

COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS
SUPREME JUDICIAL COURT

IN RE: SHELLEY M. RICHMOND JOSEPH

SUFFOLK, SS.

SJC No. OE-157

ORDER REGARDING MEDIA PROTOCOL AND COVERAGE

Upon the application of the Massachusetts Commission on Judicial Conduct and the Respondent, and in order to ensure the safety and well-being of all public hearing participants, the Respondent's right to a fair hearing, and the dignity of the hearing, the Hearing Officer enters the following order regarding media coverage of the hearing in the above-referenced matter:

1. The public hearing will begin with a view at the Newton District Courthouse at 7:30 am on Monday, June 9, 2025. The view will include both public and non-public (secure) areas of the Newton District Courthouse. No members of the media or the public will be permitted into any non-public (secure) areas of the Newton District Courthouse. The hearing will resume immediately after the view in Courtroom 1309 of the Suffolk County Courthouse at 3 Pemberton Square.
2. Any member of the media seeking access to film, video, photographic, or audio material in connection with the hearing proceedings must coordinate their request and obtain access through a designated media pool representative.
3. Filming, photographing, or recording of hearing proceedings shall occur only through pool arrangements, which must be made or worked out amongst the media. The Hearing Officer shall permit one stationary, mechanically silent video camera and one stationary, mechanically silent photography camera during the hearing. Pool cameras and camera operators shall be in place prior to the start of the hearing each day, and cameras shall not be dismantled while the public hearing is underway. The camera operators and other members of the media pool shall not interrupt the hearing proceedings with technical problems.
4. No filming, photographing, or recording of any kind shall take place until the hearing is called into session (when the Hearing Officer enters the courtroom and takes the bench) and shall immediately cease (be shut off or deactivated) during hearing recesses and upon adjournment each day.

5. Except as outlined above, no person is permitted to film, photograph, or record hearing proceedings at any time through photographic or electronic recording devices (including still or video cameras, cell phones, smart phones, tablets, laptops, audio recording or transmitting devices, or any other electronic device with communication capabilities).
6. Recording sidebar conferences between the Hearing Officer and counsel, conferences between counsel, or conferences between counsel and the Respondent shall not be permitted at any time. The pool camera operator shall pause or disengage the audio component of the pool cameras during sidebar conferences. All microphones shall be shut off during sidebar conferences. The pool camera operator shall not manipulate the camera's zoom and focus so as to reveal, accidentally or otherwise, documents of attorneys or the Hearing Officer, or any other documents not admitted as hearing exhibits.
7. Media requests for inspection or copies of exhibits accepted into evidence during the hearing shall be made to the Commission on Judicial Conduct by email at communications@cjc.state.ma.us. Any impounded exhibits will not be made available to the media. The Commission on Judicial Conduct shall make reasonable efforts to accommodate such requests in a timely manner.
8. All media are prohibited from interviewing or attempting to interview any person in the courtroom or courthouse.
9. The Commission on Judicial Conduct may petition the Supreme Judicial Court to impose sanctions on any person believed to have violated any provision of this Order. The Hearing Officer may also eject or exclude entry to any person believed to have violated any provision of this Order.

SO ORDERED,



Denis J. McInerney, Esq.
Hearing Officer

Dated: June 3, 2025