

IN THE COURT OF COMMON PLEAS OF CENTRE COUNTY,  
PENNSYLVANIA  
CRIMINAL DIVISION

COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA :  
VS. : CP-14-CR-2421-2011  
GERALD A. SANDUSKY : CP-14-CR-2422-2011

DECORUM ORDER GOVERNING JURY SELECTION AND TRIAL

And now this 30<sup>th</sup> day of May 2012, upon consultation with the District Court Administrator, Centre County Sheriff, Bellefonte Police Department, the Pennsylvania Association of Broadcasters ("PAB"), the Pennsylvania Newspaper Association ("PNA"), and the Administrative Office of Pennsylvania Courts, the following Order is entered:

The terms of this order apply to jury selection scheduled to begin at 8:30 a.m. June 5, 2012, and to the trial which will not begin before June 11, 2012.

The provisions noted as "Mandatory" shall be applied by the Court and enforced accordingly by its officers and agents. The provisions noted as "Information" are intended to provide meaningful structure and guidance to those reporters and members of the general public who will be attending the proceedings.

Additional information will be made available on the Court's website: [www.co.centre.pa.us/media](http://www.co.centre.pa.us/media)

**MANDATORY**

1. Court Access: All summoned jurors, members of the public and credentialed reporters must enter the courthouse from the front steps. Access from other courthouse entrances will not be permitted.

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CLERK OF COURT  
CENTRE COUNTY, PA

2. Summoned Jurors:
  - a. All summoned jurors may begin reporting to the courthouse at 7:30 a.m. and must be present by 8:00 a.m. on June 5, 2012.
  - b. While the use of electronic devices during trial is prohibited, summoned jurors may bring such electronic devices with them for their use while awaiting their participation in the jury selection process.
3. Courtrooms: The trial will be conducted in Courtroom 1 of the Centre County Courthouse. A satellite courtroom, restricted to use by credentialed reporters, with a visual and audio feed from Courtroom 1 will be located on the third floor of the County Annex. For all purposes the satellite courtroom will be considered an extension of Courtroom 1 and any rule, policy or procedure applicable to Courtroom 1 will be applied by the Sheriff in the satellite courtroom.
4. Allocation of Seats:
  - a. During jury selection:
    - i. Allocation of seats in Courtroom 1—Phase 1
      1. Members of the public -- 5
      2. Credentialed pool reporters -- 5
    - ii. Allocation of seats during Phase 2 and 3:
      1. Members of the public -- 1
      2. Credentialed pool reporters -- 2
  - b. During trial
    - i. Courtroom 1 --
      1. Members of the public -- 85
      2. Credentialed reporters -- 85
      3. For the use of the Commonwealth -- 20 (as requested)
      4. For the use of the defense -- 16 (as requested)
      5. For the use of the Court -- 16

- ii. Satellite courtroom – 100 for exclusive use of credentialed media.
    - iii. Of the seats reserved in Courtroom 1 for credentialed reporters, one seat each will be reserved for the Daily Collegian, the Centre Daily Times, the Harrisburg Patriot-News, WJAC-TV, WTAJ-TV and WQWK radio.
  - c. Actual trial experience regarding how many seats are needed in each category may result in a reallocation of assigned seating .
- 6. Public Admittance: Members of the public will be admitted to Courtroom 1 on a first come, first served basis. There will be no computerized pre-registration or pre-selection.
  - a. Each person admitted will be issued a card in the person's name and good only for the day issued. The admission card is not transferrable.
  - b. When a person leaves the courtroom and does not intend to return, then the card shall be surrendered to the Sheriff.
  - c. Once an admission card has been surrendered, the Sheriff may admit the next person in line.
  - a. It will be assumed that a person who has been issued an admittance card in the morning and who is not seated at the start of the afternoon session will not be returning, and the Sheriff may admit the next person in line.
- 7. Electronic Devices:
  - a. No member of the public will be permitted to possess in Courtroom 1 any cell phone, laptop computer, smart phone, or similar electronic device. Anyone possessing such a device will not be permitted to pass security and enter the Courthouse.
  - b. Only reporters with proper credentials, as determined by the Sheriff, will be permitted to possess or use in Courtroom 1 or the satellite courtroom any cell phone, laptop computer, smart phone, or similar electronic device. Such devices may be used during trial

for electronic based communications. **However, the devices may not be used to take or transmit photographs in Courtroom 1 or the satellite courtroom; or to record or broadcast any verbatim account of the proceedings while court is in session.**

