

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF THE STATE OF ARIZONA  
IN AND FOR THE COUNTY OF LA PAZ

IN THE MATTER OF: )  
 )  
RESTRICTIONS ON THE USE ) ADMINISTRATIVE  
OF SECURITY SURVEILLANCE ) ORDER AO-202100003  
RECORDINGS )  
\_\_\_\_\_ )

To provide for the safety, security and protection of judges, employees, the public, and the courthouse itself, the court has installed a surveillance camera system that monitors activities throughout the Superior Court building. The system also records and temporarily maintains the images it receives, for the purpose of later review in the event of a security breach.

Rule 123 of the Arizona Rules of Court governs public access to court records. It constitutes the Supreme Court's open records policy and establishes a presumption that court records will be open and accessible to the public. However, under section (e)(4) of that rule, "all security plans, codes and other records that provide for the security of information, individuals or property . . . are closed." Thus, the digital recordings made by the security surveillance cameras are excluded from public access under Rule 123.

Practical concerns underscoring the need to retain such recordings exclusively for the court's security use include, without limitation:

1. The recordings could be used to plan attacks on participants in court proceedings or theft of and damage to court property.
2. It is not possible to exclude from the security recordings jurors, minor victims and other participants in court proceedings whose images may be protected by law.
3. The recordings may capture protected communications between attorneys and their clients.

For the reasons cited above, IT IS HEREBY ORDERED that:

- (1) The digital recordings made by the court's security surveillance camera system are to be used only for the purpose of ensuring the safety and security of judges, employees and the public and the integrity of the courthouse.
- (2) Such digital recordings are to be retained only for the minimum time dictated by the characteristics of the installed surveillance system, unless otherwise directed by the presiding judge.

(3) Only court personnel and designated law enforcement officers with court security responsibilities are permitted access to these recordings without the written authorization of the presiding judge, or designee, upon a finding of exceptional need.

If a request is received to view such a recording other than as stated in (3), above, court security staff shall be directed to retain the requested portion of the recording until such time as the presiding judge, or designee, has determined whether to authorize the release of the recording. If the presiding judge so authorizes, court staff shall make a copy of the requested recording and shall provide it to the requestor.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Jessica L. Quickle". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

eSigned by QUICKLE, JESSICA L 04/19/2021 08:40:45 4SeK0dE5

cc: Court Administration  
Judicial Officers  
Security