


MEMORANDUM

TO: Bev Dease
FROM: Fred Grittner 
DATE: September 11, 1989
RE: Cameras in the Courtroom Reports

Now that the Supreme Court has reinstituted the experiment on cameras in the courts, we need to collect information on it. Rebecca Fanning, Sue Dosal, and myself have developed a report form that judges and court administrators are to return when they have a request from the media to film or record the proceedings.

Attached is the report from Crow Wing County we received last week. As these come in addressed to me, I will give you the original and copy Rebecca, Sue, and the Chief Justice. You should file the original in the cameras in the courtroom administrative folder.

Attachment

CAMERAS IN THE COURTROOM

Court/Location

Judge

Case No.

BRAD WING COURT
JUDGE CLINTON WYANT
K 89 464

Nature of Case

MARLIN WICKLUND
FIRST APP.
TERRORISTIC BOMBING THREATS

Media Making the Request

Reporter

Organization

KATHERINE MILLA
KSAX, ALEXANDRIA

☐

Radio

☒

Television

☐

Newspaper

Nature of Media Request

CAMERA PRESENT IN COURTROOM
DURING APPEARANCE

DECISION ON REQUEST

Plaintiff/Prosecutor

☒

Granted

☐

Denied

Defendant

☒

Granted

☐

Denied

Judge

☒

Granted

☐

Denied

If the request was denied, please indicate reasons given, if any.

If the request was granted, please report your observations of its effect on the proceedings and participants.

The presence of the media in the courtroom caused no effect upon the proceedings and they conducted themselves with decorum.

Submitted by

OFFICE OF
APPELLATE COURTS

Name

Address

Phone

Clinton W. Wyant
Judge of District Court
Courthouse
Brainerd, Minnesota 56401
218-828-3959

SEP 07 1989

8/89

FILED

Access to courts

Month/Year Apr 91

Kind of access requested:

☐ Audio for broadcast ☒ Video ☐ Still camera ☐ Tape recording for notes

Name/location of media organization: KSTP-TV, MPLS/ST. PAUL

☐ Access denied ☐ Access granted but not used ☐ Access granted and used

If denied, reason given: _____

Case name MINNESOTA VS RICHARD HEBERT

☒ Criminal ☐ Civil Type of case: MURDER

Type of proceeding (trial, sentencing hearing, etc): TRIAL

City, judge's name: HASTINGS, Judge GEORGE HOEY

Request addressed to (name)	Role (defense attorney, judge, etc.)	Reply (OK, refused)
<u>BOB KING 438-4438</u>	<u>PROSECUTION</u>	<u>Refused</u>
<u>MARIS McDONOUGH</u> <u>431-1222</u>	<u>DEFENSE 1</u>	<u>Refused</u>
<u>GEORGE HOEY</u>	<u>JUDGE</u>	<u>Refused</u>

Fill in below here only if access was granted.

If access was granted but there was no coverage, explain briefly what happened.

Note any specific problems encountered.

What sort of negative feed-back did you get to coverage?

What sort of positive feed-back did you get to coverage?

Send form to: Minnesota Joint Media Committee, 870 Linwood, St. Paul, MN 55105

Access to courts

Month/Year Apr 91

Kind of access requested:

☐ Audio for broadcast ☒ Video ☐ Still camera ☐ Tape recording for notes

Name/location of media organization: KSTP-TV

☒ Access denied ☐ Access granted but not used ☐ Access granted and used

If denied, reason given: _____

Case name Cheryl TURNER VS STATE OF MINNESOTA

☐ Criminal ☒ Civil Type of case: _____

Type of proceeding (trial, sentencing hearing, etc): _____

City, judge's name: Ramsay County - Judge John S. Connley
29B 4759

Request addressed to (name)	Role (defense attorney, judge, etc.)	Reply (OK, refused)
<u>WILLIAM MAIVITY 545-7677</u>	<u>TURNER'S ATTORNEY</u>	<u>OK</u>
<u>ALLEN PAGE 297-1321</u>	<u>STATE'S ATTORNEY</u>	<u>OK REFUSED</u>
<u>JUDGE CONNLEY</u>	<u>Judge</u>	<u>Refused</u>

Fill in below here only if access was granted.