8. Sanction for Improper Use of Electronic Device: **Any reporter who violates the provisions of this order regarding the use of electronic devices will be subject to the penalties of contempt (including fines or summary incarceration) under any applicable statute, order, or rule of court. In addition, any reporter who violates this order, the news organization the reporter represents, and any news outlet that intentionally and knowingly rebroadcasts or republishes any account prohibited by this order, in the discretion of the Court, may also lose the privilege of being credentialed to attend the proceeding.**
9. Leaving the Courtrooms: Those seated in the courtrooms are expected to remain in their seats until the Court either calls a recess or the session has ended. Any person who leaves the courtrooms, except during a recess, in the morning session will not be readmitted until the start of the afternoon session; and any person who leaves in the afternoon session, except during a recess, will not be readmitted. Those who leave an area deemed secured by the Sheriff may be required to undergo a security screening before being readmitted to either courtroom.
10. Interviews: No news media interviews whatsoever shall be conducted in Courtroom 1 or anywhere in the Courthouse or Courthouse Annex -- including corridors, hallways, elevators, interior and exterior steps, or courthouse parking lots. Interviews may be conducted in the front yard of the Courthouse, but only in areas designated for that purpose by the Sheriff.
11. Sheriff's Authority: The Sheriff of Centre County, in consultation with the Court, shall have the authority to make such reasonable rules and regulations as may be required to implement this Order and to provide adequate security intended to assure the safety of all those in the

Courthouse and Courthouse Annex, and on the Courthouse grounds, and to assure the orderly conduct of the trial. Such regulations may include, among others:

- a. Prohibiting backpacks, large purses or satchels in Courtroom 1 or the satellite courtroom, except as required by credentialed reporters to carry spare batteries or electronic devices.
- b. Prohibiting taking food or beverages into the courtrooms.
- c. Barring any person, except those immediately involved in the trial, from passing beyond the bar in Courtroom 1.

### **GENERAL INFORMATION**

1. Parking: Parking near the Courthouse is extremely limited. Reporters and members of the public who will be attending the trial should allow ample time to find parking and make their way to the Courthouse.
  - a. A map of parking areas in Bellefonte is posted on the Centre County website: [www.co.centre.pa.us/media](http://www.co.centre.pa.us/media)
  - b. All those attending the trial are reminded that Pennsylvania law and Bellefonte Borough ordinances prohibit parking within 15 feet of a fire hydrant, or parking in a manner that prevents an emergency vehicle from travelling on borough streets.
2. Interference With Jurors: It is a serious criminal offense under Pennsylvania law for any person to influence, intimidate or impede a juror summoned or selected to serve. Summoned jurors and selected jurors may be asked to report to the Court if any member of the media, any person connected with the trial of the case, or other person has discussed with them the facts of the case, attempted to influence their opinion, or otherwise attempted to influence their participation.

### **MEDIA SPECIFIC INFORMATION**

**All credentialed reporters, or other members of the media attending the trial, will be expected to have read this order, be familiar with its requirements, and be aware of updates that may be posted from time to time on the county's media website.**

1. Credentialing Process: Press credentials will be issued by the Court using a process developed in cooperation with the PAB and PNA.
  - a. To be eligible to receive a court issued press credential, a reporter must first have registered with the Court in accordance with the procedures posted on the court website:  
[www.co.centre.pa.us/media](http://www.co.centre.pa.us/media)
  - b. Broadcast media. Each FCC licensed electronic broadcasting mass media outlet licensed by the Federal Communications Commission, and which as a large part of its mission is engaged in the reporting of news (including radio, television, and cable networks) will receive one credential for a reporter to enter Courtroom 1 to the extent broadcast media reserved seats are available. The six major television networks – ABC, CBS, CNN, Fox, NBC, ESPN – will each receive two credentials.
  - c. Print media. Each news organization (that is a newspaper or magazine in the business of gathering, procuring, compiling, editing or publishing news on a daily or weekly basis and bearing a separate masthead) will receive one credential for a reporter to enter Courtroom 1 to the extent print media reserved seats are available.
  - d. Digital media. A digital media organization (that is an individual or news organization in the business of gathering, procuring, compiling, editing or publishing news on a daily or weekly basis, and not directly connected to a broadcast or print company) shall receive one credential for a reporter to enter Courtroom 1 to the extent digital media reserved seats are available. Credentials not

issued to digital media organizations may be issued to qualifying individuals.

