

## **Nevada Eighth Judicial District Media Guidelines**

1. All media guidelines are subject to Nevada Supreme Court Rules on *Standard of Conduct and Technology Governing Electronic Media and Still Photo Coverage of Judicial Proceedings* (Part IV, Rules 229-247, inclusive).
2. A Court Information Officer will serve as the court representative (Supreme Court Rule 232).
4. Media Requests from all radio, print and television requesting to photograph, record audio or video tape, or to broadcast a case live must be submitted to the Court Information Officer at least 24 hours before a hearing commences. A media request submitted less than 24 hours of a hearing may be approved at the discretion of the judge if good cause can be shown. In the case of disapproval, the Court Information Officer will supply the media with the official written denial, including the reasons for the denial.
5. Access to the Arraignment Courtrooms in the Lower Level of the District Court has been granted to credentialed media by the Chief Judge at the discretion of the presiding judge, hearing master or commissioner. Credentialed media includes working media with credentials from their employer. Only one television pool camera will be allowed in the arraignment courtroom. More than two print cameras must be arranged into a pool system. Coordination of the pool must be arranged by the Media Representative and this information must be communicated to the Court Information Officer. Media must notify the Court Information Officer 24-hours in advance of plans to bring cameras to a hearing in the arraignment court by phone, fax or email.
6. When more than one member of the print media or more than one member of the broadcast media has received written approval to bring cameras or other equipment into court, media are to coordinate the pool activity (Supreme Court Rule 233). The pool representatives must contact the court marshal to coordinate location of the equipment, including still cameras, video cameras, microphones, as well as the location of pool personnel. The court does not mediate disputes involving pool coverage and pool participation.
7. Placement of camera equipment in the courtroom is at the discretion of the judge and will be communicated to the media by the court marshal.
8. To participate in the pool coverage of court proceedings, trials and hearings, all individual media outlets must have a separate court approved media request filed with the Court Clerk prior to court proceedings (Supreme Court Rule 230). In the case of a trial, the judge, for good cause, may grant permission to join the pool on the next calendar day of trial.
9. For very high-profile trials, parking is to be arranged by the media. General media and public parking is available in lots and garages or in metered spots around the courthouse.
10. For very high-profile trials, media seating in the courtroom will be assigned by the Court Information Officer on a first-come, first-served basis. The Court Information Officer may establish a media center for cases where there is significant media interest and where overflow seating is required and a media pass system may be used.
11. Still and video photographers covering courtroom events should remain in place until it is appropriate to leave without disruption to court proceedings.
12. While in a courtroom, only the case approved for media entry may be videotaped or photographed. The media must not deliberately photograph, videotape or broadcast any case that has not been approved by the judge.
13. The media must not deliberately photograph, videotape or broadcast the jury or individual jurors during a trial in the courtroom, hallways or immediate areas of the courtroom. (Supreme Court Rule 238).
14. Still and video photographers must wear professional and appropriate attire in the courtroom (Supreme Court Rule 236).
15. With prior notification to the marshal, tape recorders are allowed inside the courtroom, but the recordings may

not be used for broadcast (Supreme Court Rule 246).

16. Cell phones are subject to Supreme Court Rule 236 while inside the courtroom and are not to be used to capture video.

17. To protect the integrity of court proceeding and avoid juror contact or exposure, all interviews must be conducted in designated areas within the Regional Justice Center. Those locations can be found behind the Information Booths on the first floor (RJC Canyon). Still photography, videotaping, or hallway interviews will not be allowed at any time on the court floors, unless pre-arranged by the Court Information Officer. At no time will camera crews be allowed to impede the flow of pedestrian traffic in and out of the courthouse. Media must adequately tape down or securely cover cabling and wires.

18. Unless authorized, still and video photographers must not photograph security operations at the entrance of the courthouse.

19. Juvenile court delinquency hearings are open to the media, unless the judge or court master, upon his own motion or upon the motion of another person, determines that all or part of the proceedings must be closed to the general public because such closure is in the best interest of the child or the general public (NRS 62.193).

20. Media organizations are responsible for ensuring that their personnel know and follow these guidelines and Nevada Supreme Court Rules 229-247. Any violation of these guidelines and rules will result in the revocation of media privileges (Supreme Court Rule 231).

