

IN THE IOWA DISTRICT COURT IN AND FOR THE  
EIGHTH JUDICIAL DISTRICT OF IOWA

**IN THE MATTER OF THE MINUTES OF  
TESTIMONY ATTACHED TO TRIAL  
INFORMATIONS BEING  
CONFIDENTIAL AND NOT SUBJECT  
TO DISSEMINATION**

**Administrative Order 2024-2**

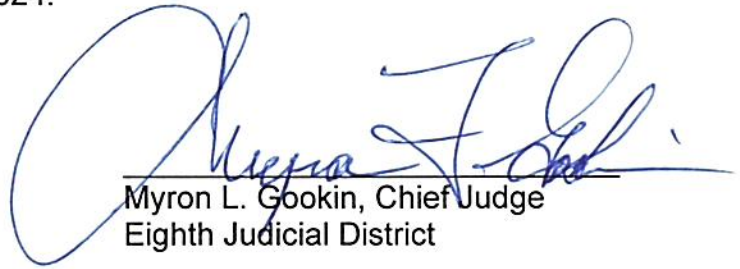
Pursuant to Iowa Rule Of Court 2.4(7)(c), which became effective July 1, 2023, "Minutes of testimony shall be available to the district judge, the prosecuting attorney, the defendant, and the defendant's attorney to be used confidentially in the case and shall not be made public or further disseminated." Reports have been received that some criminal defendants in pending cases have shared or disseminated minutes of testimony and not maintained their confidentiality. Good cause exists to enter this administrative order so that defendants are properly notified of the confidentiality of the minutes of testimony and consequences if they are disseminated to others.

IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED that in orders that approve the trial information and set arraignment, the following notice shall be included at the end of the order, and 8<sup>th</sup> District Court Administration shall add such language to all appropriate EDMS form templates:

**IMPORTANT NOTICE AND ORDER TO DEFENDANT(S) REGARDING PROHIBITION AGAINST MAKING MINUTES OF TESTIMONY PUBLIC OR SHARING THE MINUTES WITH OTHERS.** Iowa Rule of Criminal Procedure 2.4(7)(c) provides that minutes of testimony shall be available to the defendant "to be used confidentially in the case and shall not be made public or further disseminated." **A defendant who willfully violates this Rule may be subject to sanctions by the court, including a finding of contempt and a jail sentence.**

Prosecutors are strongly encouraged to add the above language or some similar abbreviated language to the minutes of testimony, including any documents or statements incorporated therein, in an obvious and appropriate place in the Trial Information or minutes of testimony. An example of suggested abbreviated language: MINUTES OF TESTIMONY ARE CONFIDENTIAL. DO NOT SHARE OR DISSEMINATE TO ANYONE.

Dated this 28th day of March, 2024.



Myron L. Gookin, Chief Judge  
Eighth Judicial District

Copies to:  
8<sup>th</sup> District Clerks of Court  
8<sup>th</sup> District Court Administration  
8<sup>th</sup> District County Attorneys  
8<sup>th</sup> District Judges, Senior Judges and Associate Judges  
Ottumwa and Burlington Offices of State Public Defender