

**STATE OF NEW MEXICO
COUNTY OF TAOS
EIGHTH JUDICIAL DISTRICT COURT**

D-8 _____

**STANDING ORDER REGARDING
NEWS MEDIA IN THE COLFAX COUNTY COURTHOUSE**

THIS MATTER having come before the Court on its own motion, to ensure order and the safety of all present in matters before the Court, and the Court having reviewed Rule 23-107 of the New Mexico Supreme Court General Rules and being otherwise fully advised ORDERS:

1. There will be one video camera operated in the courtroom at any one time. The camera must be prepositioned while Court is in recess, is limited to the location designated by the Court, and must use natural lighting. News media must communicate with each other to determine which news organization will serve as the pool, and once that is determined, the pool must notify the Court Executive Officer by email or phone. The news organization who serves as the pool must provide a pool feed of video, audio, and/or still photographs to other news agencies. If the pool camera is allowed by the Court to be positioned in the jury box for hearings, only the camera operator will be permitted in that location. All other news must be positioned in the gallery.
2. Still photography will be allowed, but only one still photographer can be located in the jury box if allowed by the Court for that proceeding. News media representatives must communicate with each other to determine which news organization will be located in the jury box (if allowed for hearings only), and once that is determined, the pool must notify the Court Executive Officer by email or phone. A condition of being allowed to set up in the jury box is that all photographs must be shared with all other news agencies. All cameras used in the courtroom must not produce any distracting sounds or must be operated with a sound muffling device or in a silent mode that eliminates distracting noise from the camera's mirror or shutter. Photographers must be prepositioned while Court is in recess, are limited to the location designated by the Court, and must use natural lighting. News media may operate still cameras in the courtroom so long as photographers remain stationary while Court is in session and all but one photographer stay behind the bar in the gallery of the courtroom.
3. All cameras in the Court must be positioned and tested at least thirty minutes prior to the start of the hearing or trial. Court will not be delayed due to technical issues with video cameras or audio feed. The Court reserves the right to exclude video and any cameras if it determines that they are interfering with the conduct of the hearing or trial.

4. News media representatives attending the Court proceedings must identify themselves to the Bailiff prior to the start of the hearing or trial and must present proper credentials (identification cards, business card, or other such documents). News media representatives must observe all Court protocols regarding COVID-safe practices at all times, including wearing masks in the Courtroom and on the Colfax County Karelitz Judicial Center property, and maintaining required social distancing. News media may be excluded from the jury selection phase of proceedings, at the Court's order, in order to assure sufficient social distancing.
5. All cell phones must be on silent mode in the courtroom and may not be utilized to take video of the proceedings. Cell phones may not send live audio or video signals from the courtroom. Tweets or texts may be sent from the courtroom provided that they are silent and do not distract from the proceedings.
6. No cameras of any kind including small, hand-held digital cameras, video cameras, or cell phones may be used by anyone inside the Colfax County Karelitz Judicial Center other than the news media cameras prepositioned inside the courtroom as described above.
7. Cameras operating outside the Colfax County Judicial Center must remain at least fifty feet away from any door of the Colfax County Judicial Center. Media trucks must park in the parking lot south of the Center, in a location designated by the Colfax County Sheriff.
8. No one may photograph or video record members of any jury or the jury panel during a trial or during jury selection. No members of the jury may be approached by anyone other than authorized court personnel during the trial. No one may photograph or approach jurors entering or exiting the courthouse.
9. No one other than the Court will record or broadcast in any way (audio, video or still camera) the testimony of any juvenile witnesses, the tender of evidence offered by a party for the purpose of determining admissibility made before the Judge outside the hearing of the jury, or any conference in the courtroom between members of the Court, Court and counsel, co-counsel, or counsel and client. Live video streaming of Court proceedings is not permitted.
10. Violation of this order, disruption of Court proceedings, or behavior which threatens the safety of those present in Court will result in the offender being removed from the Courthouse and the offender possibly being found in contempt of court.
11. Any Judge presiding over any proceeding may alter or make changes to these rules as circumstances require. Effort will be made to give as much notice to media when the provisions of this standing order will be changed. Requests for exceptions to these provisions must be sent in advance to the Court Executive Officer.

IT IS SO ORDERED.

Emilio Chavez

2/11/2021 | 9:25 AM MST

THE HONORABLE EMILIO J. CHAVEZ
EIGHTH JUDICIAL DISTRICT CHIEF JUDGE

Melissa A. Kennelly

THE HONORABLE MELISSA A. KENNELLY
EIGHTH JUDICIAL DISTRICT JUDGE, DIV. II

THE HONORABLE JEFF SHANNON
EIGHTH JUDICIAL DISTRICT JUDGE, DIV. III