

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE SIXTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT IN AND FOR  
PINELLAS COUNTY, FLORIDA

TERRY GENE BOLLEA,

Plaintiff,

v.

HEATHER CLEM, et al.,

Defendants.

CASE NO.: 12 012447 CI 11  
UCN: 522012CA012447XXCICI

FILED  
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KEN BURKE  
CLERK OF CIRCUIT COURT

**ORDER ESTABLISHING RULES GOVERNING MEMBERS OF THE MEDIA  
DURING TRIAL**

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 Policy:** Sixth Judicial Circuit Court Administrative Order 2008-076 PA/PI-CIR governing the media is incorporated herein. Florida Rule of Judicial Administration 2.450 will govern the use of technology in this judicial proceeding.

**2. Equipment and Personnel.** One television camera, operated by not more than 1 camera person, shall be permitted in the proceeding and provide still "pool" feeds for media coverage. Not more than 1 still photographer, using not more than 2 still cameras, shall be permitted in any proceeding. Any "pooling" arrangements among the media required by these limitations on equipment and personnel shall be the sole responsibility of the media without calling upon the presiding judge to mediate any dispute as to the appropriate media representative or equipment authorized to cover a particular proceeding. In the absence of

advance media agreement on disputed equipment or personnel issues, the presiding judge shall exclude all contesting media personnel from a proceeding. The presiding judge will rely upon the Court's Public Information Officer of the Sixth Judicial Circuit for guidance and for communicating and resolving issues with the media.

**No additional cameras are permitted in the courtroom.  
Cell phones may not be used to take photographs or any recordings of the proceeding.**

### **3. Courtroom and Courtroom Seating:**

a. The trial will be conducted in Courtroom A, located on the 4<sup>th</sup> floor of the Pinellas County Judicial building, 545 First Avenue North, St. Petersburg, Florida. There is limited space and not everyone who wishes to be present during the proceedings may be accommodated in the courtroom.

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. 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 litigants are located unless specifically permitted by the Court.

e. To protect the attorney-client privilege and there shall be no audio pickup or broadcast of conferences that occur in the court facility between attorneys and their clients, between co-counsel or a client, or between counsel and the presiding judge held at the bench.

### **4. Cell Phones and Laptops:**

a. 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.

**5. Lobby Area/Open Space/Elevator Space:** For the purposes of this proceeding, the courtroom rules and procedures are extended to the entire 4<sup>th</sup> floor area, with any exception as designated by the Court's Public Information Officer. No cameras or recording devices can be used in the common areas and loitering in this area or hallways will not be permitted.

**6. Media Rooms.** Areas will be designated to serve as media rooms during each of the proceedings in this case. The Court's Public Information Officer will be coordinating these designated areas based on space available and the other needs of the judicial officers in this courthouse.

**7. Distribution of Information to the Media:** Contact Stephen Thompson, Public Information Officer at [sthompson@jud6.org](mailto:sthompson@jud6.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.jud6.org](http://www.jud6.org)

**8. Interviews:** No interviews shall be held on the 4<sup>th</sup> floor of the courthouse, unless in a designated area identified by the Court's Public Information Officer. 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. and must always be mindful of the other business being conducted in the courthouse.

**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.

**ORDERED** in St. Petersburg, Pinellas County, Florida, on February 24, 2016.



Pamela A.M. Campbell  
Circuit Judge

Copies to:

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