



IN THE ALABAMA COURT OF THE JUDICIARY

IN THE MATTER OF:

KIM CHANEY
DISTRICT JUDGE
CULLMAN COUNTY

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CASE NO. 56

ORDER ON MEDIA COVERAGE REQUEST OF REUTERS

Proceedings before the Court of the Judiciary are governed by the Media Coverage Plan ("the Plan") of the Alabama Supreme Court. On February 21, 2020, the Court received a "Request for Media Coverage" from Reuters seeking permission for audio recording and still camera coverage of the hearing in this case set for 2:00 p.m. on February 24, 2020. As provided in paragraph 1 of the Plan, all media coverage is subject to Canon 3A(7B) of the Canons of Judicial Ethics, which authorizes the Court to permit "broadcasting, televising, recording or taking of photographs" only if "the attorneys involved in the hearing...and the parties present shall have affirmatively given their written consent." The request of Reuters was sent to the attorneys for their consent as required by the Plan (see Exhibit B). The attorneys for Judge Chaney do not consent, and therefore, the Court cannot approve the request.

It should be noted, however, pursuant to paragraph 8 of the Plan, I expect to authorize the proceedings to be recorded using the Supreme Court courtroom's audio recording system and I intend to make the audio recording available on request.

This the 21st day of February, 2020.

Scott Donaldson
Scott Donaldson
Chief Judge, Alabama Court of the Judiciary