

STATE OF NEW MEXICO
COUNTY OF TAOS
EIGHTH JUDICIAL DISTRICT COURT
PRESIDING JUDGE: EMILIO J. CHAVEZ
NO. D-820-CR-2023-00115

FILED
8TH JUDICIAL DISTRICT COURT
TAOS COUNTY NM
FILED IN MY OFFICE
6/14/2024 10:48 AM
LAUREN M. FELTS-SALAZAR
DISTRICT COURT CLERK
Stephanie Law

STATE OF NEW MEXICO

V.

WILLIAM BROWN

STANDING DECORUM ORDER

THIS MATTER comes before the Court *sua sponte* to establish a Standing Decorum Order that will be in place for all future hearings in this case until further Order of this Court. This Court **FINDS AND ORDERS** as follows:

Upon consideration of the public and media interest in the proceedings in this matter, the Court, in the exercise of its inherent power to provide for the orderly disposition of this case, hereby enters the following Order pertaining to the conduct of proceedings in this matter. “Proceeding” means any trial, hearing, or any other matter held in open court that the public is entitled to attend. It is the Court’s intent to preserve the processes by which a fair trial may be conducted. Any inappropriate attempts to disrupt the judicial process by anyone may result in exclusion from further proceedings and/or other legal sanctions, including contempt of court. To that end, all persons must recognize that the Taos County Courthouse and the individual courtrooms are not large facilities, and that coordination and reasonable accommodations are necessary. At all times, access to and movement within the Taos County Courthouse must remain available for the conduct of the normal business of the Court. The media, members of the public, parties and their legal representatives, and agents thereof shall at all times be subject to this Standing Decorum Order to the extent that it is not inconsistent with any other specific Court order. This Order shall apply to all proceedings and other scheduled matters in this case until further order of this Court.

1. The following restrictions apply to the following areas within the Taos County

Courthouse:

The areas comprised of Courtroom A, the Jury Assembly Room, any other courtrooms or rooms are referred to as the “Applicable Areas”. The courtroom in which the actual proceeding takes place, when referenced independently of other areas, shall hereinafter be referred to as “Operating Courtroom”.

The provisions set forth in this Order shall not apply to employees of the Court or the Taos County Sheriff's Office, or to other law enforcement personnel in the Taos County Courthouse for law enforcement purposes. Law enforcement personnel not specifically and officially assigned to the Taos County Courthouse for law enforcement purposes are subject to the electronic device limitations set forth herein.

- A.** Media coverage consistent with Supreme Court Rule 23-107(A)(1), and the Eighth Judicial District Court Guidelines for Media Video & Photo is authorized. Media credentials shall be required for this trial. Credentials shall be requested through and issued by Court Administration. Requests for approved media coverage consistent with Supreme Court rules and Eighth Judicial Court Guidelines shall be coordinated through Court Administration.
- B.** There shall be no photography, transmitting, or recording of any kind within the Applicable Areas, except as set forth in any applicable media coverage orders. All electronic devices, including but not limited to computers, cameras, cell phones, video phones, tape recorders, iPads, other recording or transmitting devices, or any devices capable of communicating from the inside of the Applicable Areas to the outside of the Applicable Areas not previously excluded pursuant to rules governing Court security, shall be barred except as set forth herein, or as may be permitted by any ruling on media coverage. Any person who attempts to or does operate any recording or transmitting device within the Applicable Areas is in

violation of the Court's Order, and shall be removed from the premises. The device(s) shall be confiscated and/or the person shall be subject to contempt of court. This restriction includes photographs, transmissions, or recordings of persons inside the Applicable Areas even if taken or obtained from outside said areas.

- C.** No member of the public or media shall conduct or attempt to conduct any interview of any party (including Defendants, designated witness, jurors, or attorneys engaged in the case) within the Courthouse from the date of this order until the conclusion of this trial. This provision does not restrict any member of the public or press from making inquiries of Court personnel regarding the scheduling of proceedings, the filing of papers with the Court, or requesting any other information in the public record concerning this case.
- D.** Persons known or identified to be summoned or selected jurors shall not be approached, contacted, questioned, interviewed, or harassed about the prospective service, qualifications, opinions, or any other matter concerning this case until such time as the summoned or selected juror has been discharged from jury service, whether on or off the premises of the Taos County Courthouse.
- E.** **Jurors may not have their images captured.** The media and members of the public may capture images of persons as they come and go from the Courthouse, except for persons known or identified to be summoned or selected jurors. Selected jurors will be given a juror badge, and any such person displaying the badge shall not have his or her image captured. Any summoned juror who displays a jury summons upon entrance to the Taos County Courthouse, or any other area utilized for jury orientation or assembly, shall not have his or her image captured. If an image of a person is captured before that person is determined to be a summoned or selected juror, his or her image shall not be displayed or distributed, and the individual will not be identified as a juror.

