

2022 COUNTY COURTROOM SECURITY REPORT

Per statute, this survey must be completed each year. Completion of this survey will require input from multiple people, including court clerks, court officers, and judges.

COURTHOUSE(S) AND COURTROOMS

1.	How many courthouses are in your county, including criminal justice centers with courtrooms?	1
,	a. If there is more than one courthouse, please explain what types of court a which locations (where is circuit court, chancery court, general sessions, court held?)	
	A	
2.	Number of courtrooms used only for state Circuit Court, state Criminal	0
	Court, Chancery Court, or Probate Court.	
3.	Number of courtrooms used only for General Sessions Court and/or Juvenile Court.	0
4.	Number of courtrooms used for both state court and county courts.	1
5.	Number of courtrooms in your county that are no longer used for official state or county proceedings (ex. Ceremonial or historical courtrooms that are no longer in use for official proceedings).	0
6.	Total number of courtrooms in your county. Do NOT include ceremonial courtrooms no longer in use for official proceedings. Please note the total number of courtrooms in your county is used to evaluate whether your county meets the minimum security standards.	1



SILENT BENCH PANIC BUTTONS (MCSS #1)

1.	Number of courtrooms equipped with a silent bench panic button connected	1
	to law enforcement.	
2.	Number of court clerk public transaction counter areas in all of your	2
	courthouses. Please include public transaction counters for Circuit,	
	Criminal, Chancery, General Sessions and/or Juvenile Court clerks.	
	a. Number of court clerk public transaction counters equipped with a silent	2
	bench panic button connected to law enforcement.	

BULLET-PROOF BENCHES/WORK AREAS (MCSS # 2)

1. Number of courtrooms equipped with a bullet-proof bench.	1
2. Number of courtrooms with bullet-proof court clerk work area.	1

COURT OFFICERS (MCSS #3 and #4)

1.	Is an armed, uniformed guard in each courtroom during court?	Yes
	a. If no, is a court officer available in the courthouse?	
2.	Does your county have dedicated court officers or does it utilize on-duty law enforcement when there are court proceedings? (dedicated, mix, on-duty)	On-Duty only
3.	Do court proceedings impact your county's ability to respond to emergencies in other areas of your county?	Yes
4.	Did your court officers attend court security training in 2022?	Not in 2022, due to limited class dates
	a. If no, how often do court officers in your county attend training?	Typically annually
5.	Have the judicial staff and courthouse personnel from your county attended a court security briefing in 2022?	Yes

<u>HAND-HELD DETECTORS/MAGNETOMETERS</u> (MCSS # 5)

1. Total number of hand-held detectors in your county courthouse(s).	2
2. Total number of stand-alone magnetometers in each county courthous	se. 1
3. Does your county have sufficient security staff to operate magnetome	ters No
during regular business hours?	



SIGNAGE (MCSS # 6)

1.	Does each of the court buildings in your county have signage posted at each	Yes
	court access entrance stating that persons are subject to search by security	
	personnel, that prohibited items are subject to seizure and forfeiture, and	
	include a listing of the prohibited items?	

<u>HAND-HELD INSPECTION MIRRORS</u> (MCSS # 7)

1.	Do you have at least one hand-held inspection security mirror per county	Yes
	courthouse?	

COURT SECURITY COMMITTEE

1. Does your county have a court security committee?	Yes
a. If yes, did the committee meet this year to review security issues and	Yes
make recommendations?	

VIDEO ARRAIGNMENT & CONFERENCING

1. Does your county utilize video arraignment and conferencing?	Yes
a. If yes, how many courtrooms have video arraignment and conferencing capabilities?	1
b. What type of video arraignment system do you utilize (i.e. BIS, Zoom)?	MS Teams, Zoom, and have used FaceTime
c. Can your county consistently connect with TDOC facilities for virtual proceedings?	No
d. If you cannot consistently connect with TDOC facilities, would doing so decrease the amount of inmate transfers to your county?	Yes
2. Does your county utilize video conferencing for hearings, conferences, and other types of judicial proceedings (not just criminal court)?	Yes
a. If yes, how many courtrooms have the capability to hold video conference proceedings?	1
b. What type of video conferencing systems do you utilize?	Zoom and MS Teams



c. Does your county need additional or upgraded video conferencing capabilities for judicial proceedings?

Yes

Please list any security measures that you have taken to improve your facilities and/or to protect personnel between **December 1, 2021 and November 30, 2022.**

All panic alarms (buttons) were upgraded throughout the County and Courthouse

Video Arraignment / Video Conference equipment was installed to reduce inmate transports

Please describe any recent court security incidents in your county or unique court security issues facing your county.

Due to limited space, we lack sufficient area for secured attorney/client meeting rooms. As a result, an "in-custody" inmate met with his attorney in a room adjacent to the Courtroom. Unfortunately, the attorney left the room and did not inform law enforcement of his departure. Upon doing so, an unauthorized visitor entered the room with the inmate. Corrective action has been taken to ensure that this set of circumstances does not occur again.

Please explain if and how security staffing issues have impacted court security in your county.

Our most pressing security issue is our lack of sufficient number of security officers. We only have two (2) on-duty patrol deputies on each shift. As a result, when Court is in sessions, those two (2) deputies are required to report to court to handle the Courtroom security duties rather than patrolling the county. We are in desperate need of funding for personnel to ensure that we can adequately handle both courtroom security and road duties.

What are your highest priority needs related to improving court security in your county? As previously mentioned, we need assistance with personnel funding in order to ensure adequate staff to maintain court security and typical road duties.

We need to add video cameras in strategic areas of the courthouse.

The Courthouse is a multi-use facility due to the fact that other county fee offices are located therein. The four points of ingress/egress creates unique challenges in providing optimum security, particularly with limited security staff.



COUNTY COURTROOM SECURITY REPORT

Please include the name of the PERSON preparing this report, the COUNTY that you represent, and your full contact information.

This report was prepared by: M. Wyatt Burk

Date: 12/21/2022

Please print title: Circuit Court Judge, Part II, 17th Judicial District

County: Moore

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Please return this form by email, fax, or mail no later than January 6, 2023 to:

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