to the pilot program must comply with the program guidelines issued by the Judicial Conference Committee on Court Administration and Case Management, pursuant to the pilot program (available at [www.uscourts.gov](http://www.uscourts.gov)).

*Adopted September 6, 2011*