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STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA

FILED

IN THE GENERAL DIVISION OF JUSTICE SUPERIOR COURT DIVISION

COUNTY OF BRUNSWICK

2023 OCT -5 A 9:33

IN RE:

PHOTOGRAPY AND YUDED AND AUDIO BECORDING IN THE COURTHOUSE AND COURTROOMS BY_________

Pursuant to the inherent authority of the court to manage court proceeding so as to prevent disruptions, preserve the integrity of the trial process, and to otherwise maintain order, it is hereby ORDERED that:

- 1. No photographic, video, or audio recording equipment shall be brought into any courtroom or hearing room or into the corridors adjacent to a courtroom or hearing room without the express permission of the presiding judge or court official given either in writing or in the presence of the person wishing to use such equipment.
- 2. Cell phones or other handheld devices with photography, video, or audio recording capability must be turned off in the courtroom and shall not be used in any or hearing room without the express permission of the presiding judge or court official given either in writing or in the presence of the person wishing to use such equipment.
- 3. Representatives of the media wishing to use photography, video, or audio recording devices in a courtroom or hearing room shall contact the Court Manager, who will arrange for the request to be communicated to the presiding judge or court official. Media representatives shall not contact the judge directly.
- 4. No photographs or video of any kind may be taken of jurors or prospective jurors, including grand jurors, in the courthouse or its vicinity at any time.
- 5. No photographic, video, or audio recording equipment is allowed in the corridor outside the Grand Jury Room while the Grand Jury is in session. Any presiding or resident judge may limit or prohibit use of such equipment in the hallways or corridors outside a courtroom.
- 6. The provisions of Rule 15 of the General rules of Practice, "Electronic Media and Still Photography Coverage of Public Judicial Proceedings," are incorporated herein as this Court's Order, except for Rule 15(d). A copy is available from the Court Manager.
- 7. Violation of this Order and/or of Rule 15 is punishable as Contempt of Court, including by jail time, fine, and/or loss of the equipment used.
- 8. Any person or entity who wishes to be heard about the general requirements of this Order may file a Motion in the Cause and provide a copy to the Court Manager, who will arrange for the Motion to be considered by an appropriate court official.
- 9. No photographs, video or audio recording of any kind is permissible of any clerk in the clerk's office at any time.

This day of October 2023: Jason C.-Disbrow Sénior Resident Superior Court Judge

Scott L. Usserv **Chief District Court Judge**