

**POLICY STATEMENT REGARDING THE USE OF
PORTABLE ELECTRONIC DEVICES AT THE
APPELLATE DIVISION, FIRST DEPARTMENT**

As a convenience to counsel, litigants, members of the press, and the public, the Appellate Division, First Department generally permits the use of portable electronic devices, such as cellular telephones, laptop and tablet computers, personal digital assistants, and similar devices as follows:

- (a) **In the Courtroom:** Counsel or a litigant arguing pro se may use personal electronic devices in the courtroom, without leave of the Court, but only during the oral argument for his or her case to refer to notes, briefs, or the record, and to take notes during the oral argument for his or her case.
- (b) **Outside the Courtroom:** Counsel, litigants, members of the press, and the public may use personal electronic devices for general use outside the courtroom. There are several designated areas outside the courtroom in which such use is permitted, one of which is located in close proximity to the courtroom and is equipped with a monitor on which guests can view live-streamed oral arguments. Please ask a court officer if you need directions to the viewing area.
- (c) **Recording Prohibited:** No person may use any audiovisual recording equipment, including, but not limited to, portable electronic devices, for photography or audio or video recording, transmission, or broadcasting within the courthouse without the prior express consent of the Presiding Justice, the Associate Justice then-presiding, or the Clerk of the Court (*see* Rules of Chief Judge [22 NYCRR] § 29.2). Audiovisual recordings of oral arguments are available on the Court's website (<http://www.nycourts.gov/courts/ad1/index.shtml>).
- (d) **Permission May Be Revoked:** Any use of a portable electronic device within the Court's facility is subject to the authority of the Presiding Justice, the Associate Justice then-presiding, the Clerk of the Court and/or the Chief Court Officer to prohibit activity that may be disruptive or distracting to Court operations, or that may otherwise be contrary to the administration of justice.