

IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
FOR THE EASTERN DISTRICT OF NORTH CAROLINA



IN RE:)
)
PROHIBITION OF) ORDER
FIREARMS)
IN COURT FACILITIES)

The United States Supreme Court has made it clear that “courtroom and courthouse premises are subject to the control of the court,” *see Sheppard v. Maxwell*, 384 U.S. 333, 358 (1966), *see also Westmoreland v. CBS, Inc.*, 752 F.2d 16, 24 n.13 (2d Cir. 1984) (“the judiciary ... has always had control over the courtrooms:); *Brewster v. Bordenkircher*, 745 F.2d 913, 916 (4th Cir. 1984) (“It is [the district judge] who is best equipped to decide the extent to which security measures should be adopted to prevent disruption of the trial, harm to those in the courtroom, escape of the accused, and the prevention of other crimes.”). Congress has likewise acknowledged the authority of the federal judiciary to enact rules and orders to ensure the security of its courthouses. *See* 18 U.S.C. § 930(f) (“Nothing in this section limits the power of a court of the United States . . . to promulgate rules or orders regulating, restriction, or prohibiting the possession of weapons within any building housing such court or any of its proceedings . . .”).

In furtherance of the court’s right and responsibility to decide and control security at its facilities, and in recognition of concerns expressed by the District Security Committee about possession of firearms in district courthouses, IT IS HEREBY ORDERED that ALL FIREARMS ARE PROHIBITED AT ALL COURT FACILITIES in the Eastern District of North Carolina.

EXCEPTIONS to this ORDER may be granted by the Chief U.S. District Judge through separate directive of the court.

NOTICE of this ORDER shall be POSTED outside all courthouses, outside all buildings containing courtroom facilities, and at security posts manned by Court Security Officers. This ORDER also shall be POSTED on the Eastern District of North Carolina internet website.

SO ORDERED this 9th day of November, 2005.

/S/ LOUISE W. FLANAGAN
Chief U.S. District Judge

/S/ TERRENCE W. BOYLE
U.S. District Judge

/S/ MALCOLM J. HOWARD
U.S. District Judge

/S/ JAMES C. DEVER III
U.S. District Judge

/S/ W. EARL BRITT
Senior U.S. District Judge

/S/ JAMES C. FOX
Senior U.S. District Judge