**Top 10 Issues on Court-Media Issues and Relationships, for Judges, Journalists and Lawyers**

1. Encourage and establish continuing interdisciplinary educational opportunities and dialogue among judges, journalists and lawyers to foster and understanding of each other’s roles through journalism schools, law schools, and The National Judicial College.
2. Assume there is access to all court proceedings and records, and place the burden of proof for closure on the entity seeking secrecy. Privacy issues may overcome the presumption in appropriate cases.
3. Refrain from imposing orders limiting pretrial publicity (gag orders) on the news media or attorneys. Courts should seek other remedies in lieu of such orders except in extraordinary cases.
4. Establish and/or support bench/bar/media committees, which will meet regularly in every community to address issues of mutual concern.
5. Establish guidelines for trial-press management in high-profile cases. Court officials should confer and consult with media representatives to avoid unanticipated problems and understand each other’s legal constraints.
6. Consider professional standards for journalists that are non-binding.
7. Assume that cameras should be allowed in the courtroom, including the federal court system, and that such access should be limited or excluded only for strong reasons.
8. Encourage judges to explain, on the record, the reasons for their rulings.
9. Determine when and if it is appropriate to compel reporters to testify or produce notes, tapes, etc., understanding that the media cannot serve as an arm of law enforcement.
10. Encourage media organizations to develop an ombudsman system to hear recommendations from the courts and the public wherever feasible.