If access was granted but there was no coverage, explain briefly what happened.

Note any specific problems encountered.

What sort of negative feed-back did you get to coverage?

What sort of positive feed-back did you get to coverage?

Send form to: Minnesota Joint Media Committee, 870 Linwood, St. Paul, MN 55105

Access to courts

Month/Year MAY 91

Kind of access requested:

☐ Audio for broadcast ☒ Video ☐ Still camera ☐ Tape recording for notes

Name/location of media organization: KSTP-TV MPLS / ST. PAUL

☐ Access denied ☐ Access granted but not used ☐ Access granted and used

If denied, reason given: _____

Case name MINNESOTA VS JASON HANSON

☒ Criminal ☐ Civil Type of case: _____

Type of proceeding (trial, sentencing hearing, etc): TRIAL/SENTENCING

City, judge's name: _____

Request addressed to (name)

NICOLE NEE / 438-4438

Role (defense attorney, judge, etc.)

COUNTY ATTORNEY

Reply (OK, refused)

OKED

William Sherry / 431-1222

Defense

Refused

Fill in below here only if access was granted.

If access was granted but there was no coverage, explain briefly what happened.

Note any specific problems encountered.

What sort of negative feed-back did you get to coverage?

What sort of positive feed-back did you get to coverage?

Send form to: Minnesota Joint Media Committee, 870 Linwood, St. Paul, MN 55105

Access to courts

Month/Year MAY 91

Kind of access requested:

☐ Audio for broadcast ☒ Video ☐ Still camera ☐ Tape recording for notes

Name/location of media organization: KSTP-TV MPLS / ST. PAUL

☐ Access denied ☐ Access granted but not used ☐ Access granted and used

If denied, reason given: _____

Case name MINNESOTA VS JASON CHRISTOPHERSON

☒ Criminal ☐ Civil Type of case: _____

Type of proceeding (trial, sentencing hearing, etc): TRIAL/SENTENCING

City, judge's name: _____

Request addressed to (name)	Role (defense attorney, judge, etc.)	Reply (OK, refused)
<u>NICOLE NEE / 438-4438</u>	<u>COUNTY ATTORNEY</u>	<u>OKED</u>
<u>PAUL AHERN / 474-8877</u>	<u>DEFENSE</u>	<u>Refused</u>
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____

Fill in below here only if access was granted.

If access was granted but there was no coverage, explain briefly what happened.

Note any specific problems encountered.

What sort of negative feed-back did you get to coverage?

What sort of positive feed-back did you get to coverage?

Send form to: Minnesota Joint Media Committee, 870 Linwood, St. Paul, MN 55105

Access to courts

Month/Year MAY 91

Kind of access requested:

☐ Audio for broadcast ☒ Video ☐ Still camera ☐ Tape recording for notes

Name/location of media organization: KSTP-TV MPLS / ST. PAUL

☐ Access denied ☐ Access granted but not used ☐ Access granted and used

If denied, reason given: _____

Case name MINNESOTA VS MARK HAZLETT

☒ Criminal ☐ Civil Type of case: _____

Type of proceeding (trial, sentencing hearing, etc): TRIAL / SENTENCING

City, judge's name: _____

Request addressed to (name)

NICOLE NEE / 438-4438

Role (defense attorney, judge, etc.)

COUNTY ATTORNEY

Reply (OK, refused)

OKED

ROBERT PATTERSON / 896-1700

DEFENSE

NOT / REFUSED

Fill in below here only if access was granted.

If access was granted but there was no coverage, explain briefly what happened.

Note any specific problems encountered.

What sort of negative feed-back did you get to coverage?

What sort of positive feed-back did you get to coverage?

