

RAMSEY COUNTY
JUVENILE COURT

GEORGE O. PETERSEN
JUDGE

August 5, 1981

Mr. Paul R. Hannah
Oppenheimer, Wolff, Foster,
Shepard and Donnelly
1700 First Bank Building
St. Paul, Minnesota 55101

RE: Modification of Canon 3A(7) of the
Minnesota Code of Judicial Conduct

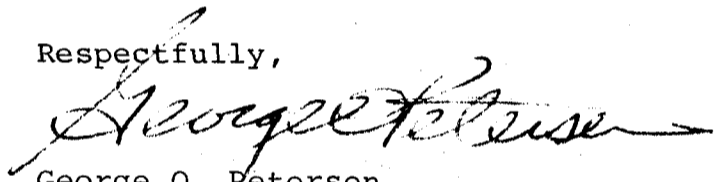
Dear Mr. Hannah:

I wish to advise you that I am no longer the President of the Minnesota Municipal Judges Association. As of July 1, 1981, the current successor to that office is Judge William B. Christensen, Hennepin County Government Center, Minneapolis, Minnesota.

I am forwarding to Judge Christensen the pleadings, briefs and order previously sent to me in the matter of the Modification of Canon 3A(7) of the Minnesota Code of Judicial Conduct.

Please forward any other materials in the future directly to Judge Christensen.

Respectfully,



George O. Petersen
Judge of Ramsey County Juvenile Court

GOP:ceb

pc: Mr. Clinton A. Schroeder, President, Minn. State Bar Assn.
Honorable Bruce Stone, President, Minn. District Judges Assn.
Honorable Peter Lindberg, President, Minn. County Judges Assn.
Adrian E. Herbst, President, Minnesota Trial Lawyers Assn.
George Mastor, Chairman, Joint Bar, Press, Radio and TV Committee
John McCarthy, Clerk, Minnesota Supreme Court ✓
Honorable William B. Christensen

Juvenile Service Center
480 Saint Peter
Saint Paul, Minnesota 55102

612-298-4539

**Procedures for Requesting Cameras
in Minnesota Courtrooms**

Minnesota Supreme Court: Call the marshal, 296-2275, at least 24 hours in advance. If a number of television stations are planning to attend, the first station to call the marshal must set up the pool feed for the other stations. On occasion, that station has had to change its plans, which means that the other stations have to scramble to set up the pool feed. All stations covering a case should be prepared to set up a last-minute pool feed as a back-up when this happens. All equipment should be in place and tested by 8:45 a.m. for any case scheduled on a particular morning. One TV camera and two still cameras are allowed in the courtroom at a time.

The following rules are established for audio or video coverage in the Minnesota Supreme Court:

- a) Unless notice is waived by the Chief Justice, notice of intent to cover court proceedings by either audio or video means shall be given by the media to the Clerk of the Supreme Court at least 24 hours prior to the time of the intended coverage.
- b) Cameramen, 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 keeping with courtroom decorum; and shall not dress in a manner which sets them apart unduly from the participants in the proceeding.
- c) All broadcast and photographic coverage shall be on a pool basis, the arrangements for which must be made by the pooling parties in advance of the hearing. Not more than one (1) ENG camera producing the single video pool-feed shall be permitted in the courtroom. No more than two (2) still-photographic cameras shall be permitted in the courtroom at any one time. Motor-driven still cameras shall not be used.
- d) Exact locations for all camera and audio equipment within the courtroom shall be determined by the Court. All equipment shall be in place and tested 15 minutes in advance of the time the Court is called to order and shall be unobtrusive. All wiring, until made permanent, shall be safely and securely taped to the floor along the walls.
- e) Only existing courtroom lighting shall be used.

**Procedures for Requesting Cameras
in Minnesota Courtrooms
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Minnesota Court of Appeals: Call the chief judge of the Court of Appeals, 297-1013, 24 hours in advance to get approval. Procedures are the same as those outlined for the Supreme Court.

Minnesota Trial Courts: Under the pilot project approved in an order by the Minnesota Supreme Court May 22, 1989, cameras can be used in Minnesota trial courts if the media has the permission of all the parties and the judge. Reporters typically approach the judge and the attorneys at a pre-trial conference with their request. No paperwork is required in making a request. After the fact, however, the news reporter and the law clerk should fill out the attached form and mail it to the Clerk of the Appellate Courts, Room 230, State Capitol, St. Paul, MN 55155. This form documents the numbers and types of requests received.

**CAMERA AND MICROPHONES
IN THE MINNESOTA SUPREME COURT**

The Minnesota Supreme Court has ordered that the experimental modification of Canon 3, Paragraph A. (7), Code of Judicial Conduct be made permanent for purposes of broadcast coverage of the Supreme Court only. The Canon is amended to read, "Except in the Supreme Court, a judge should prohibit broadcasting, televising, etc., etc."

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