

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF GREENE COUNTY, MISSOURI
31ST JUDICIAL CIRCUIT

Administrative Order 2025-AO12

**ORDER REGARDING ATTORNEY ACCESS
TO THE JUDICIAL COURTS FACILITY**

WHEREAS Section 49.310.3, RSMo, authorizes the presiding judge of the circuit to establish rules and procedures for court facilities and areas necessary for court-related ingress, court-related egress, and other reasonable court-related usage in the absence of a local agreement to the contrary; and

WHEREAS ongoing construction has contributed to increased congestion at the building entrance; and

WHEREAS the judges of the Thirty-First Circuit want to alleviate congestion in a manner that does not compromise security; and

WHEREAS members of the Missouri Bar, to become licensed in the State of Missouri, must pass a rigorous character and fitness review including a thorough background investigation as provided in Supreme Court Rule 8.11; and

WHEREAS licensed attorneys "are officers of the court" recognized to be "a part of the judicial system of the state," *Clark v. Austin*, 101 S.W.2d 977, 981 (Mo. banc 1937), and are thereby subject to Rules of Professional Conduct not applicable to the general public;

NOW, THEREFORE, IT IS ORDERED, effective immediately and continuing until rescinded, amended, modified, or extended by further order, that the following are established under the authority of Section 49.310.3, RSMo, as rules and procedures for court-related ingress:

1. Licensed attorneys in good standing may bypass the security screening process at the public entrance to the Greene County

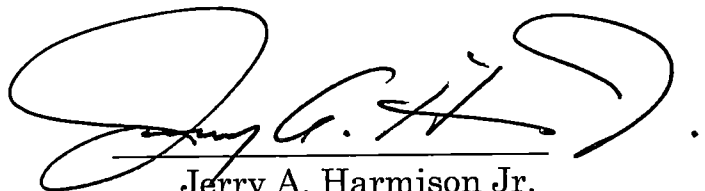
Judicial Courts Facility upon presentation of a current Missouri Bar card, and, if requested, matching photo identification.

2. Attorneys thus entering are prohibited from bringing into the Judicial Courts Facility any publicly banned item including firearms, knives, or other weapons readily capable of lethal use.
3. By presenting a Missouri Bar card to gain entrance, a person thereby affirmatively states and warrants, upon penalty of making a false statement to the Court, that such person:
 - a. is a currently licensed attorney;
 - b. is not under professional discipline in any jurisdiction;
 - c. is not appearing as a party in the case before the court; and
 - d. is not bringing into the facility any publicly banned item including any firearms, knives, or other weapons readily capable of lethal use.
4. Any security violations by a member of the Missouri Bar may result in the privileges granted by this Order to be rescinded for that person or for all attorneys. Any person violating this Order may be further subject to any appropriate sanctions, including the possibility of contempt proceedings, referral to criminal prosecution, or a report of professional misconduct.

This Order is to be distributed for publication to the members of the bar, published on the website of the Greene County Circuit Clerk, and conspicuously posted at the entrance.

IT IS SO ORDERED.

Dated: 8/15/25



Jerry A. Harmison Jr.
Presiding Judge
31st Judicial Circuit