Send form to: Minnesota Joint Media Committee, 870 Linwood, St. Paul, MN 55105

Access to courts

Month/Year June 5 91

Kind of access requested:

☐ Audio for broadcast ☒ Video ☐ Still camera ☐ Tape recording for notes

Name/location of media organization: KSTP-TV

☐ Access denied ☐ Access granted but not used ☐ Access granted and used

If denied, reason given: _____

Case name STATE OF MN VS GARY MILLER

☒ Criminal ☐ Civil Type of case: MURDER

Type of proceeding (trial, sentencing hearing, etc): SENTENCING

City, judge's name: Hennepin Co / Judge Patrick Fitzgerald 34B-8106

Request addressed to (name)	Role (defense attorney, judge, etc.)	Reply (OK, refused)
<u>Kevin Johnson</u>	<u>PROSECUTION 34B-8106</u>	<u>OK</u>
<u>Jim Reynolds</u>	<u>Defense 34B-8264</u>	<u>Refused</u>
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____

Fill in below here only if access was granted.

If access was granted but there was no coverage, explain briefly what happened.

Note any specific problems encountered.

What sort of negative feed-back did you get to coverage?

What sort of positive feed-back did you get to coverage?

Send form to: Minnesota Joint Media Committee, 870 Linwood, St. Paul, MN 55105



JUNE 1, 1990

TELEVISION

FRED GRITTNER
MINNESOTA SUPREME COURT
STATE CAPITOL
ST. PAUL, MN 55155

DEAR FRED,

ELEVENTH

I AM FORWARDING A COUPLE OF CAMERA-IN-THE-COURTROOM
DENIALS THAT GOT LOST IN THE SHUFFLE WHEN DOUG STONE
LEFT OUR EMPLOYMENT RECENTLY.

ON THE MALL

DOUG, AS ASSISTANT NEWS DIRECTOR, WAS VERY INTERESTED
IN OBTAINING FULL MEDIA COVERAGE OF COURT EVENTS.
WHILE THESE FORMS MAY NOT INCLUDE MUCH DETAILED
INFORMATION, THEY CLEARLY INDICATE THE KIND OF DAILY
FRUSTRATION WE ENCOUNTER IN ATTEMPTING TO USE THE
TOOLS OF OUR TRADE IN COVERING COURT NEWS IN
MINNESOTA.

MINNEAPOLIS

AS A COURTHOUSE "BEAT" REPORTER MYSELF, I KNOW FROM
THE MANY DISCUSSIONS I HAVE WITH LAWYERS AND JUDGES
THAT IT IS VIRTUALLY IMPOSSIBLE UNDER THE PRESENT
SYSTEM TO GET FULL AGREEMENT AMONGST THE VARIOUS
PARTIES ON ANY CASE, NO MATTER HOW GREAT OR SMALL.
SOMEBODY WILL ALWAYS REJECT THE REQUEST.

MINNESOTA

IT IS AMAZING TO ME THAT WE REMAIN ONE OF THE LAST
STATES TO EVEN CONSIDER ALLOWING THE PUBLIC FULL
ACCESS TO COURTROOM NEWS. MANY OF OUR NEWSROOM
EMPLOYEES FORMERLY WORKED IN WISCONSIN, FLORIDA
OR SOME OTHER STATE WITH FULL ELECTRONIC MEDIA
ACCESS, AND THEY CAN'T BELIEVE HOW RESTRICTIVE
AND UNREALISTIC THE SITUATION IS HERE.

5 5 4 0 3

NEEDLESS TO SAY, OUR FRUSTRATION WITH THE PRESENT
ATMOSPHERE IS SUCH THAT OUR PEOPLE OFTEN DON'T EVEN
BOTHER TO ASK PERMISSION BECAUSE EXPERIENCE HAS SHOWN
AN ALMOST UNIVERSAL LIKLIHOOD OF DENIAL. SOMETIMES WE
HESITATE TO ASK SIMPLY OUT OF CONCERN THE JUDGES WILL
THINK THE ONLY CASES WE'RE INTERESTED IN ARE TOO
SENSATIONAL. THE WHOLE PROCESS IS QUITE SELF-DEFEATING.

