

## COURT SECURITY PLAN FOR BALDWIN COUNTY, ALABAMA

WHEREAS, the Alabama Supreme Court has, pursuant to Rule 37, Alabama Rules of Judicial Administration, issued an order implementing a "Trial Court Security Plan",

WHEREAS, it is necessary and appropriate for the safety and protection of court personnel, litigants, lawyers, witnesses, jurors and the general public to regulate the possession of weapons and destructive devices within the court facilities of Baldwin County, Alabama,

~~WHEREAS, court security is the joint effort of law enforcement, the County Commission and the judiciary,~~

WHEREAS, the goal of court security is to prevent or control problems that might arise in courthouses such as verbal abuse, disorderly conduct, physical violence, demonstrations, theft, fire bomb threats, sabotage, prisoner escapes, kidnapping, assassinations, stalking and hostage situations;

Therefore, pursuant to the Alabama Supreme Court Rule, it is ORDERED as follows:

- 1) A Courthouse Security Committee shall be composed of the following:

Presiding Circuit Judge: James H. Reid  
Presiding District Judge: Joseph L. Floyd  
Probate Judge: Adrian T. Johns  
District Attorney: John David Whetstone  
Circuit Clerk: Jackie N. Calhoun  
County Commissioner: Joe Faust  
Sheriff's Designee: Sgt. Ray Farmer (Court Security Coordinator)

The committee shall meet at least quarterly to review and to adopt rules and procedures dealing with security related matters.

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- 2) The Court Security Coordinator shall undertake the following responsibilities:
- (a) to remain current on courthouse security issues;
  - (b) to inspect the courthouse facilities, using an established checklist for out-of-the-ordinary situations and to submit a biannual report to the Presiding Circuit Judge, the Sheriff, the County Commission and the Administrative Office of Courts;
  - (c) to maintain files on all courthouse personnel containing personal information to be used in the event of a hostage or other emergency situations;

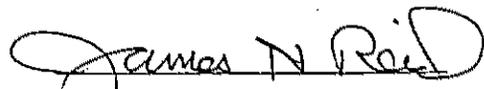
- (d) to provide security training and education on an as-needed basis to courthouse employees and officials;
  - (e) to develop an evacuation plan for the courthouse to be used in case of a bomb threat, a fire or other disaster, which, plan shall be distributed to all occupants of the courthouse with evacuation drills to be conducted biannually;
- 3) That the Bay Minette, Fairhope and Foley courthouses are herein designated as secure facilities;
- 4) That anyone who wishes to enter a secure facility shall enter through authorized entrances only;
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- 5) That any person entering a secure facility shall be subject to search by security personnel for weapons or destructive devices, including the use of electronic or other security equipment;
- 6) That any person who refuses to submit to a search of his or her person or his or her personal belongings shall be denied entry to the secure facility;
- 7) That any person possessing any weapon or destructive device, including but not limited to, firearms, knives and clubs, shall be denied entry to a secure facility;

- 8) That if any illegal weapon or destructive device or other contraband is discovered, it shall be seized and proper law enforcement officials shall be notified immediately for appropriate action;
- 9) That all law enforcement officers with proper agency photo identification will be allowed to retain their weapons; except, however, that any officer involved in a proceeding in his or her personal capacity and not in an official capacity as a law enforcement officer shall not bring his or her weapon into a secure facility;
- 10) That persons employed at a secure facility shall be issued photo identification to facilitate ingress and egress into or from the secure facility;
- 11) That violations of this order may be punished as and for a contempt of court by the Presiding Circuit Judge;
- 12) Signs shall be posted prominently to advise the general public to refrain from bringing weapons into the courthouses upon pain of punishment for a contempt;
- 13) That not later than January 1, 2001, the east, west and north entrances to the Bay Minette Courthouse will be restricted to emergency exits only, except for, transportation officers of the Sheriff's Office, elected officials and any other persons authorized to use those entrances by the Courthouse Security Committee. Panic bars and a magnetic card or key system to be approved by the Courthouse Security Committee will be installed on those entrances with an audible alarm

system to activate in case of unauthorized entry or exit. The south entrance shall be manned at all times by adequate security personnel, metal detectors and x-ray machines, during normal working hours and at all other times when court is in session. All other entrances, including basement entrances shall be secured from unauthorized entrance;

14) That not later than January 1, 2001, all entrances to the courthouse portion of the satellite courthouses and any other related agencies deemed appropriate by the Courthouse Security Committee shall be secured except one entrance which shall be manned at all times by security personnel with metal detectors and x-ray machines during normal working hours and at all other times when court is in session.

DONE this the 28<sup>th</sup> day of November 2000.

  
PRESIDING CIRCUIT JUDGE