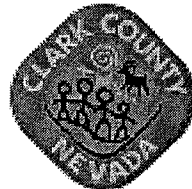


**State of Nevada v Orenthal James Simpson, et. al.,  
Case No. 07-C-237890-C**

# **Media Guide**



**The Honorable Jackie Glass  
Eighth Judicial District Court**

**TRIAL TO BE HELD IN COURTROOM 15A  
JURY SELECTION TO BE HELD IN COURTROOM 11D  
MEDIA OVERFLOW 1D**

**Regional Justice Center  
200 Lewis Avenue  
Las Vegas, Nevada 89101**

**Media Guide**  
**State of Nevada v Orenthal James Simpson, et. al., Case No. 07C237890C**  
**Regional Justice Center – Las Vegas, Nevada**  
**Jackie Glass, Department 5**

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## **I. Purpose & Basic Tenets of the Media Trial Guide**

The purpose of this media guide is to provide a feasible structure for working reporters and court personnel to avoid and/or resolve news coverage problems in the case of *State v. Orenthal James Simpson, et. al.*, and to facilitate an atmosphere of open communication between the court and the media, consistent with the authority of the judge to control the conduct of the proceedings before the court, the First Amendment rights of the media and the Sixth and Fourteenth Amendment rights of the accused. Therefore, this package includes guidelines for media coverage of court proceedings.

### **The goals of this media plan are:**

- To maintain an appropriate and dignified atmosphere in the courthouse so that all litigants obtain an orderly hearing, preserving due process and equal protection.
- To ensure that the court adequately accommodates the news media and the general public during proceedings of great public interest.

### **Basic tenets of this plan:**

- The media and the public have a right of access to the justice system.
- Other court proceedings must not be adversely impacted by proceedings of great public interest.
- The Clark County Courts has established policies and procedures for all parties concerning courthouse access and any other activities associated with court proceedings of great public interest.

## **II. General Policies**

A *Decorum Order* has been issued for this trial (see Attachment 1). *The Nevada Supreme Court Rules on Standards of Conduct and Technology governing Electronic Media and Still Photo Coverage of Judicial Proceedings, part IV* (see Attachment 10) govern all media coverage of court proceedings. *Guidelines for Media Coverage in the Clark County Courts* (see Attachment 11) detail rules and procedures for media access to the Regional Justice Center.

Direct all media concerns or questions to Court Information Officer Michael Sommermeyer: (702) 671-4534, sommermeyer@clarkcountycourts.us.

## **III. Case Description**

Orenthal James Simpson and Clarence Stewart have been charged with 11 felonies (F) and one gross misdemeanor (GM) resulting from events that allegedly took place

September 13, 2007 at the Palace Station Hotel and Casino in Las Vegas. The charges are as follows:

- Count 1: Conspiracy to commit a crime (GM)
- Count 2: Conspiracy to commit kidnapping (F)
- Count 3: Conspiracy to commit robbery (F)
- Count 4: Burglary while in possession of a deadly weapon (F)
- Count 5: First degree kidnapping with use of a deadly weapon (F)
- Count 6: First degree kidnapping with use of a deadly weapon (F)
- Count 7: Robbery with use of a deadly weapon (F)
- Count 8: Robbery with use of a deadly weapon (F)
- Count 9: Assault with a deadly weapon (F)
- Count 10: Assault with a deadly weapon (F)
- Count 11: Coercion with use of a deadly weapon (F)
- Count 12: Coercion with use of a deadly weapon (F)

#### **IV. Media Request Forms**

In accordance with the *Nevada Supreme Court Rule 230*, representatives of the media desiring permission to broadcast, televise, record or take photographs in the courtroom shall file a written request at least 72 hours before the proceeding commences. For good cause shown, however, the judge may grant such a request on shorter notice (See Attachment 12).

#### **V. Media Representatives**

Media will designate a media representative to work with the court during this preliminary hearing. Requests and/or concerns from all media should be directed to Michael Sommermeyer, Court Information Officer, at (702) 671-4534 or sommermeyerm@clarkcountycourts.us.