SINCERELY

LARRY SCHMIDT
REPORTER/PRODUCER

612 339 4444

CAMERAS IN THE COURTROOM

Court/Location	<u>Chisago County</u>
Judge	<u>Lynn Slattengren</u>
Case No.	<u>state v. Richard Conrad Holmberg, homicide case</u>

Nature of Case week of March 5, 1990

Media Making the Request

Reporter Bob Manary/ photographer WCCO-TV news
Organization WCCO TV
☐ Radio ☒ Television ☐ Newspaper

Nature of Media Request

Asked for access to pre-trial appearance of defendant

DECISION ON REQUEST

Plaintiff/Prosecutor	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Granted	<input type="checkbox"/>	Denied
Defendant	<input type="checkbox"/>	Granted	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Denied
Judge	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Granted	<input type="checkbox"/>	Denied

If the request was denied, please indicate reasons given, if any.

Public defender Johnson turned us down.

If the request was granted, please report your observations of its effect on the proceedings and participants.

Submitted by Name Doug Stone
Address 90 S. 11th St. / Mpls. Mn. 55488
Phone 612-330-2522

CAMERAS IN THE COURTROOM

Court/Location	Ramsey District
Judge	Salland
Case No.	

Nature of Case Request by a.g. for TRO against firm that
filed for the trade name "Minnesota Lottery"

Media Making the Request

Reporter Alan Cox
Organization WCCO-TV
☐ Radio ☒ Television ☐ Newspaper

Nature of Media Request

Camera in hearing

DECISION ON REQUEST

Plaintiff/Prosecutor	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Granted	<input type="checkbox"/>	Denied
Defendant	<input type="checkbox"/>	Granted	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Denied
Judge	<input type="checkbox"/>	Granted	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Denied

If the request was denied, please indicate reasons given, if any.

None offered

If the request was granted, please report your observations of its effect on the proceedings
and participants.

Submitted by Name _____
Address _____
Phone _____

TENTH JUDICIAL DISTRICT



HONORABLE LINN SLATTENGREN
Judge of District Court

Chisago County Courthouse
Center City, MN 55012
Chambers: 612/257-1300 ext. 272
Metro: 462-7999

OFFICE OF
APPELLATE COURTS
FILED

MAR 20 1990

March 14, 1990

Minnesota State Supreme Court
Court Administrator
State Capitol
Room 230
St. Paul, MN 55001

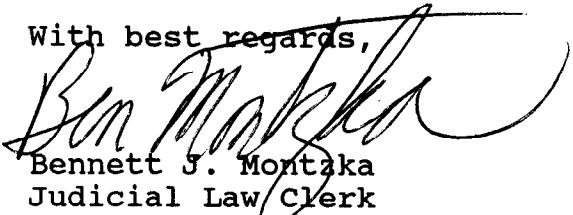
RE: Camera in the Courtroom

Dear Sirs/Madams:

Enclosed is a completed Cameras in the Courtroom Request and
Disposition Form.

If you have any questions, please contact me.

With best regards,


Bennett J. Montzka
Judicial Law Clerk

Enclosure

cc: Judge Slattengren

CAMERAS IN THE COURTROOM

Court/Location	CHICAGO COUNTY District Court
Judge	SLATTEN GROW
Case No.	

Nature of Case

COURT APPEARANCE - Arraignment
State v - RICHARD HOLMES
2nd Degree Murder

Media Making the Request

Reporter Allen Costantini - Robert Manary
Organization WAKE-TV - WCCO - CH 4TV
☐ Radio ☒ Television ☐ Newspaper

Nature of Media Request

CAMERAS IN COURTROOM - film Arraignment
(NO LIGHTS)

DECISION ON REQUEST

Plaintiff/Prosecutor	<input type="checkbox"/>	Granted	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Denied
Defendant	<input type="checkbox"/>	Granted	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Denied
Judge	<input type="checkbox"/>	Granted	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Denied

If the request was denied, please indicate reasons given, if any. Judge had no objections - However both prosecutor and Defense attorney opposed. Pursuant to Supreme Court Order on Canon 3A. (7) the court denied the request.

