

COMMONWEALTH OF KENTUCKY
WOODFORD CIRCUIT COURT
CASE NO. 15-CR-00090
FIRST DIVISION



COMMONWEALTH OF KENTUCKY

PLAINTIFF

v.

AMENDED ORDER REGARDING MEDIA COVERAGE

RONALD EXANTUS

DEFENDANT

The Court has considered the matter of media coverage in this case and the Motion to Modify and Clarify Order Regarding Media Coverage filed and argued by the Intervening Plaintiff, Lexington H-L Services, Inc., d/b/a Lexington Herald-Leader ("Herald-Leader"), and hereby enters the following Amended Order Regarding Media Coverage ("Amended Order") which shall pertain to all future proceedings herein. The purpose of this Amended Order is to provide the parties a fair trial in this case, preserve the dignity of these proceedings, and allow the media reasonable access to these proceedings. The Court hereby **ORDERS** as follows:

1. There shall be no use of flash photography or other artificial lights anywhere in the courtroom during this proceeding.
2. Jury orientation and the jury selection process of this matter will occur in the Fayette Circuit Courtroom, Courtroom One, on the 4th floor of the Fayette Circuit Courthouse. No cameras (defined as still and video cameras) will be permitted in this courtroom during jury orientation or jury selection process. This means that at the beginning of this trial and until the jury is selected, no cameras shall be allowed in the courtroom.

3. The privacy of jurors and the protection of the jury process during the period of this trial being of paramount importance to this Court, the photographing or videotaping of jurors at any time during the trial is prohibited.

4. Media shall be permitted to conduct interviews and take photographs of parties, witnesses, and attorneys in the hallways of the Fayette Circuit Court. The interviewing of witnesses shall occur only after they have testified and shall be done out of the presence of jurors and of witnesses who have not yet testified. The media shall not take the photograph of any minors.

5. Any camera or recording device utilized during the trial must not be able to heard by a juror, either while in the jury box or outside of the jury box during a break.

6. There shall be no use of cameras in any stairwell or elevator of the Fayette Circuit Courthouse.

7. The use of any camera in the courtroom shall be prohibited unless the cameraperson is a representative of the media. The first row of benches immediately behind the bar in the Circuit courtroom shall be reserved for the media. No photograph, video, or still, is permitted to focus on the papers, exhibits or other documents on counsel's table in such a manner that the contents of these materials can be read or otherwise discerned by the viewer.

8. Only one television (video) camera will be allowed in the courtroom during the trial of this matter after jury selection on a first-come, first-serve basis or by agreement of the other television stations. If more than one television (video) camera is sought to be located in the courtroom, the first camera located in the courtroom will be designated as the "pool" camera and shall share its video footage with those requesting the same. The media room is for this purpose.

9. No microphones shall be used or located in the courtroom beyond the bar without the permission of the Court as to its use and placement.

10. The Herald-Leader shall have the right to use two (2) still cameras in the courtroom, with one of those being an iPhone or iPad, during the trial the trial of this matter. All other media outlets shall be entitled to use a combined two (2) still cameras on a first-come, first-serve basis, during the trial of this matter. The total amount of still cameras that may be operated at any time shall be four (4). Media personnel desiring to use still cameras shall work together to allow each other access to the trial pursuant to this paragraph.

11. "Pooling" arrangements among the media required by the limitations on equipment and personnel are the sole responsibility of the media without resort to this Court. In the absence of a media agreement on disputed equipment or personnel issues, the Court may exclude all connecting media from a proceeding in this matter. There is a media room located in the court's administrative office located, on the first floor of the Fayette Circuit Court, where trial proceedings can be heard and viewed by media outlets.

12. During the trial of this matter, television equipment and tripod-mounted still cameras must not be placed in or removed from the courtroom except prior to commencement or after adjournment of proceedings each day, or during recess.

13. Any television camera or recording equipment that is permitted in the courtroom shall only be turned on and operating while court is in session.

14. Media shall be entitled to photograph and videotape all non-minor witnesses who testify at trial. Witnesses who do not want to be photographed or videotaped must offer to the Court, prior to testifying, a legitimate and compelling reason why they should not be photographed or videotaped.

15. Coverage of the proceedings shall be subject to the continuing supervision of this Court.

Dated this the 2 day of March, 2018.



SPECIAL JUDGE, PHIL PATTON

CLERK: Please post the attached notice of this Amended Order on the doors entering the Fayette Circuit Courthouse and the courtroom where trial is being held on days of trial and hearings of this matter. In addition, please make a copy of this Amended Order available to members of the media upon request. Please also serve a copy of this Amended Order on the parties via their attorneys of record.