



KEEP
COLORADO
CONSTITUTIONAL

★ KCC COURT WATCHERS WORKING GROUP ★

DO'S AND DON'TS OF COURT WATCHING

TRANSPARENCY • INTEGRITY • PUBLIC TRUST

We Observe. We Document. We Inform. We Do Not Interfere.



DO'S

BE PREPARED • BE RESPECTFUL • BE OBJECTIVE



DO verify that the hearing is open to the public.

Confirm the courtroom, date, time, and whether the proceeding is public. Some cases, including certain juvenile and confidential matters, have restricted access.



DO arrive early and dress appropriately.

Allow time for security screening, silence your phone, and follow the court's published rules and lawful instructions.



DO remain quiet, respectful, and neutral.

Observe the judge, attorneys, parties, witnesses, and courtroom procedures without expressing approval or disapproval.



DO take accurate notes when permitted.

Record dates, times, case numbers, statements, rulings, and observable conduct. Distinguish direct quotations from summaries.



DO document both appropriate and concerning conduct.

Judicial accountability requires an accurate record, including when a judge protects procedural rights or treats participants fairly.



DO respect privacy and confidentiality.

Protect minors, victims, protected information, sealed records, and identifying information that should not be publicly disclosed.



DO submit an objective observation report to KCC.

Include what happened, what you personally witnessed, and any documents or publicly available records that support your observations.



DON'TS

DO NOT INTERFERE • DO NOT RECORD • DO NOT ADVOCATE



DON'T interrupt or disrupt proceedings.

No shouting, commentary, gestures, demonstrations, or attempts to address the judge without authorization.



DON'T photograph, livestream, or record without authorization.

Colorado courts restrict electronic recording and photography. Do not assume that a public hearing may be recorded.



DON'T communicate with jurors or attempt to influence witnesses.

Avoid contact that could affect testimony, deliberations, or the fairness of the proceedings.



DON'T act as an attorney or legal representative.

Do not advise parties on legal strategy, speak on their behalf, or prepare filings as their legal counsel.



DON'T make accusations without supporting evidence.

Distinguish observed facts from allegations, personal opinions, and legal conclusions. A ruling you disagree with does not, by itself, establish misconduct.



DON'T publish sensitive information or harass participants.

No doxxing, threats, intimidation, or public disclosure of protected information.



DON'T claim to speak officially for KCC without authorization.

Court Watchers may identify their observer role accurately, but only designated representatives may make official organizational statements.



★ OUR GUIDING PRINCIPLE ★

*We do not enter courtrooms to determine guilt or innocence.
We enter to observe whether the judicial process is conducted
openly, fairly, and according to law.*



KEEP COLORADO
CONSTITUTIONAL

Faithful to the Constitution. Accountable to the People. Committed to Colorado.

keepcoloradoconstitutional.com