If the request was granted, please report your observations of its effect on the proceedings and participants.

Submitted by

Name Linda Slattery Judge
Address Courthouse
Center City, Mn. 55012
Phone (612) 257-2133



District Court of Minnesota
THIRD JUDICIAL DISTRICT

ANCY L. MORSE
JUDGE OF DISTRICT COURT

OLMSTED COUNTY COURTHOUSE
ROCHESTER, MINNESOTA 55902
TELEPHONE (507) 285-8154

September 18, 1989

Frederick K. Grittner
Supreme Court Administrator and
Clerk of the Appellate Courts
230 State Capitol
St. Paul, MN 55155

Re: Cameras in the Courtroom Request Report

Dear Mr. Grittner:

I have received your letter dated September 8, 1989, regarding the Cameras in the Courtroom Request Report. There is in effect a long-standing Court Order, unanimously endorsed by all judges in this County, which precludes the use of cameras on the courtroom floors of the courthouse. Therefore, this long-standing Court Order is the reason for my denying those media requests for cameras in the courtroom.

Sincerely,

Ancy L. Morse
Ancy L. Morse
Judge of District Court

ALM/cms

cc Chief Justice Popovich

OFFICE OF
APPELLATE COURTS

RECEIVED

FILED



FILE W/ "CAMERAS IN THE COURTROOM"
FILE. LCH

District Court of Minnesota
THIRD JUDICIAL DISTRICT

JAMES L. MORK
JUDGE OF DISTRICT COURT

FREEBORN COUNTY COURTHOUSE
ALBERT LEA, MINNESOTA 56007
TELEPHONE 507/373-3112

OFFICE OF
APPELLATE COURTS
FILED

JAN 23 1986

WAYNE TSCHIMPERLE
CLERK

January 21, 1986

Mr. Lawrence C. Harmon
Court Administrator
Minnesota Supreme Court
230 State Capitol
St. Paul, MN 55155

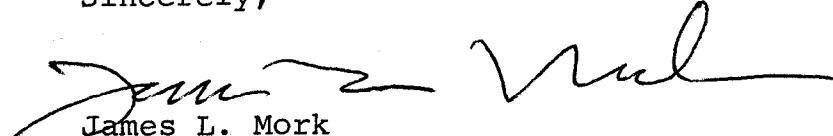
C7-81-300

Dear Mr. Harmon:

Enclosed is correspondence from the Post Bulletin, together with this Court's response, in reference to the Post-Bulletin request for still-camera access to the trial of Earl Harvey Rand.

Mr. Andrist, City Editor of the Post-Bulletin, asked that the record related to this matter be forwarded to the Supreme Court.

Sincerely,


James L. Mork
Judge of District Court

JLM/jmr

CC: Steve Andrist



District Court of Minnesota

THIRD JUDICIAL DISTRICT

JAMES L. MORK
JUDGE OF DISTRICT COURT

FREEBORN COUNTY COURTHOUSE
ALBERT LEA, MINNESOTA 56007
TELEPHONE 507/373-3112

January 21, 1986

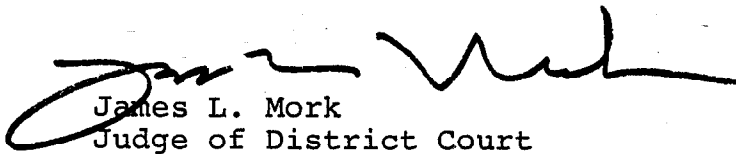
Mr. Steve Andrist
City Editor
Post Bulletin Co.
18 First Ave. S.E.
P.O. Box 6118
Rochester, MN 55903-6118

Dear Mr. Andrist:

Pursuant to our telephone conversations of last week, your request for still-camera access to the trial of Earl Harvey Rand is denied. The defendant, Earl Harvey Rand, objects to the presence of cameras during the trial; therefore, no cameras will be permitted.

