Courtroom Technology Guide



United States Bankruptcy CourtSouthern District of Mississippi

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Courtroom Technology

The United States Bankruptcy Court of the Southern District of Mississippi provides courtroom technology as indicated in Table 1.

	Jackson			Hattiesburg		Gulfport
Available Courtroom Technology	Courtroom 4C (Olack)	Courtroom 4D (Ellington)	Courtroom 5C (Visiting)	Courtroom 1	Video	7 th Floor (Samson)
Evidence Presentation	х	х	х			х
PACER (Public Access to Case Electronic Records)	х	х	х			х
Hearing & Translation Assistance	х	х	х			х
Microphones	х	х	х	Х	х	х
Wireless Microphones	х	х	х			х
Courtroom Monitors	х	х	х	х		х
ELO Monitors – Touch Screen	х	х	x			x
Video Conference	х	x			х	х
Telephonic Conferences	х	х	х	х		х
Wireless Internet Access	х	x	x			

Table 1. Courtroom Technology by Location/Courtroom

Rule 83.4 Photographs and Broadcasting

- (a) Photography and Broadcasting Prohibited. Taking photographs, video or audio recordings or broadcasting by radio, television or other means in or from the courtroom or its' environs is prohibited, regardless of whether the court is actually in session. The environs of the courtroom extend to all portions of the building in which a courtroom is located, including hallways, stairs, and elevators.
- (b) Electronic Devices Prohibited. Electronic devices capable of transmitting images or messages are prohibited in the courtroom except when such equipment is being utilized by parties, attorneys and support personnel directly involved in the litigation before the Court. Cellular telephones must be turned off or in the vibrate/silent mode in the courtroom.
- **(c)** These provisions may be relaxed or modified in the discretion of the presiding judge, unless otherwise prohibited by statute, rule or Judicial Conference policy.

Evidence Presentation

Wolfvision Document Camera

The document camera functions like an overhead projector. Printed documents can be placed on the document camera for viewing throughout the courtroom.

To present evidence via the document camera, the courtroom room deputy must enable the device. After the device is enabled, place the document on the camera base. These units will automatically focus on the object placed on the surface.

Electronic Evidence

Attorneys can display digital files such as videos, slide shows, and photographs via a laptop or iPad.

The following inputs are available in each courtroom at the lectern and at the attorney tables (See Table 1. Courtroom Technology by location/courtroom):

- VGA Input for a laptop
- VGA adapter for iPad
- Audio Input
- Power Outlet

Note: Prior approval is required to use any of the Court's equipment, other than equipment provided in the courtroom, during a hearing. All computer equipment must be tested at least one day prior to the hearing date.



Lectern Podium



Attorney Table

Public Access to Case Electronic Records (PACER)

Each courtroom is equipped with a PACER terminal on the attorney table for access to bankruptcy case/docket information (See Table 1. Courtroom Technology by location/courtroom).



PACER Terminal

Hearing Assistance



Hearing Assist Headphone

The courtrooms are capable of providing hearing assistance devices. Headphones are available, upon prior request, to enhance the audio provided in the courtroom. The headphones have volume control features for the user to adjust to their specific need.

Note: The hearing assistance devices require setup by the court staff. Please request hearing assistance with the chambers staff at least one week prior to the date needed.

Microphones

Courtrooms are equipped with an audio system with microphones located at the attorney tables, the lectern, and the witness stand. Microphones in the courtroom are designed to work with the court's electronic recording system. Courtroom participants must speak directly into the microphone to insure that voices are properly recorded.

Gooseneck Microphone

Gooseneck microphones are always in the "On" position when the green light is on. To temporarily mute the microphone, press and hold the button labeled, "Push."

Boundary Microphone

Boundary microphones are flat and sit close to the table surface. Boundary microphones are designed to pick up sound in large areas, such as the courtrooms and do not have on/off switches.

Wireless Microphone

Wireless microphones are available when additional coverage is needed. To activate wireless microphones, press the button on the front of the microphone.



Gooseneck Microphone



Boundary Microphone



Wireless Microphone

Courtroom Monitors

Video monitors can be found in each courtroom located in the gallery, at the witness stand, at the attorney tables, and at the lectern. Each attorney table contains a video monitor and a PACER terminal.



Gallery

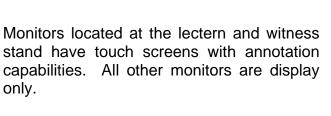


Attorney Table





Witness Stand





Touch Screen

Video Conference

The Court frequently schedules hearing by video conference. These hearings are noted on each Judge's weekly calendar. A party must request to appear by video for any hearing other than a regularly scheduled video conference hearing.

Telephonic Conferences

Attorneys may participate in hearings by telephone in most courtrooms. To appear by telephone, an attorney must contact chambers for prior approval. Chambers staff will provide telephone conferencing information for participation. When an attorney is connected to the telephonic conference, his/her voice will be heard and recorded within the courtroom.

Note: Some speaker phones cause feedback in the courtroom. If this occurs, the participant may be requested to use their handset.

Wireless Internet Access

Wireless internet access is provided for attorneys to access case information in Bankruptcy courtrooms 4C and 4D. Access to this wireless service is on an open public network. Wi-Fi network names are **MSSB-JCRM-4NW** (Ellington-4D) and **MSSB-JCRM-4SW** (Olack-4C).