

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE
NINTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT IN AND FOR
ORANGE COUNTY, FLORIDA

STATE OF FLORIDA,

CASE NO.: 48-2008-CF-015606-O

Plaintiff,

v.

CASEY MARIE ANTHONY,

Defendant.

ORDER ESTABLISHING RULES GOVERNING MEMBERS OF THE MEDIA

To ensure that the proceedings in this case proceed in an orderly manner and to provide for media coverage and for public observation of the proceedings, provisions regarding protocol, decorum, and the use of electronic devices in the courtroom are necessary.

The proper decorum required in a proceeding of this nature must be maintained at all times. The overall purpose of these rules is to secure the litigants' rights to a fair and impartial proceeding while permitting the public access to the proceedings.

IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED as follows:

1. **Media Defined:** Ninth Judicial Circuit Court Administrative Order 07-96-19-01 Governing Special Interest/High Profile Proceedings is incorporated herein. Pursuant to said Order, a media committee was established and has recommended procedures for this case. Traditional media such as newspaper, television and radio are relatively easy to identify and define. However, with the advent of the Internet, a new type of media has developed which has not yet been addressed by court rule or by the Florida Supreme Court. The media committee has recommended a definition for this "new media," who are majority Internet based and not generally directly associated with television, radio or newspaper. The Court hereby adopts the committee's definition for the purposes of this trial only. "New media" shall be defined as:

An online organization which was a previously established, independent site that contains regularly updated original news content above and beyond links, forums, troubleshooting tips and reader contributions; said content is thoroughly reviewed by an independent editor before publication; has a readership of more than 1,000 hits per month; and has previously covered the judicial branch. Fan sites, web logs and personal web sites do not qualify as "new media."

It is the responsibility of the requesting online organization to show proof that it meets the definition of "new media." In order for members of the "new media" to obtain media credentials, links to two bylined articles clearly displaying publication title and published within the past six months must be submitted. Additionally, either a copy of the current masthead or business card with the name, title and media outlet's logo or a copy of the online publications home page and the masthead page with the media's representative's name and title appearing in an editorial capacity or an official letter of assignment from the media outlet must be submitted. Proof that the judicial branch or this case has been covered for at least the six months previous to this Order must be provided.

2. Courtroom and Courtroom Seating:

a. The Roger A. Barker Courtroom located on the 23rd Floor of the Orange County Courthouse will be used for this trial. Not everyone who wishes to be present during the proceedings may be accommodated in the courtroom. Specified courtroom seating will be provided on a limited basis for those possessing a court-issued credential **AND** a seating pass. Additional seats will be available to the media on a first-come, first-serve basis but still require a court-issued credential. Media representatives are required to prominently display a court-issued media credential at all times when on the 23rd floor. Court-issued credentials cannot be transferred to other media personnel. Loaning another individual your court-issued credential will result in loss of media privileges for the duration of the trial.

b. Quiet and order shall be maintained at all times. Audible comments of any kind by anyone during the court proceedings or provocative or uncivil behavior within the courthouse at any time will not be tolerated. There shall be no gestures, facial expressions, or the like, suggesting approval or disapproval during the proceedings.

c. Media are expected to dress in a manner consistent with the decorum of a judicial proceeding. No chewing gum and no food or drink is permitted at any time.

d. Seating passes may be transferred between media personnel. Lost or stolen seating passes should be immediately reported to Court Administration. Media personnel should refrain from leaving the courtroom while court is in session. Periodic recesses will be given.

e. Media are not allowed entrance to the "well" of the court - the space in the courtroom between the railing and the Judge's Bench where the attorneys, Judge, and the Defendant are located unless specifically permitted by the Court.

f. The media committee have selected *In Session* and the *Orlando Sentinel* to provide the video and still pool feeds for media coverage. **No additional cameras are permitted in the courtroom. Cell phones may not be used to take photographs of the proceeding.**

g. Media representatives sitting in seats designated for the public and not the specifically designated media seats must adhere to the rules governing the public. No use of cell phones, laptops or other electronic devices is permitted at all.

