

CITY ORDINANCE NO. 18

The City Council for the City of Young hereby enacts as follows:

SECTION 1. TITLE.

This ordinance shall be known and may be cited as the "Courtroom Etiquette and Order Ordinance".

SECTION 2. PURPOSE AND PROHIBITION.

To ensure the fair administration of justice, protect the solemnity of judicial proceedings, and maintain strict constitutional decorum within the City of Young, all persons present within a designated municipal courtroom shall maintain quiet. It is strictly prohibited for any gallery observer, active party member, or unrecognized counsel to:

1. Emit vocal disruptions, shout, speak out of turn, or generate any acoustic disturbance plainly audible across the gallery or counsel tables while the active Court is in session, without prior formal recognition from the bench.
2. Operate cellular phones, personal audio devices, or electronic equipment in an audible mode.

SECTION 3. FIRST AMENDMENT SAFEGUARDS AND EXEMPTIONS.

This ordinance operates strictly as a content-neutral and viewpoint-neutral time, place, and manner regulation. Nothing in this enactment shall be construed to limit constitutionally protected speech. The prohibitions set forth in Section 2 shall not apply to:

1. Statements made by legal counsel, active parties, or sworn witnesses while holding the floor during their recognized procedural turn.
2. Lawful, official communications executed by sworn court personnel, the Bailiff, or the City Clerk.
3. Silent, content-neutral written note-passing or non-vocal communication, provided it does not create a physical distraction or visual obstruction to the proceedings.

SECTION 4. ENFORCEMENT AND PENALTIES.

Violation of this ordinance constitutes an infraction. Enforcement shall be executed objectively under the authority of the presiding Superior Court Judge, the sworn Bailiff, or the Chief of Police:

1. **Primary Admonishment:** Any individual violating Section 2 shall be issued one (1) clear, verbal warning to immediately cease the disruptive behavior.
2. **Removal and Fine:** Continued or intentional non-compliance following a primary admonishment shall result in the immediate expulsion of the offending individual from the courtroom and an assessed fine of \$50.00.

3. **Financial Assessment:** Should a defendant assert an inability to pay, the Court must conduct a financial assessment; if found unable to pay, the defendant shall be assigned to public service determined at the discretion of the City Council or its appointee.

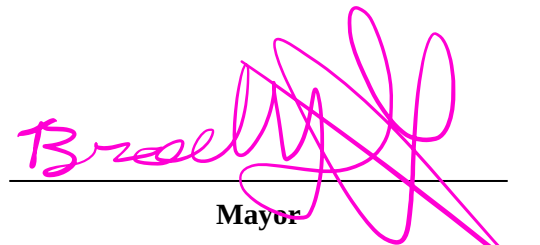
SECTION 5. EFFECTIVE DATE.

This ordinance shall take effect and commence immediately upon passage.

**PASSED AND ADOPTED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF YOUNG, COUNTY OF CENOS,
CBGS, AS AN ORDINANCE AT THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE CITY COUNCIL HELD ON JUNE
24, 2026.**

ATTEST:



City Clerk

Mayor

Revised June 24, 2026