- e. By issuing credentials to media outlets, rather than to individual reporters, it is the intention of the Court that reporters for the media outlet may “swap out” the credential with other reporters employed by the same media outlet.
  - f. No reporter shall be permitted by the Sheriff to enter either Courtroom 1 or the satellite courtroom without exhibiting both a press credential issued by the reporter’s media outlet and a court issued credential issued to the same outlet.
2. Seat Allocation: As noted, during jury selection five media seats will be reserved in Courtroom 1; and after jury selection has been completed 85 media seats will be reserved in Courtroom 1. In the satellite courtroom in the Courthouse Annex 100 seats reserved exclusively for credentialed reporters will be available throughout the trial.
- a. Seats will be allocated as follows:
    - i. Broadcast media 45 percent: 38 seats in Courtroom 1 and 45 seats in the satellite courtroom.
    - ii. Print media 45 percent: 38 seats in Courtroom 1 and 45 seats in the satellite courtroom.
    - iii. Digital media 10 percent: 8 seats in Courtroom 1 and 10 seats in the satellite courtroom.
  - b. If the number of those requesting credentials exceeds the number of reserved media seats available, then the allocation of the reserved seats in either Courtroom 1 or the satellite courtroom shall be determined by lottery conducted by the PAB or PNA as the case may be.
  - c. If the number of those requesting credentials does not exceed the number of reserved media seats, then the extra seats shall be allocated by lottery conducted by the PAB or PNA as the case may be.

3. Pool Reporters for Jury Selection: Because of limited seating available in sites that will be used for jury selection, only pool reporting will be permitted. Jury selection will be conducted in three phases, with each phase being conducted in a smaller setting than the preceding phase. Therefore, five reporters will be permitted to attend the first phase to be held in Courtroom 1; and two reporters (one pool print media reporter selected by the PNA, and one pool broadcast media reporter selected by the PAB) will be permitted to attend the second and third phases to be held in Courtroom 2 and in chambers. In addition, if space permits, a sketch artist (jointly selected by the PAB and PNA) will be permitted to attend the second and third phases.
  - a. The pool reporters will be selected in accordance with a plan developed in cooperation with the PAB and PNA.
  - b. The pool reporters selected must agree to provide timely access to the reporter's work product to all other media outlets.
4. Satellite Courtroom Access: During the trial (but not during jury selection), a locked-down closed circuit television camera will be located at the back of Courtroom 1 to carry a wide-angle picture and sound from Courtroom 1 to the satellite courtroom.
5. Pressroom: Because of space limitations, it will not be possible to make a pressroom available in the Courthouse or Courthouse Annex.
6. Power Restrictions: Reporters are advised that there are limited power outlets in Courtroom 1 and the satellite courtroom. The use of those outlets may be restricted by Centre County maintenance staff to assure circuits are not overloaded. Reporters using electronic devices will not be permitted to use extension cords, and should make alternate plans to provide power to their equipment by using back-up devices or battery packs.
7. Court's Authority: While policies and procedures associated with media access to court proceedings have been developed in cooperation with a committee formed by the PAB and PNA, and the Court has delegated the



implementation of those policies and procedures to representatives of those organizations, the ultimate authority to supervise the trial and all associated events, and the application of such policies and procedures, rests exclusively with the Court.

8. Inquiries:

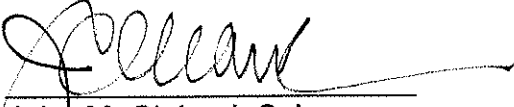
- a. Inquiries regarding press credentialing and media arrangements should be directed to the PAB and PNA.
- b. All other media inquiries should be directed to Jim Koval, Communications Manager, Administrative Office of Pennsylvania Courts (AOPC) –

[jim.koval@pacourts.us](mailto:jim.koval@pacourts.us).

(c) 717.319.8341;

(o) 717.231.3324.

By Authority of the Court:



John M. Cleland, S.J.  
Specially Presiding