Administrative Order 2013-1 City of Birmingham Municipal Court Dress Code Policy

It is ORDERED, effective October 1, 2013, ALL persons, whether lawyers, parties, witnesses or spectators conducting business, participating in trials, or otherwise attending proceedings in the courtroom of the Municipal Court of Birmingham, Alabama, shall be dressed appropriately so as to maintain the dignity, integrity, decorum, seriousness and professional atmosphere of the Court and the administration of justice. Dress, which is disturbing and distracting in court is inappropriate. Clothes and appearance must be safe and not disruptive to the judicial process. Remember you are appearing in a court of law.

- Skirts MUST reach and extend below the fingertip.
- Shorts are NOT permitted
- All pants must be worn at the waist. NO sagging or low riding.
- Undershirts and tank tops, if worn must be worn with another "cover-up" shirt. Shoulders, backs, chests, and midsections MUST be covered.
- NO see-through type or suggestive clothing is to be worn. Undergarments may NOT be visible.
- All shirts, with the exception of sweaters, sweatshirts, or vests must be tucked into pants and skirts including athletic jerseys.
- Appropriate footwear must be worn at all times. NO house shoes permitted.
- Inappropriate head coverings such as bandanas, scarves, sweatbands, hats/caps, do-rags or hairnets
 are NOT to be worn or seen. Hoods on lightweight garments or sweatshirts may NOT be pulled over
 the head. Sunglasses shall be removed in court.
- Clothing that advertises substances (drugs, alcohol, tobacco products) or language or writing that is
 otherwise inappropriate or offensive (sex, profanity, racial or ethnic slurs, gang-related attire, etc.) may
 NOT be worn. Tattoos that display drugs, sex, alcohol or tobacco products must not be seen an
 anytime.
- Clothing that is intentionally torn in inappropriate places is prohibited.
- NO sleepwear allowed.

It is further ORDERED that all attorneys are to instruct those individuals for whom they represent of the contents of this Order and that copies of this Order shall be posted in conspicuous places in the Municipal Complex of the City of Birmingham, Alabama.

Notice

- Cell phones ringing or activated in the courtroom will be taken away by the Court Bailiff and returned to the owner at the conclusion of court.
- Spectators shall remain silent in the courtroom
- Spectators may not sleep in the courtroom
- NO food, drinks, chewing of gum or reading materials allowed in the courtroom

Approved:

Andra D. Sparks, Presiding Judge

September 3, 2013