

STATE OF MARYLAND

* IN THE

* CIRCUIT COURT

v.

* FOR

LEE EDWARD STEPHENS

* ANNE ARUNDEL COUNTY

Defendant

* Case No. K-08-646

* * * * *

MEDIA ORDER

In order to ensure a fair trial in this case and to preserve the dignity of the Court while accommodating the interests of the public and the media and in order to cause minimal disruption to the Circuit Court and its neighbors, it is this 22nd day of December, 2011, by the Circuit Court for Anne Arundel County, **ORDERED** as follows:

1. The trial in the above-captioned case is scheduled to be conducted in Courtroom 4C, 7 Church Circle, Annapolis, Maryland 21401. The presiding Judge will be Judge Paul A. Hackner.
2. Ms. Terri Bolling, Deputy Director, Office of Communications and Public Affairs, State of Maryland Judiciary, telephone no.: office - 410-260-1486 or mobile - 443-995-9263, e-mail address: terri.bolling@mdcourts.gov, is designated as the Court's media liaison for purposes of this Order. In her absence, Ms Angelita Plemmer, Director, Office of Communications and Public Affairs, will act as the media liaison and can be reached at office - 410-260-1564 or mobile - 410-562-3620, e-mail address: angelita.plemmer@mdcourts.gov.

3. All media inquiries must be referred to the media liaison.

4. All persons entering the Courthouse must pass through electronic security devices and submit their equipment to search procedures at the discretion of the Sheriff's deputies. Members of the media are requested to refrain from bringing excess bags or backpacks into the Courthouse.

5. No audio or video recording equipment, press cameras or recording or transmitting equipment shall be permitted in the Circuit Court for Anne Arundel County, except as provided by Paragraph 8 of this Order. No recording devices shall be permitted in any courtroom at any time.

6. After court adjourns each day, trial exhibits that have been admitted in evidence may be made available for viewing by media representatives for a maximum of 30 minutes in the courtroom, unless otherwise ordered by the Court. The exhibits shall be available for viewing only one time.

7. The courtroom clerk assigned to the Court for these proceedings shall serve as coordinator of the viewing of trial exhibits and as custodian of same.

8. At the conclusion of trial, limited video or still photography of the exhibits may be permitted in the courtroom.

9. No "live" television, telephone, radio, or other broadcasts of exhibits shall be permitted during the viewing of exhibits.

10. Certain trial exhibits shall be handled by court-approved technicians or specialists only.

11. The Sheriff's deputy shall accompany the approved still and video cameras into the Courthouse and will remain during the viewing of trial exhibits.

12. In the event that there is insufficient space in the courtroom, as determined by the Court, the Court may apportion and limit the available seating between members of the media and of the general public.

13. Members of the media shall not use electronic equipment, including pagers, PDAs, mobile phones, computers, laptops, netbooks, or electronic tablets inside any courtroom or within 100 feet of the courtroom, except as provided by Paragraph 8 of this Order. All electronic devices must be turned off completely (not in silent or sleep mode) during court proceedings.

14. Counsel for the parties or their representatives shall be allowed to be present for any activity permitted by this Order.

15. No one shall be permitted to enter into the courtroom or remain therein during these proceedings who is wearing or displaying any item on his or her person which, in the opinion of the Court, may tend to influence any juror or affect the orderly administration of these proceedings.

16. No food or drink is permitted in the courtroom. Also, smoking is not allowed anywhere in the Courthouse.

17. Under no circumstances are members of the media permitted to contact, record, film, video, photograph, or speak with any jurors or witnesses during the course of these proceedings, regardless of whether such jurors or witnesses are in the Courthouse or elsewhere.

18. Members of the media shall not photograph, film or video vehicles transporting jurors or witnesses when entering, leaving or standing in areas of the Circuit Court.

19. No court personnel or court-approved specialist shall be recorded, photographed or otherwise depicted in conjunction with the showing of the trial exhibits.

20. Members of the Circuit Court staff or Clerk's Office shall not be interviewed regarding this case.

21. If members of the media believe that any aspect of this Order is unworkable or inappropriate, they may request modification only if such request is made in sufficient time in advance of the court matter to permit the Court to review the proposed modification.

22. Violations of this Order will subject the violator to exclusion from the Courthouse and, if appropriate, to the contempt powers of the Court.

23. This Media Order is subject to modification by the Court at any time.

/s/ Paul A. Hackner
PAUL A. HACKNER, Judge
Circuit Court for Anne Arundel County

Copies to:

Sandra Howell, Esq.
David Ash, Esq.
Michael E. Lawlor, Esq.
Gary Proctor, Esq.
The Honorable Nancy Davis-Loomis
Douglas Hofstedt, Court Administrator
Terri Bolling, Media Liaison
Capt. Stephen LaPlanche, Sheriff's Office
Laura Edmonds, Criminal Department Supervisor
Court Clerks