



## COURTHOUSE VIDEO SURVEILLANCE POLICY

The Vermont Supreme Court exercises plenary administrative authority over a unified court system, Vt. Const., ch. II § 30, and the Court Administrator, under the direction of the Supreme Court, is entrusted with the responsibility to maintain court security. 4 V.S.A. §§ 21 & 30; 24 V.S.A. § 71a; 29 V.S.A. § 171.

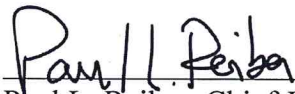
Pursuant to that authority, the Judiciary operates a courthouse video surveillance system (system), the sole purpose of which is to ensure the security of the courts and the safety of every person within them.

General public access to the system or the system's video recordings could severely infringe upon individual privacy as well as undermine the integrity of the Judiciary's security system by revealing its overall configuration, capabilities, vulnerabilities, and locations under surveillance, thus jeopardizing the safety of the state's courthouses, judicial personnel, witnesses, victims, and members of the visiting public.

Therefore, real-time access to the system and any video footage from that system shall be limited to court security personnel, the presiding judge of the Unit where the surveillance occurred, or other court staff with the express permission of the Court Administrator. Video footage from the system is confidential and shall not be disclosed to the public. Any disclosure of video footage other than to the persons enumerated above shall be permitted only pursuant to court order or a valid subpoena. The system shall retain video footage for no longer than seven calendar days. In responding to a subpoena or court order to produce video footage, the Court Administrator retains the discretion to seek to withhold, narrow or redact the requested footage if the request is unduly burdensome, risks disclosure of information about the configuration of the system that would undermine its effectiveness, or infringes upon individual privacy.

This directive shall become effective immediately.

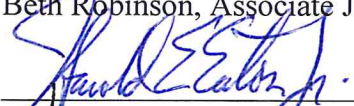
Done in Chambers at Montpelier, Vermont this 12<sup>th</sup> day of November, 2019.



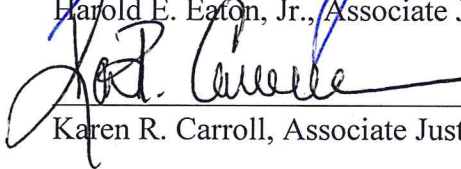
Paul L. Reiber, Chief Justice



Beth Robinson, Associate Justice



Harold E. Eaton, Jr., Associate Justice



Karen R. Carroll, Associate Justice