Media should not contact Judge Jackie Glass or her judicial staff with questions about the trial, jury selection, jury matters, media disputes, or media concerns and questions. Direct all questions to Court Information Officer Michael Sommermeyer.

#### **VI. Media Parking**

A media parking area for satellite trucks and microwave vans will be established in the parking lot located at approximately Bonneville and Casino Center Avenues. Satellite and live van trucks parking in this area will be concentrated in the center of the lot to allow for a cable pull of approximately 400' to the center of Clark Avenue, where camera set-ups will be allowed. Electrical power to Clark Avenue is the responsibility of the media. Media will be charged \$50/space/day to park in this lot. A deposit for

parking payable to "Clark County" must be delivered to the Court Information Officer upon arrival.

Parking is not available on Casino Center, Clark or Lewis Avenues. The City of Las Vegas will ticket and tow-away violators. Media parking vehicles in red or white zones around the Regional Justice Center face the prospect that their vehicles will be towed.

## **VII. Media Staging Area**

Media camera set-ups will be allowed on the south sidewalk of Clark Ave. across from the south entrance of the Regional Justice Center. This area will be closest to the media parking lot and will reduce the length required for a cable run to the media parking lot.

A cable run of approximately 400' will be required to reach the media parking area. No parking will be allowed on Clark Avenue. Set up locations have been assigned by the Court Information Officer (see Attachment 7).

The defendants will enter the Regional Justice Center through the Lewis Street entrance. Media must provide a pool to this location. Multiple cameras will not be allowed. Pooling is the responsibility of the media and plans should be communicated to the Court Information Officer prior to the start of trial.

## **VIII. Cables**

All cables placed in corridors, and on sidewalks or streets shall be covered in such a manner as to avoid interference with pedestrian or vehicular traffic, and must conform to City of Las Vegas and Clark County ordinances.

## **IX. Courthouse Security**

All persons entering the courthouse must pass through electronic security devices, and submit any and all equipment for search at the discretion of security officers and/or court marshals. Media members are asked to refrain from bringing excess bags or backpacks into the courthouse. Please bring only what is essential.

## **X. Courtroom Television Cameras**

Pooling of photographic resources is required and it will be the sole responsibility of the media representatives to make those arrangements. All media wishing to participate in the television pool must submit media requests with the Court 72-hours prior to the start of the preliminary hearing. Photography (still or video) of any member of the jury is STRICTLY PROHIBITED.

CourtTV will provide video/audio pool coverage from the courtroom to the designated media parking and the media overflow room in Courtroom 1D. CourtTV will provide continuing coverage throughout the preliminary hearing and will distribute the audio and/or video to those media organizations who have submitted a media request form.

Camera and microphone location setup will be overseen by the Court Information Officer at the direction of Judge Jackie Glass. Additional television cameras will not be permitted in the courtroom during the trial or jury selection.

## **XI. Courtroom Still Cameras**

A still pool photographer, as selected by the media, will be allowed to occupy a designated area of the courtroom. Judge Glass requires all still photography to be applied with a minimum of distraction. Motor drives are discouraged. No flash photography will be permitted in the courtroom. Additional still cameras will not be permitted in the courtroom during the trial and images captured by cellular telephone cameras are not permitted.

## **XII. Seating in Courtroom During Court Proceedings**

Seating in the courtroom is limited to 48 seats (see Attachment 4). Five will be reserved for court staff/security. Four seats will be reserved for prosecution and defense attorney support staff. The Court will reserve 22 seats for media representatives, two of which will be reserved for the pool representatives. Seven seats will be reserved for family and friends of the prosecution and defense. Ten seats will be reserved for the public to be released during a public lottery each day at 7:30 a.m. on the steps of the Clark Avenue entrance of the Regional Justice Center.

