**COURTROOM DECORUM FOR SPECTATORS**

A court-martial is a federal court of the United States having criminal jurisdiction. The decorum to be observed at a court-martial will be the same as in other federal courts.

Spectators, including members of the news media, are encouraged to attend trials and will be permitted to observe any trial unless otherwise determined by the military judge. Spectators may quietly enter, be seated and leave the courtroom at any time during open sessions of the court-martial, but they will not be permitted to distract, disturb, or interrupt court proceedings by their conduct.

Photographic, sound or video recording equipment, as well as other recording devices, are not permitted in the courtroom while courts are in session. This includes all cell phones.

It is improper for a spectator, in any way, to demonstrate agreement or disagreement with testimony or other procedures at a trial. This includes verbal means, facial expression, shaking or nodding of the head, or other conduct.

Spectators shall not bring food or drink into the courtroom. Use of gum or smokeless tobacco is prohibited. Unusually distracting modes of dress, such as bare feet, halter-tops, “muscle shirts,” shorts, flip flops, and similar clothing is not permitted.

Loud talking or conduct that might be distracting will not be allowed in the vicinity of any courtroom while court is in session.

All persons in the courtroom will rise each time the military judge or court members enter or leave the courtroom.

Any person who does not comply with these rules may be removed from the courtroom or its vicinity.

Reminders:

All visitors will be subject to security procedures entering Naval Station Norfolk and the RLSO building. Please do not bring unnecessary bags, books, purses, and gear.

Restroom facilities are located on the third floor.

Smoking is permitted only in designated areas onboard Naval Station Norfolk.