

# REDACTED

<b>DISTRICT COURT, EL PASO COUNTY, COLORADO</b> Court address: <b>270 S. Tejon Colorado Springs, CO 80903</b> Phone Number: <b>(719) 452-5285</b>	<b>DATE FILED: March 10, 2020 10:35 AM</b>
THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF COLORADO, Plaintiff,  vs.  Letecia Stauch, Defendant.	Court Use Only <hr/> Case Number 20CR1358  Division 15S Ctrm: S403
<b>[O-4] ORDER GRANTING REQUEST FOR EXPANDED MEDIA COVERAGE FOR ONE POOL CAMERA FOR FILING OF CHARGES TO OCCUR ON MARCH 11, 2020 AT 4:00 P.M.</b>	

This matter comes before the Court pursuant to requests for expanded media coverage filed by KOAA, KRDO and Telemundo Denver with respect to Defendant's appearance scheduled for Wednesday, March 11, 2020 at 4:00 p.m. Defendant has filed an objection indicating that Defendant objects to any expanded media coverage and requests a hearing before a ruling on such a request is made by the Court. The Court finds that a hearing on Defendant's objection is not necessary.

Media coverage of Court proceedings is governed by the standards set forth in Rule 3 of the Public Access to Information and Records Rules (P.A.I.R.R.) promulgated by the Colorado Supreme Court. Rule 3(a)(2) sets forth the standards for authorizing coverage. The Court FINDS that there is no reasonable likelihood that expanded media coverage would interfere with the rights of the parties to a fair trial. Defendant's name, photograph and even video of Defendant's likeness has already been disseminated in the media. The case has been widely reported for weeks. The filing of charges and appearance of counsel currently scheduled in this case typically only lasts a matter of minutes.

The Court further FINDS that there is no reasonable likelihood that expanded media coverage will detract from the solemnity, decorum and dignity of the Court given the limitations the Court will place on such coverage. Media will be allowed one pool camera capable of capturing both video and audio of the proceedings. No extra lights or illumination will be permitted. No extra microphones will be permitted. Identifying marks, call letters, logos, symbols and legends shall be concealed on all equipment. Persons operating such equipment shall not wear clothing bearing any such identifying information. The camera will be set up near the Court's bench at the direction of Court staff. The camera operator may use a tripod, but shall not change location while court is in session. The Court will allow the recording device so long as the entire file footage is made available to all news outlets that request such footage in conformity with Rule 3(a)(5)(B). The media shall be solely responsible for designating one media representative to perform the recording and for arranging an open and impartial distribution scheme with a distribution point located outside of the courtroom. If no agreement can be reached on either of

these matters, then there shall be no expanded media coverage of the type for which no pooling agreement has been made.

Finally, the Court FINDS that expanded media coverage would not create adverse effects which would be greater than those caused by traditional media coverage. This is an open proceeding and representatives of the media may normally be present to report on anything that they see or hear in the courtroom. The only difference with the expanded media coverage is that there would conceivably be an actual record of what transpired for dissemination as opposed to a reporter's summary or viewpoint of what transpired. As indicated above, this case has already received coverage in the media and there are already photos and video of Defendant available. Given that there will be media coverage of Defendant's appearance for filing of charges and the likeness of the Defendant is already in the public domain, the effects of allowing expanded media coverage for this proceeding would not be any greater than those caused by traditional media.

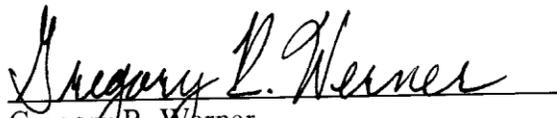
In her objection, Defendant argues, without any citation of authority on point, that Defendant's constitutional rights support a presumption against expanded media coverage and the burden is on those who seek expanded media coverage of proving the appropriateness of such coverage. To the contrary, Rule 1 of P.A.I.R.R. states that the purpose of the rule "is to provide the public with reasonable access to Judicial Branch documents and information while protecting the privacy interests of parties and persons." Given the analysis set forth above, the Court OVERRULES Defendant's objection.

This Order applies only to the Request for Expanded Media Coverage regarding Defendant's March 11, 2020, 4:00 p.m. appearance and does not authorize any other entity to engage in Expanded Media Coverage.

ALL OTHER VIDEO, AUDIO OR PHOTOGRAPHIC RECORDING IS PROHIBITED.

SO ORDERED this 10<sup>th</sup> day of March, 2020.

BY THE COURT:

  
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Gregory R. Werner  
District Court Judge