During the trial everyone with a seating assignment should be seated no later than 30 minutes prior to the scheduled start of proceedings and must sit in their designated seating area on a first come basis. Any credentialed media representative, family member, or member of the public who does not take their seat within the time prescribed may give up their seat until a break in the hearing. Standing during the proceedings will not be allowed.

Members of the media who may need to exit the courtroom should do so in a way that limits disruption of the hearing at natural breaks. The court will discourage large groups leaving the courtroom during the proceedings and may limit exits of the courtroom to scheduled breaks.

Except for attorneys and court staff, media representatives who exit the courtroom will need to wait until the next natural break in the proceedings to re-enter the courtroom and retake their seat.

### **XIII. Trial Media Seating**

Media organizations will be assigned seats, as opposed to assigning seats to a specific individual, in Courtroom 15A. Multiple media organizations may share one seat. An overflow room will be established in Courtroom 1D for additional media members wishing to view the trial. Media will be notified of a seating assignment prior to the start of the trial.

A total of 22 seats will be reserved for media in the courtroom during the trial, with two seats reserved for the television media pool. Seats will be assigned to participating media and it is the responsibility of the individual media organizations to determine who will represent their organization.

No more than one media seat will be issued to any specific media organization, unless that media organization is providing pool coverage as designated by the court. It will be the responsibility of media organizations to share seats assigned to a media organization.

Additional seats, beyond the 22 assigned media seats, will be released through a public lottery each day at 7:30 a.m. on the steps of the Clark Avenue entrance of the Regional Justice Center.

Media representatives must check in with the Court Information Officer at 7:15 a.m. on the steps of the Clark Avenue entrance of the Regional Justice Center to secure media seating for each day. This will ensure media can enter the courtroom prior to the start of the proceedings. Media representatives must be prepared to present for inspection credentials identifying the person as a member of a media organization outside of the courtroom prior to entering the courtroom.

### **XIV. Electronic Equipment**

All electronic equipment, including, cell phones, radios, and pagers will not be allowed inside the courtroom. Audio recording devices will be allowed for note taking or radio broadcast. Laptop computers, cell phones and Personal Digital Assistants (PDAs) will not be permitted in Courtroom 15A, however, these devices will be allowed in Courtroom 1D. Cellular telephones phones and PDAs may be stored off and silent outside of Courtroom 15A.

The Court Information Officer will arrange to store electronic devices outside Courtrooms 11D and 15A. It will be the media's responsibility to secure their equipment. Cell phones are not permitted inside the courtroom and cellular camera photography also is not permitted inside the courtroom. The Judge will order her marshal to confiscate disallowed electronic equipment that has been brought into the

courtroom, the offending individual may be held in contempt and their media credential will be confiscated preventing them from attending any future hearings.

## **XV. Court Documents**

All motions and other pleadings in the criminal case will be made available by the Court Information Officer, or his designee, in Courtroom 1D. Request for copies of filings must be made in writing and all requests are granted in a reasonable time frame based upon availability of the filings.

For documents requiring research, the court will provide 10 free printed pages to the media, thereafter, copies will cost \$1 per page pursuant to NRS §19.013(1). Requests for electronic copies of documents will be processed at the rate of \$50 per hour.

A disk containing all the filings in the case will be made available for the media to share in Courtroom 1D.

## **XVI. Media Interviews**

Media interviews must be conducted outside of the Regional Justice Center in the designated area marked for this purpose located on the south steps (Clark Avenue Entrance) of the Regional Justice Center. Consult with the Court Information Officer for additional information. At no time will camera set-ups be allowed to impede the flow of pedestrian traffic inside or outside the building. Marshals will be instructed to escort media away from pedestrian traffic areas.

Absolutely no photography (video or still) will be allowed outside of any courtroom or any court floor inside the Regional Justice Center. Any violation of this rule will result in a revocation of all media privileges.

Press briefings and press conferences, as required, will be done outside on the south steps of the Regional Justice Center, or if necessary, inside Courtroom 1D.