

**CHAPTER XI  
GENERAL PROVISIONS**

**Rule 83.1 Photography, Radio, and Television**

(a) **General Provisions.** The taking of photographs in the courtroom or its environs, radio or television broadcasting, and the use of equipment incident to radio or television broadcasting from the courtroom or its environs, during the progress of and in connection with judicial proceedings, both civil and criminal, whether or not court is actually in session, including proceedings before a Magistrate Judge or a session of the Grand Jury, are prohibited, **except that there is a limited exception to the ban on recording and publication of district court civil proceedings as set forth in this section for district judges participating in a pilot program established by the Judicial Conference of the United States in September 2010 to study the use of cameras in district courtrooms. Any recording and broadcasting conducted pursuant to the pilot program must comply with the program guidelines issued by the Judicial Conference Committee on Court Administration and Case Management, pursuant to the pilot program (available at [www.uscourts.gov](http://www.uscourts.gov)).**

(b) **Definitions.** The term "environs" as used herein is defined as including certain property of the United States in the Northern District of Ohio, to wit: the "United States Court House and Federal Office Building" in Akron, Ohio; the "United States Courts and Customs House" in Cleveland, Ohio; the "United States Court House and Post Office" in Youngstown, Ohio; and the "United States Court House and Customs House" in Toledo, Ohio. Included in this definition are the buildings and all driveways and entrances into and exits from the said buildings, as well as the offices of the Clerk of Court, Probation offices, Pretrial Services, and offices of the United States Marshal, and all corridors, offices, rooms and other areas within these buildings. Not included within the definition of "environs" are the sidewalks adjacent to said buildings and a "press room" to be selected and designated by the Chief Judge, when requested, subject further to the supervision of the Judges of this Court, and then only upon the consent of the person or persons to be interviewed or photographed.

(c) **Recordings.** This Rule shall not prohibit recordings by a court reporter or other Court-designated representative; provided, however, no court reporter or any other person shall use or permit to be used any part of any recording of a court proceeding on, or in connection with, any radio or television broadcast of any kind. The Court may permit photographs of exhibits to be taken by, or under the direction of, the Court and counsel.

(d) **Proceedings Other Than Judicial Proceedings.** Proceedings other than judicial proceedings, designed and conducted as ceremonies, such as administering oaths of office to appointed officials of the Court, naturalization ceremonies, presentation of portraits and similar ceremonial occasions, may be photographed in, or broadcast, or televised from the courtroom with the permission and under the supervision of the Court.

(e) **Enforcement.** The United States Marshal is charged with the responsibility of taking necessary steps to enforce this Rule.