Media Plan

10th District Court

State of Texas vs. Royce Clyde Zeigler

October 2009

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DISTRICT CLERK
GALVESTON COUNTY, TX.

The following rules are in effect for any court room activity related to the above reference criminal case.

Court Liaison

The Director of Justice Administration shall act as a Liaison between the media and the court on issues not requiring a legal motion. The Judge will make all final decisions regarding issues presented by the Liaison.

Bonnie Quiroga, Director
(409) 765-2649, (409) 770-5230
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Parking

Parking for media vehicles is as follows:

1. Vans, mobile units, motor homes, etc. owned by the media are prohibited from parking in areas generally designated for the public or employees.
2. Media parking is designated as the parking lot at the corner of Avenue H and 59th Street (across the street from the Court Building)
3. As a courtesy to our public, the media is asked to refrain from parking in areas primarily used by the public or jurors at the Justice Center.
4. Parking of any vehicle in the area designated for employees of the Justice Center is strictly prohibited.
5. Parking of any vehicle at the loading dock of the Justice Center is strictly prohibited and vehicles will be towed at the owner's expense.

Audio/Video Coverage

1. No Video recordings are permitted in the court room.
2. No Audio recordings are permitted in the court room.
3. All photo coverage shall be on a pool basis. The Court will permit one still photographer in the court room for a period of time not to exceed five minutes once each day, prior to the

entrance of the jury. The pool photographer should be available and in the court room no later than 8:30 a.m. Trial will not be delayed for photographs.

4. The pool photographer shall remain and photograph from the spectator section of the court room.
5. No photographs are permitted once the jury enters the court room.
6. No photographs are permitted while court is in session, whether that be trial, hearing, etc.
7. News photographers are expected to work together to insure adequate access to proceedings for all. If any member of the press feels he/she is not being provided equal access to the proceedings, he/she should contact the court liaison immediately.
8. Only existing court room light shall be used for photographs.
9. Camerapersons, technicians and photographers covering a proceeding shall avoid activity which might distract participants or impair the dignity of the proceedings; shall remain seated within the restricted areas designated by the Court; shall observe the customs of the Court; shall conduct themselves in the keeping the Court decorum; and shall not dress in a manner which sets them apart unduly from the participants in the proceedings.
10. **IF SPECTATOR SEATING BECOMES AN ISSUE:** Seating for the media is by Media Pass only. A Media Pass may be obtained through the Office of Justice Administration (Bonnie Quiroga). Initially, media seating in the court room is limited to one pass/person per station/organization, limited to a total of 20 media permits. Additional permits may be issued if seating becomes available. Media Passes are issued to the individual and not the station/organization. Therefore, sharing of Media Passes is prohibited.
11. All spectators/media personnel are asked to remain seated in the court room and avoid unnecessary entrance/exit during proceedings. Media persons not in the court room are asked to **refrain** from conducting business in the hallways of the 2nd, 3rd and 4th floors of the Justice Center.
12. Interviews/Press Conferences, etc. are **prohibited** on floors 2, 3 and 4 of the Justice Center. The east wing of the 1st floor (both the hallway in front of the Law Library and the Public Lounge) is the established area for media interviews and/or press conferences. Signs will be posted on the 3rd floor indicating the designated area for interviews/press conferences, etc. is in the east wing of the 1st floor.
13. No live broadcasts are permitted from inside the building.
14. Live broadcasts from the property of the Courts Building are permitted in the front of the building only.
15. Photographs that might include images of the Security Desk/Security Equipment on the 1st floor are prohibited.
16. In order to protect potential victims, witnesses, special law enforcement personnel, etc. from video/photograph while inside the Courts Building and only on the first floor, you are asked to have your subject stand with his/her back to a solid wall, not more than 12" from the solid wall.
17. Special access to the building may be provided for those media persons providing the pool-feed or other court approved media transmissions. These persons are expected to follow the rules established for authorized access in order to insure the security of the courts and

personnel of the Justice Center. This special access may include entrance/exit through the same doors designated for the Judge and court staff and all should be free to come and go without being approached. Therefore, this area if off limits to the "business" of media covering this trial.

18. For security reasons, no Judge, court staff or trial participant should be approached inside the gated parking area at the rear of the building.
19. Use of laptops or similar communication devices (such as a Blackberry) in the court room is prohibited.
20. The use of cell phone cameras in the court room is prohibited.
21. Artistic drawings of the trial must be approved before the commencement of the trial. All artistic drawings must be submitted to the court for approval in order to insure protection of the jury.
22. Artistic renderings (photographs, video, drawings, etc.) or any other method of producing imagery depicting any member(s) of the jury is not permitted. Additionally, no "likeness" of the juror with the removal of facial features is permitted.
23. Media personnel are not exempt from the rules established for all persons at the Justice Center, including the use of designated smoking areas. The designated smoking area at the west employee entrance will be used by jurors and the media is asked to avoid that area during those times.
24. Eating in the courts building is limited to the Public Lounge located on the 1st floor.
25. The areas in the court room marked "reserved" are **NOT** for media personnel/technicians. These areas are reserved for trial participants, such as plaintiff, defendant, case attorneys and other support staff.
26. The use of cell phones, walkie-talkie, pagers, etc. in the court room is prohibited. All such devices should be turned off prior to entering the court room.
27. The telephones in the offices of court staff are not available to the media.
28. Public documents related to this trial will be posted at: www.co.galveston.tx.us/10th under "major cases". Please obtain needed copies from this site whenever possible so that court staff can remain free to conduct the business of the court.

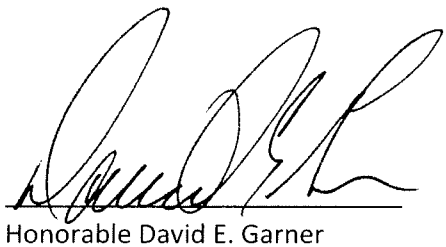
Jury Contact/Communication

1. Jurors will enter each day at the front of the court house. The rules established by this court with regard to contact, video, drawings, photographs, etc. are not limited to the court room.
2. Jurors may, at times, exit the building at the west employee entrance. Media personnel should be mindful that jurors may use this exit and discussions about trial materials, witnesses, etc., should not take place in their presence.
3. The media is not permitted to "hang out" in the hallways of the 2nd, 3rd or 4th floors of the Justice Center Courts Building. This rule will not only work to avoid disruption of proceedings in other court rooms, but allow the jurors space to move about during recess.

Trial Transcripts

1. All requests for transcripts of the trial must be made in writing to Vickie Calve, Official Court Reporter of the 10th District Court.

Signed this the 14th day of October, 2009.



Honorable David E. Garner
10th District Court

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