

STATE OF MINNESOTA
IN SUPREME COURT

ADM10-8013

In re Court Security – Weapons Policy

ORDER

In accordance with Articles I, III, and VI of the Minnesota Constitution and Minn. Stat. § 2.724, and consistent with the supreme court order filed June 2, 2003, in file A03-0604 (now consolidated with file ADM10-8013), the undersigned determines that the safety and security of those involved in or attendant to the orderly administration of justice requires the prohibition of firearms and other weapons within facilities where official court business is conducted.

This order amends the June 2, 2003 order to expand its application to the district courts and all places where official court business is conducted.

IT IS HEREBY ORDERED THAT:

1. No firearms or other weapons are allowed in the Minnesota Judicial Center, in the Supreme Court Courtroom and Conference Room in the State Capitol, or in the court-occupied areas in county government buildings or other facilities used for the official business of the supreme court, court of appeals, or state district courts.

2. This order applies to everyone, including all judicial branch personnel, unless an exception in paragraph 3 or 4 applies.

3. This order does not apply to licensed peace officers or federally-authorized law enforcement agents when present in the course of their official duties, if they are authorized by law to carry weapons.

4. This order also does not apply to persons who possess firearms or other weapons for the purpose of display as evidence during testimony at a trial or evidentiary hearing. Persons governed by this paragraph shall comply with all advance notice requirements and safety guidelines set by any applicable court rule, judicial branch policy, the chief judge, and the county sheriff.

5. This order does not prohibit a chief judge from issuing an order prohibiting firearms and other weapons in additional spaces within a building or complex when the chief judge determines that the safety and security of areas where official court business is conducted requires such additional restrictions. The chief justice may authorize additional exceptions where necessary in the interests of safety and security in the administration of justice.

6. Any persons entering a court-occupied area may be subject to screening for weapons upon entry; anyone refusing to submit to screening shall be refused admission.

7. Notice shall be posted that substantially conforms with the following: “No weapons are permitted in this court facility, including firearms for which a permit has been issued.”

8. In addition to applicable penalties provided by statute, persons in violation of this order may be held in contempt of court.

9. This amended order is effective September 1, 2026.

Dated: August 25, 2026

BY THE COURT:

Natalie E. Hudson
Chief Justice