I.C.A.R. 46a. Cameras in the Supreme Court courtroom

Rule 46a. Cameras in the Supreme Court courtroom.

Media coverage of public hearings and appeals before the Supreme Court and Court of Appeals in the Supreme Court courtroom in Boise are subject to the following guidelines:

1. BEHAVIOR. Any media coverage must be designed so as to not interfere with the dignity of the proceedings, or to distract counsel or the Court.

2. DRESS. Media representatives should present a neat appearance in keeping with the dignity of the proceedings.

3. RECORDING. Any recordings or broadcasts must originate from the audio system provided by the Court. No separate mikes will be allowed to be set up in the courtroom. The Court will provide a series of balanced line outlets for use with standard connections to connect to television cameras, radio broadcasting devices and recorders. In the event of demand greater than the outlets provided, media representatives will make pooling arrangements among themselves. No taping or recording of conversations between co-counsel or counsel and client is allowed.

4. AUTHORIZATION. Authorization to access the press box overlooking the courtroom must be obtained from the Chief Justice of the Supreme Court or the Chief Judge of the Court of Appeals in advance of the hearing and will be limited to working media representatives and others approved by the Court. The Clerk of the Courts shall provide a chart of Justices and Judge seating to be posted in the press box.

5. EQUIPMENT. The use of an electronic flash with any camera is prohibited. No additional lighting will be allowed without approval of the court and no camera should give audio or visual indication of whether it is or is not operating. Cameras may be set up and taken down in the press box overlooking the courtroom only so long as such actions do not distract from the judicial proceedings.

6. OFFICIAL RECORD OF PROCEEDING. The recording machine operated by the Clerk is the only official record of the appeal hearing, and no party shall cite in any court or administrative agency proceeding any other recording of the Supreme Court or Court of Appeals hearings.

7. MOVEMENT IN COURTROOM. Media representatives are allowed to cover the proceedings from the courtroom floor as long as they remain in the area reserved for the general public and as long as they do not excessively move around the courtroom or assume body positions inappropriate to a courtroom proceeding or otherwise distract from the appellate proceedings.

8. LIAISON. The Administrative Director of the Courts and or the Clerk of the Supreme Court shall maintain communication and liaison with media representatives so as to ensure smooth working relationships and to provide any suggestions to improve these guidelines.

9. LIVE COVERAGE OF COURT PROCEEDINGS. Live coverage of any hearing or appeal may be restricted in the interests of the administration of justice.

(Adopted August 8, 2008, effective August 8, 2008.)

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