

DISTRICT COURT ALAMOSA COUNTY, COLOARDO 8955 Independence Way; Alamosa, CO 81101	DATE FILED June 20, 2025 1:45 PM
THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF COLORADO  v.  BARRY MORPHEW	Δ COURT USE ONLY Δ
	Case Number: 2025CR125  Division: C
<b>ORDER PREEMPTIVELY GRANTING REQUESTS FOR EXPANDED MEDIA COVERAGE</b>	

THIS MATTER comes before me *sua sponte* in anticipation of numerous requests for expanded media coverage of these proceedings. I hereby FIND and ORDER as follows:

### **I. STANDARDS FOR AUTHORIZING COVERAGE**

Chapter 38, Rule 3 of the Colorado Supreme Court Rules provides the standards for authorizing expanded media coverage. In determining whether expanded media coverage should be permitted, a judge shall consider the following factors:

1. Whether there is a reasonable likelihood that expanded media coverage will interfere with the rights of the parties to a fair trial;
2. Whether there is a reasonable likelihood that expanded media coverage would unduly detract from the solemnity, decorum, and dignity of the court; and
3. Whether expanded media coverage would create adverse effects that would be greater than those caused by traditional media coverage.

After consideration of the above-listed factors, expanded media coverage should be permitted in a limited capacity as set forth below; however, whether restated in this Order or not, I shall require strict adherence to the parameters outlined in Chapter 38, Rule 3 of the Colorado Supreme Court Rules.

## **II. LIMITATIONS ON EXPANDED MEDIA COVERAGE**

1. Three spots will be reserved for media vehicles in the southeast corner of the south (general) parking lot of the courthouse. No more than one spot per media outlet may be taken at a time and will be allotted on a first come first served basis. Media vehicles/equipment shall not impede the public's ability to drive through the parking lot nor any driveway or other public roadway.
2. No more than five credentialed members of the media shall be allowed in the courtroom on any given day. They shall be confined to the backmost right row of the courtroom.
3. One member of the media will be allowed to record the proceedings with an agreement to share that video and audio with all other media outlets who request it. Any member of the media unwilling to share its video or audio with any other credentialed member of the media will not be permitted to record. Members of the media are solely responsible for making all pooling arrangements.
4. Priority will be given on a first-come, first served basis both for seats in the courtroom and recording.
5. All other members of the media may watch the proceedings via live streaming and may do so from the media room; however, there shall be no audio or video recording of the livestream.

6. There shall be no video or audio recordings made of any part of the courthouse outside of the single recording allowed in the courtroom. This includes but is not limited to any office or hallway inside the courthouse, any other courtroom whether in use or empty, the entryway and security, or the sidewalks and parking lots outside of the courthouse. *See* CJA0 24-02.
7. No video or audio recording shall be made of any minor, victim, juror, witness, or court staff member whether inside or outside of the courtroom. Video or audio recordings may only be had of the defendant, members of his legal team, the prosecution, members of its team, and the judge.
8. No still photography of any kind, place, or person.
9. No added lighting including movie lights, flash attachments, or camera lights is allowed.
10. No added sound equipment including boom or other microphones is allowed.
11. The only portions of the proceedings that may be audio/video recorded are: bond hearings, preliminary hearing, arraignment, pre-trial conferences, motions hearings, opening statements, closing statements, reading of the verdict, sentencing (except for any victim impact statements), or post-conviction hearings. There shall be no recordings of any bench conferences, in camera proceedings, communications between the defendant and counsel, or communications between co-counsel for any party.
12. There shall be no zoom or closeups made of any of the proceedings.

### **III. EXPECTATIONS FOR CONDUCT OF MEDIA REPRESENTATIVES**

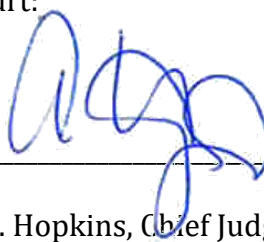
Anyone conducting expanded media coverage shall handle themselves at all times in a manner consistent with the decorum and dignity of the Court. The following practices shall apply:

1. Equipment shall be positioned and operated in a fixed location as approved by the presiding judge or her personnel at least fifteen minutes prior to the commencement of each proceeding so as to minimize any distraction;
2. 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; and
3. No equipment used to provide expanded media coverage shall be placed in or removed from the courtroom while court is in session.
4. Members of the media may not use any cell phone, laptop, tablet, or other device with wireless capabilities within the courtroom; however, members of the media may utilize any of these devices inside the media room provided that such use is consistent with these rules on expanded media coverage.
5. Members of the media will comply with all requests, directions, or orders from the Alamosa County Sheriff's Department, Alamosa Police Department, Colorado State Patrol, Colorado Judicial Department Security Administrator, or any other law enforcement or security personnel.

PURSUANT TO THE ABOVE AMENDMENTS, the requests for expanded media coverage are GRANTED.

DONE AND SIGNED THIS 20th DAY OF JUNE, 2025.

By the Court:

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'A. Hopkins', is written over a horizontal line.

Amanda C. Hopkins, Chief Judge  
12<sup>th</sup> Judicial District