Thank you for your interest in this matter.

Sincerely,


James L. Mork
Judge of District Court

JLM/jmr

CC: Lawrence C. Harmon
Supreme Court Administrator

Minnesota's Second Largest Evening Newspaper

Jan. 17, 1986

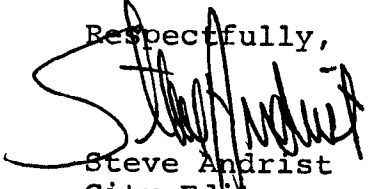
Judge James Mork
Freeborn County Courthouse
Albert Lea, Minn. 56007

Dear Judge Mork:

In reference to our conversation about camera access to the Earl Harvey Rand trial, I would appreciate a letter from you closing the record on our request. I also have decided it would be helpful if you would forward a copy of the record on this matter to the Supreme Court.

I thank you very much for the congenial manner in which you considered this matter.

Respectfully,



Steve Andrist
City Editor
SA/kk



Post-Bulletin Co.

18 First Ave. S.E. • P.O. Box 6118
Rochester, Minnesota 55903-6118
Phone 507/285-7600

Minnesota's Second Largest Evening Newspaper

JAN 15 AM 4:12

Jan. 9, 1986

Judge James Mork
Freeborn County Courthouse
Albert Lea, Minn. 56007

Re: Earl Harvey Rand trial

Dear Judge Mork:

Pursuant to the order of the Minnesota Supreme Court dated August 21, 1985, and entitled, "In re modification of Canon 3A(7) of the Minnesota Code of Judicial Conduct," I wish to request still-camera access to the trial of the above captioned matter, on behalf of the Rochester Post-Bulletin.

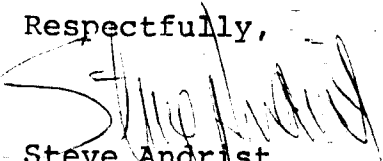
We understand the restrictions placed on camera use and are prepared to work within those rules and with other media covering the trial.

We respectfully ask that this request and your response be made a part of the official record of this matter and be forwarded to the Supreme Court.

We believe experience in photo coverage of trials has been beneficial to the public and to the parties involved. In the opinion of many of those involved, it has helped to provide better understanding of the court system and has shown the parties in a more natural setting than the stereotypical photos one sometimes sees during trials.

If you have any questions or concerns, please feel free to call me collect at (507)-285-7702 or (800) 562-1758.

Respectfully,


Steve Andrist
City Editor

GEORGE MARSHALL
JUDGE



TELEPHONE
(507) 537-6740

COUNTY OF LYON
LYON COUNTY COURTHOUSE
MARSHALL, MINNESOTA
56256

OFFICE OF
APPELLATE COURTS
FILED

NOV 25 1985

WAYNE TSCHAPPEL
CLERK

November 22, 1985

Supreme Court
State of Minnesota
State Capitol Building
St. Paul, MN 55155

RE: Canon 3A(7) of the Minnesota Code of Judicial
Conduct C7-81-300

In compliance with the Order filed on August 21, 1985,
prior to a court trial on November 20, 1985, a media
representative of the KMHL Radio Station requested
permission to make an audio recording of a court trial in
the the matter of the City of Marshall, plaintiff, versus
Norman Larson, Paul VanOverbeke, Robert Bossuyt, Louis
Veit, Darlene VanOverbeke, Bradley Johns, Kelly Johns,
Robert Olson, and Susan Beranek, defendants. The request
was denied based upon lack on consent by a party.

Sincerely yours,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "George Marshall".

George Marshall
Judge of County Court

GM:jc

copy to Justices & LH