



Forest Appeals Commission

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Using Electronic Devices in Hearing Rooms

An electronic device is anything that can send or receive data or audio. Some examples include telephones, computers, tablets, and similar devices. These devices can be used during an oral hearing so long as they are not loud or disruptive.

The Commission's [Rule 21\(10\)](#) recognizes that electronic devices can be disruptive. According to that rule, no videos or images can be taken during a hearing, without the approval of the Panel Chair.

The Panel Chair maintains order in the hearing. They also ensure that the hearing is fair and runs efficiently. They will enforce Rule 19(10) in the hearing and may tell anyone using an electronic device in a disruptive way to turn off their electronic device or to leave the hearing. Ultimately, the Panel Chair's judgment is the final word in the hearing.