

STATE OF MINNESOTA

DISTRICT COURT

COUNTY OF RAMSEY

SECOND JUDICIAL DISTRICT

AMENDED ORDER ESTABLISHING RULES REGARDING
USE OF CAMERAS IN THE COURTROOMS AND
AREAS IMMEDIATELY ADJACENT THERETO

ORDER

Whereas, Rule 4.01 of the General Rules of Practice applicable to all Minnesota court proceedings states that, "...no pictures or voice recordings, except the recording made as the official court record, shall be taken in any courtroom, area of a courthouse where courtrooms are located, or other area designated by order of the chief judge ... during a trial or hearing of any case or special proceeding incident to a trial or hearing, or in connection with any grand jury proceedings."

And whereas, Rule 4.02(c)(i) states that, "There shall be no audio or video coverage of jurors at any time during the trial, including *voir dire*."

And whereas, the rules governing photos, voice recordings, et cetera, have been moved from the Code of Judicial Conduct, Canon 3A(7).

The court makes the following order amending Judge J. Jerome Plunkett's February 23rd, 1988 order:

1. Cameras, video equipment, filming equipment, and audio recording equipment, of any type is prohibited in any courtroom of the 2nd Judicial District or in any area immediately

adjacent to the courtroom or on floors where a courtroom is located. This includes the court area adjacent to Courtrooms 131A and 131B. It does not include the other public areas on the 1st Floor.

2. Cameras, video equipment, filming equipment, and audio recording equipment of any type are prohibited from the Grand Jury Room and the entire 17th Floor while the Grand Jury is in session.

3. Cameras, video equipment, filming equipment, and audio recording equipment are prohibited from the jury assembly room and the area immediately adjacent to it.

4. Exceptions to this order may be made only by order of the chief judge or the chief judge's designee or by any judge of the District when that judge is holding court pursuant to Rule 4.02 of the rules of General Practice.

5. Pursuant to Rule 4.01, Paragraph 2, cameras, video equipment, filming equipment, and audio recording equipment may be used in the courtroom with approval of the Bench for courtroom security purposes, for use of videotaped recording of proceedings to create the official recording, by an official court reporter as part of their duty to keep an accurate record, or for interactive video hearings pursuant to rule or order of the Supreme Court.

6. Pursuant to the policy adopted by the 2nd Judicial Bench, judges who are allowing cameras on their floor shall notify other judges on the floor to make sure that there is no opposition and that other court proceedings will not be impacted by their decision.

DATED: October 14, 2010

BY THE COURT:



Honorable Kathleen Gearin
Ramsey County Chief Judge