## Chief Judge Administrative Order Concerning Trial Exhibits and Other Physical Evidence

12-03

## CRIMINAL AND JUVENILE CASE EXHIBITS

IT IS ORDERED that all physical evidence introduced by the People shall be returned to the law enforcement custodian of the police agency investigating the case for storage after the hearing or trial in which the items were introduced in evidence. Documentary materials shall remain in the custody of the court unless the documentary materials have been copied onto a disc in PDF format. In that instance, the DVD containing the documentary materials shall be kept in lieu of the written materials to complete the record.

The court, with the assistance of the district attorney, shall determine the appropriate law enforcement custodian to take custody of the evidence. The appropriate law enforcement custodian shall sign a receipt for those exhibits specifically identified by number or letter and description. The appropriate law enforcement custodian or the district attorney shall photograph the returned exhibits and a digital copy of the photographs shall be submitted to the court on a DVD to preserve the record as to the released exhibits. The receipt and any digital photographs taken of exhibits shall become part of the court file. A copy of the photographs shall also be retained by the district attorney.

The appropriate law enforcement custodian shall be responsible for retaining these exhibits until notified that they may be disposed of by the district attorney.

## **DISTRICT COURT TRIAL EXHIBITS**

IT IS ORDERED that in all civil, domestic relations, Juvenile, Mental Health or Probate cases set for court or jury trial all physical and evidentiary evidence to be used at trial shall be marked and submitted in electronic format for the purposes of appeal. Any physical and evidentiary evidence used by the litigants during hearings or trials shall be returned to the submitting party after the hearing or trial in which the item(s) were introduced in evidence. Upon the filing of Notice of Appeal, the court will use the submitted electronic format for submission to be appeals court.

So Ordered this 2<sup>nd</sup> of May, 2012,

Maes

Dennis Maes, Chief Judge

## Distribution

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