3. Cell Phones and Laptops:

a. Media are allowed to use their cell phones in the courtroom for sending and receiving written, electronic information only. They are not to be used for telephone calls. **Use of cell phone cameras is absolutely prohibited.** All cell phones, pagers, and electronic recording devices must be turned off or switched to silent or vibrate mode. The privilege of cell phones use may be revoked at any time if such use becomes disruptive in any way. No other devices capable of taking pictures or capturing sound may be operated inside the courtroom. Such devices include, but are not limited to: cell phones, cameras, digital voice recorders or similar technical devices.

b. Only laptops with virtual, silent keyboards will be permitted use in the courtroom. No other laptops will be permitted. Other allowed devices equipped with virtual keyboards such as iPads, as well as Blackberrys and other data phones for text transmissions will be permitted. Power for these devices will not be provided in the courtroom.

c. The operation of any permitted devices in the courtroom must be in a manner that does not disturb or disrupt the proceedings or distract the participants.

4. Courtroom Opening: Generally, the proceedings will begin daily at 9:00 a.m. The courtroom deputy will open the courtroom for all media and general public shortly before court begins each day. The schedule, however, is subject to change. Court is expected to proceed Monday through Friday and half-days on Saturdays. You must be seated at least five minutes prior to the time set for the start of the court session. Security personnel will be scanning and checking all media representatives and equipment upon entering the courthouse and an additional security check may occur at the courtroom entrance. Hence, additional time may be needed in order to timely enter the courtroom.

5. 23rd Floor Lobby Area/Open Space/Elevator Space: For the purposes of this trial, the courtroom rules and procedures are extended to the entire 23rd floor area. No cameras or recording devices can be used in this area and loitering in this area will not be permitted. A single pool video camera and a single still camera will be allowed in the lobby for coverage of ingress and egress to the courtroom. Assignment of these pool positions and sharing of taped footage/photographs is the sole responsibility of the media.

6. Media Rooms: Two areas are designated to serve as media rooms for the duration of the trial: Room 230 and the Judicial Conference Room.

a. Room 230 - This room is located on the 2nd floor and seats six people. Access is on a first-come, first-serve basis for those with court-issued media credentials. The media room will be open during normal working hours. Use of laptops, cell phones and other devices is permitted.

b. Judicial Conference Room - This room is located on the 23rd floor across from the courtroom. This room is for viewing only. Media will not have access to a signal. Use of laptops and cell phones is permitted and power is available. Access to this room is limited and requires a court-issued credential. The room will be open during normal business hours.

7. **Distribution of Information to the Media**: Contact Karen Levey with Court Administration at ctadkl1@ocnjcc.org to be added to the case email distribution list. Information pertaining to the case will be distributed via email and posted on the Court's web site at www.ninthcircuit.org

8. **Interviews**:

a. No interviews shall be held on the 23rd floor. No interviews concerning this proceeding shall be conducted in any area of the courthouse primarily used for ingress and egress. Media personnel must not interfere with the safety, security or movement of persons in hallways, doorways, elevators, etc.

b. Interviews will be permitted outside on the courthouse complex plaza. Interviews must not impede or block pedestrian flow. No interviews will be permitted on the courthouse steps or near the courthouse entrance.

9. **Violations**: Anyone violating this Order will be subject to the discipline of the Court, including, but not limited to, the Court's contempt authority, immediate removal from the courtroom, prohibition from returning to the courtroom and loss of media privileges for the duration of the trial.

10. **Distribution**: Copies of this Order shall be displayed outside the courtroom, placed on the Court's web site, and provided to all members of the media.

DONE AND ORDERED in Chambers at Orlando, Orange County, Florida this 15th day of May, 2011.


BELVIN PERRY, JR.

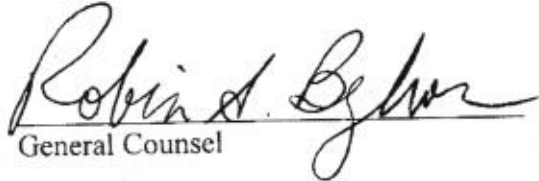
Certificate of Service

I certify that a copy of the foregoing Order was provided by electronic mail and also by either U.S. Mail or hand-delivery this ~~1st~~ day of May, 2011, to:

● Linda Drane Burdick, Jeffrey L. Ashton, and Frank George, Assistant State Attorneys, 415 North Orange Avenue, Orlando, Florida 32801

● Jose Baez, Esquire, The Baez Law Firm, 522 Simpson Road, Kissimmee, Florida 34744

● J. Cheney Mason, Esquire, J. Cheney Mason, P.A., 390 North Orange Avenue, Suite 2100, Orlando, Florida 32801.


General Counsel