

THE CODE OF CRIMINAL PROCEDURE (EXCERPT)
Act 175 of 1927

767.37a Arraignments; use of 2-way interactive video technology; access to courtroom; court record.

Sec. 37a. (1) A judge or district court magistrate may conduct initial criminal arraignments and set bail by 2-way interactive video technology communication between a court facility and a prison, jail, or other place where a person is imprisoned or detained. A judge or district court magistrate may conduct initial criminal arraignments and set bail on weekends, holidays, or at any time as determined by the court.

(2) A 2-way interactive video technology system used under this section shall enable the accused and the judge or district court magistrate to see, hear, and communicate with each other simultaneously, and shall enable defense counsel and the prosecuting attorney, if present, to be heard by and to communicate simultaneously with the accused, the judge or district court magistrate, and opposing counsel.

(3) Except as otherwise provided by law, the public shall have access to the courtroom or other location, that allows them to view and hear the proceedings.

(4) If proceedings conducted under this section are not recorded by an individual certified by the state court administrative office, the court shall record and maintain an original audiovisual recording of the entire proceedings. A recording made under this subsection shall become part of the court record.

(5) This act does not prohibit the use of 2-way interactive video technology for arraignments on the information, criminal pretrial hearings, criminal pleas, sentencing hearings for misdemeanor violations cognizable in the district court, show cause hearings, or other criminal proceedings, to the extent the Michigan supreme court has authorized that use.

History: Add. 1994, Act 229, Imd. Eff. June 30, 1994;—Am. 2006, Act 655, Imd. Eff. Jan. 9, 2007.