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2 SUPERIOR COURT OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA
3 IN AND FOR THE COUNTY OF MONTEREY
4

5 THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF
6 CALIFORNIA,

Plaintiff,

7 vs.

8 PAUL RUBEN FLORES,
9 RUBEN RICARDO FLORES,

10 Defendants.
11

CASE NO. 22CR003712, 22CR003713

**TRIAL DECORUM AND MEDIA
ORDER**

12 The purpose of this order is to protect the parties' constitutional rights to a
13 fair and impartial trial; to allow the public and the media to exercise their First
14 Amendment rights; to ensure courtroom proceedings are conducted with respect
15 and decorum for the proper administration of justice, and to ensure the safe,
16 orderly use of court facilities. The Court may rescind or modify this order at any
17 time based on specific circumstances or in the Court's discretion.
18

19 **Security**

20 The Monterey County Sheriff's Department is responsible for security in the
21 Monterey County Superior Court. Failure to adhere to the rules in this order or to
22 abide by orders of the Sheriff's Department may result in sanctions including
23 expulsion from the courtroom and/or courthouse, and any other lawful response.
24

25 **Photography, Video, Audio & Electronic Devices in the Courtroom**

26 Recording of courtroom proceedings is restricted. One pool camera for still
27 photography is allowed. Media organizations are to cooperate to select the
28 individual(s) who will be operating the pool camera and identify them to

Norma.Ramirez-Zapata@monterey.courts.ca.gov and [dl-adm-](#)

1 media@monterey.courts.ca.gov no later than Thursday June 2nd at 12 noon. The
2 pool camera is not to capture images of spectators or jurors. The pool camera is
3 prohibited from capturing images of proceedings held in chambers; proceedings
4 closed to the public; jury selection; conferences between an attorney and a client,
5 witness or aide; conferences between attorneys; and conferences between counsel
6 and the judge at the bench, as proscribed by California Rule of Court 1.150(e)(6).
7 No other cameras are allowed. No audio recording is allowed inside the courtroom.
8 This includes audio recordings for note taking purposes.

9 Cell phones, smart phones, smart watches, laptops, tablets and all other
10 electronic devices must be turned off while in the courtroom. The use of electronic
11 devices is prohibited inside the court. This provision does not apply to the litigants
12 and their designated agents.

13 **Media Credentials**

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15 Due to limited courtroom seating in Department 4, court-issued credentials
16 will be issued according to the Court's protocol and discretion. A court-issued
17 credential is required to be admitted for limited courtroom seating. There will be
18 no exceptions to this requirement. Media outlets requesting a court credential must
19 submit a request to Norma Ramirez-Zapata at [Norma.Ramirez-](mailto:Norma.Ramirez-Zapata@monterey.courts.ca.gov)
20 [Zapata@monterey.courts.ca.gov](mailto:Norma.Ramirez-Zapata@monterey.courts.ca.gov) no later than Thursday June 2nd, 2022 at 12 noon.

21 Media personnel must be prepared to present official credentials identifying
22 them as a member of a recognized media organization. Court-issued credentials
23 shall be valid for entry into Department 4 during the trial unless they are rescinded
24 by court order. If seat demand in Department 4 exceeds the available capacity for a
25 specific phase of the trial, there will be only one assigned seat per media outlet or
26 parent company. Due to the limited number of seats in Department 4, the Court has
27 arranged for overflow seating in a designated area of the courthouse. The
28 proceedings will be broadcast live in the designated overflow seating area.

1 Media credentials and court-issued credentials must be worn visibly at all
2 times inside the courthouse. Court-issued credentials cannot be transferred to other
3 media personnel. Loaning to another media representative a Court-issued
4 credential that does not belong to them or their parent organization will result in
5 the loss of the media credential and its privileges for the duration of the trial.

6 No media interviews whatsoever will be permitted in the courtroom at any
7 time.

8 9 **Courtroom Seating**

10 Audience seating in Department 4 is limited. There will be designated
11 seating for families, court-credentialed media, and the public as deemed necessary
12 by the Court. For those members of the public who wish to attend in-person,
13 permission is required from the Court to occupy the public seats. If demand for the
14 seats in Department 4 exceeds capacity, the Court retains the sole discretion to
15 conduct seating lotteries or implement some other means of allocating available
16 seating, including on a first come, first seated basis, depending on the trial phase.

17 All Court-credentialed media personnel and members of the public must
18 check in every morning with the Public and Media Relations table. The public and
19 media personnel must take their seats at least 5 minutes before the start of any
20 court session and must remain in the courtroom (except for emergencies) until the
21 next recess is called. No spectators will routinely be admitted or allowed to depart
22 the courtroom while court is in session. Failure to abide by this time restriction
23 may result in loss of assigned or lottery seating that day as determined by the
24 Court's staff.

25 Due to the limited seating capacity of Department 4, only members of the
26 prospective jury panel will be admitted to the spectator section of Department 4
27 while the prospective jurors complete juror questionnaires and during individual
28 juror voir dire.

1 During the trial, a portion of the spectator section of the courtroom will be
2 reserved for the media in accordance with a predetermined seating plan. The
3 public will be admitted to the media portion of the courtroom only if seating
4 remains available after all media representatives have been seated. Media
5 representatives may be admitted to the public portion of the courtroom only if
6 seating remains available after all members of the public have been seated.

7 The media and the public are reminded that any attempt by anyone, without
8 leave of the court, to communicate with a member of the jury panel respecting the
9 case prior to selection of a jury, other than in the course of voir dire, and any
10 attempt by anyone, without leave of Court, to communicate with a member of the
11 jury once selected respecting the case, other than in the course of trial, until the
12 conclusion of the case, may be punished as a criminal contempt of court.

13 **Outside the Courtroom**

14 Video and still photography as well as audio recording and broadcasting are
15 prohibited in any public area of the courthouse. No disruptions in the hallway will
16 be tolerated. The noise level in the hallway must be kept to a minimum. Other
17 courtrooms will also be in session. No passageways or doors may be blocked.

18 **Violations of this Order**

19 Anyone violating this order will be subject to the discipline of the Court,
20 including but not limited to, the Court's contempt authority, immediate removal
21 from the courtroom, prohibition from returning to the courtroom and revocation of
22 the court-issued media credential. Photographs and video or audio recordings made
23 in violation of this order will be subject to equipment confiscation and erasure of
24 the prohibited content. Violators of this order may be excluded from the courtroom
25 for the duration of the trial.


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Distribution of This Order

This order will be displayed outside Department 4. It will be delivered to the media via electronic distribution and posted on the Court website.

IT IS SO ORDERED

Dated: 6/1/2022



HON. JENNIFER O'KEEFE
JUDGE OF THE SUPERIOR COURT OF
CALIFORNIA, COUNTY OF
MONTEREY