AMENDMENT TO RULE 3.09 of the Local Rules of Practice for the Circuit Court for the 19th Judicial District for the State of Tennessee

The following amendment becomes effective immediately:

§ 3.09 Weapons/Firearms is amended to read:

- (A) In order to insure and maintain proper security for the protection of government property and the safety of the Court, court personnel, attorneys and all persons in attending the court proceedings, whether as a litigant, witness, or spectator, the Sheriff of the county in which the court is located is authorized and directed to employ all lawful and constitutional means necessary to insure the security of the courthouse, courtrooms and all passages, corridors, rooms, and points of ingress and egress thereto. The Sheriff may establish and promulgate reasonable regulations not inconsistent with this Rule to carry out the Court's directive including, but not limited to, the search of all persons seeking to enter the courthouse or courtrooms of the 19th Judicial District. Any person who does not consent to a personal search, when requested by one lawfully authorized to conduct searches, will not be admitted. Strip body searches are not authorized.
- (B) Only authorized personnel serving the court are permitted to wear sidearms in the courtroom while court is in session. In the discretion of the Judge of each division all persons who are legally authorized to carry a firearm because of their status as law enforcement officials may wear said firearms in the courtroom, if they are present only as disinterested witnesses. All other persons legally authorized to carry firearms must check all firearms with the court bailiff or with the nearest office of the Sheriff, while the person is in the courtroom.

Adopted April 17, 2018.

Ross H. Hieles

Circuit Court Judge, Division I

William R. Goodman III

Circuit Court Judge Division U

Ped Crozier, Jr.

Circuit Court Judge Division III

Jill B. Ayers

Circuit Court Judge, Division IV