- F. At all times, there shall be clear passage and entry into the Taos County Courthouse for all persons who conduct business with the Court. There shall be no obstructions to clear passage through the public hallways in the Courthouse. At all times there shall be clear passage and entry for Sheriffs and other emergency vehicles through the Court utilized parking lots, entrances, and roadways immediately leading to and from the Taos County Courthouse.
- G. No structures or other facilities, whether placed for a single proceeding or intended to remain in place until the conclusion of this matter, shall be erected, and no tents, chairs, tables and similar items shall be placed on the public grounds of the Taos County Courthouse, except as approved and permitted by the Court, the Taos County Sheriff's Office, and the Court Administrator. Any such permitted structure or facilities, which are intended for use as listening or viewing structures or facilities, must meet the requirements imposed by the Court as to the transmission of any video or audio feed.
- H. Notwithstanding the above provisions, all persons on the premises of the Taos County Courthouse shall, at all times, comply with any specific direction given by Court personnel and Taos County Sheriff's personnel.

2. **The following restrictions shall apply to the Applicable Areas:**

- A. No electronic devices shall be permitted in the Applicable Areas, including but not limited to computers, cameras, cell phones, video phones, tape recorders, iPads, other recording or transmitting devices, or any devices capable of communicating from the inside of the Applicable Areas to the outside of the Applicable Areas not previously excluded pursuant to rules governing Court security. Members of the media who have obtained credentialed status from the Court Administrator are permitted to have electronic devices in the designated media room where the Operating Courtroom proceedings will be televised. One

video camera and one still camera shall be permitted in the Operating Courtroom in accordance with the Eighth Judicial District Court Guidelines for Media Video & Photo. News media shall work with Court Administration to determine who is running pool. Cameras shall be turned on and operating only while Court is in session. To the extent possible, one camera operator shall be selected to operate the video camera for the duration of the trial. Still photographers for credentialed media shall be permitted access to the Operating Courtroom on a rotating basis. All requests for still photography in the Operating Courtroom shall be made to Court Administration. Any and all photographers shall be required to review this order and the Guidelines for Media Video & Photo, and sign an acknowledgment declaring all requirements are understood and will be followed.

- B.** The Eighth Judicial District Court Guidelines for Media Video and Photo are applicable to these proceedings. Any microphones that are positioned beyond the rail must be turned off during bench conferences. The media is not permitted to record audio of bench conferences or discussions held at counsel table. The media is prohibited from filming or capturing computer images or documents located on counsel table or placing recording devices or microphones on counsel table.
- C.** No media interview shall be conducted within the Courthouse at any time prior to the return of a verdict. Once a verdict is returned, interviews shall occur outside of the Courthouse or in specific areas designated by Court Administration.
- D.** The front row on each side in the Operating Courtroom is to remain vacant. The Court may reserve designated seating for the parties and witnesses to this case. Seating requests for family members of the parties shall be made to the Court Administrator. Credentialed members of the media seeking admission to the Operating Courtroom shall use the designated seating. Separate procedures may be established for jury selection days.

- E.** Except for emergencies, all members of the public and media in the Operating Courtroom shall be seated before the Court session begins, rise when prompted, and then be seated at the beginning of the proceeding; all individuals in the Operating Courtroom shall remain seated for the duration of the proceeding and no admittance or departure will be permitted while Court is in session until a recess is called.
 - F.** All members of the public and media must remain quiet, and may not comment on the proceedings or engage in any disruptive behavior while in the Applicable Areas. Signs or symbols on clothing or otherwise indicating support for any party shall be considered prohibited comment.
 - G.** No members of the public and media shall be permitted in any area of the Applicable Areas other than the areas designated for public and media seating.
 - H.** Heightened security measures shall be in place in the Courthouse. All persons who enter the Applicable Areas shall be subject to screening by magnetometer, wand, or both, and all bags shall be subject to inspection. Persons in possession of prohibited items shall be subject to refusal of entry. Prohibited items discovered in the Courthouse may be confiscated pending further order of the Court.
- 3. The following restrictions shall apply to parking areas:**
- A.** The parking area is to be used by ia on a first-come, first-served basis. Media parking will not be permitted in the general public parking lot outside the designated media area.
- 4. Any violation of the foregoing, and any other conduct which the Court finds disruptive to the proceedings, may result in an order of temporary or permanent exclusion from the proceedings and/or other legal sanctions, including contempt of court. **If violation of this Standing Decorum Order results in a mistrial, the violator of this Order may be subject to the full cost of the trial.****

5. Additional provisions pertaining to photography or videography of any alleged victims, Defendants, counsel, families, witnesses, and jurors may be addressed by this Court as it becomes necessary.

6. A copy of this order shall be posted, at a minimum, at all entrances to the Taos County Courthouse as well as the Applicable Areas.

7. This Order is to be distributed appropriately.

ACCORDINGLY, the Court ORDERS compliance with this Order.

6/14/2024 | 10:38 AM MDT



EMILIO J. CHAVEZ
DISTRICT JUDGE