

Rock Island County

Court Facilities Entrance Requirements and Security Policy

The following security policy shall be in effect at the Rock Island County Courthouse, Rock Island County Juvenile Court building, and the Rock Island County Justice Center.

I. Persons entering the Rock Island County Courthouse, Rock Island County Juvenile Court building, and the Rock Island County Justice Center.

All persons must enter the court facility through the building's main entrance and will be required to pass through a magnetometer. All associated items and bags must be screened by an X-Ray machine or similar device. At the discretion of the Bailiff, the initial screening process may include the passing of a hand-held wand across the body of a person seeking entry. Any person who refuses to follow this policy will be denied entrance.

At the Rock Island County Courthouse, handicapped persons will use the handicapped entrance on the north side of the courthouse. Individuals entering will be allowed access by a Bailiff who will then escort them to the front entrance to be screened.

Employees may enter the Rock Island County Courthouse through the key card controlled entrance on the south side of the courthouse. Employees are not to allow entrance to any non Rock Island County employees. Employees who elect to enter through the public entrance are subject to the same process as the general public.

Members of the Media must enter through the main entrance and have their items screened, as any member of the general public. Due to the nature of their work, they are allowed to bring in certain prohibited items such as cell phones, I-Pads, etc., needed to assist them in their job, but only after the item has been screened.

Law Enforcement Officers in uniform and on duty must use the public entrance to the Courthouse. Uniformed Law Enforcement Officers who show department-issued identification are exempt from weapons screening.

Law Enforcement Officers not in uniform and on duty, in the performance of their official duties, must use the public entrance to the Courthouse. Officers identified above who show department-issued identification are exempt from weapons screening. Non-uniformed or plain-clothed officers with a weapon shall wear their identification badge in a visible location while in Court facilities.

II. Prohibition on Personal Electronic Devices.

Cell phones, pagers, PDAs, cameras, tape recorders, and any device capable of voice recording or image photography are **prohibited** from entry into court facilities without prior authorization from a judge of that court.

No lockers will be provided at Rock Island County court facilities to store these items while visiting.

Rock Island County employees, attorneys and members of the Media entering through the main entrance may bring cell phones or other work related electronic devices into the courthouse only upon presenting proper credentials and having those items scanned.

There may be other exceptions as to who may bring in prohibited items and these will be addressed by the Sheriff's Deputy assigned to the facility on a case by case basis.