

RULE 9. Courtroom Conduct

Counsel shall assist the Court in maintaining order and decorum by advising their clients and witnesses in advance of proper Courtroom behavior.

Counsel's conduct in the Courtroom as a member of this Bar demonstrates counsel's respect for the administration of justice. The following is requested of counsel for proper Courtroom conduct:

1. Punctuality and brevity are virtues appreciated by Judges and Jurors.
2. Arguments shall be addressed to the Court and not to opposing counsel.
3. Stand when talking to the Court or when addressed by the Court.
4. When examining a witness, stand where the Court, witness and court reporter can hear you.
5. Do not approach the bench unless you obtain permission or are invited to do so.
6. Do not sit on the counsel tables.
7. Smoking, eating, drinking beverages and reading newspapers are not permitted in the Courtroom.
8. Do not take files, pleadings or papers from the Minute Clerk's desk or exhibits from the Court Reporter unless you obtain permission to do so.
9. Pass papers and documents intended for the Court to the Minute Clerk or Court Reporter who will hand them up to the Court.
10. In order for the Minute Clerks to do their work, do not use the Clerk's desk, phone or office materials without permission.
11. Advise your clients of the ethical impropriety of discussing pending matters with a Judge.
12. Do not ask to be excused when your matter is completed. Please depart quietly. Do not hold conferences in the Courtroom with clients when Court is in session.
13. Cellular phones, pagers or other electronic devices may not be activated in the courtroom. Under no circumstances will cellular phones or any communications devices be permitted in the jury deliberation room by jurors during their deliberations.