



## **MEDIA GUIDELINES**

### **January 26, 2026**

The following procedures apply in connection with the proceedings in *United States of America v. Kilmar Armando Abrego Garcia*, Case No. 3:25-cr-00115-1, scheduled to commence January 26 2026, at 9:00 a.m. Central, in Courtroom 5D.

**Courthouse Access:** The Courthouse will open at 8:00 a.m. All persons entering the courthouse must show government-issued photo identification and go through security screening.

**Courtroom 5D:** Admission to the courtroom will be on a first-come, first-served basis. Beginning at 8:30 a.m., media and the public will be permitted to line up in the public corridor outside Courtroom 5D. Once all seats are occupied, the courtroom will be closed and those without seats will be directed to the Public Overflow in Courtroom 6D. Attendees in Courtroom 5D may not converse, make gestures or sounds, or display signs that are disruptive to the proceedings. Attendees should remain seated until the Court recesses.

No cameras or video or audio recording devices of any kind, including cell phones or multi-media enabled smart phones, smart watches, cameras, laptop computers, tablets, video cameras, or any devices with similar functionality are permitted in Courtroom 5D.

**Public Overflow - Courtroom 6D.** Admission to the Public Overflow will be on a first-come, first-served basis. Once all seats are occupied, the courtroom will be closed.

**Media Room:** There will not be a separate media room for this hearing.

**Electronic Devices in Courtroom 6D:** Registered members of the media may use laptops and smart phones, etc. in the Public Overflow to prepare and transmit written content, but may not record, stream, broadcast, or photograph the audiovisual feed of the proceedings. Any violation of this prohibition may result in the banning of all laptops or recording devices or the closing of the Media Room for the duration of proceedings. The Court may enter contempt sanctions against any violator and, if attending in the capacity of an employee or agent, against the employer or principal. A Court Security Officer will be present in the Public Overflow at all times when the Court is in session to enforce decorum and ensure compliance with these guidelines and the Court's Local Rules.

**Photography and Audiovisual Recording/Broadcasting Prohibited:** Photography, video and audio broadcasting, and video and audio recording are strictly prohibited in the Fred D. Thompson U.S. Courthouse. See [Local Rule of Court 83.03](#).

**Media Registration:** Members of the media must register in person and receive court-issued credentials to use electronic devices in the Public Overflow. Registration forms will be available in the Clerk's Office, Suite 1300, between 8:00 a.m. and 8:45 a.m. Media badges must be clearly displayed in the Public Overflow and returned to the Clerk's Office at the conclusion of the proceedings.

**Internet Access:** The Court will not provide internet access in the Public Overflow. However, members of the media may bring their own internet access devices.

**CM/ECF or PACER Access:** Case filings can be accessed via [PACER](#). The Court does not offer media access to CM/ECF.

**Transcript Requests:** Requests for transcripts may be e-mailed to Lise Matthews at [Lise\\_Matthews@tnmd.uscourts.gov](mailto:Lise_Matthews@tnmd.uscourts.gov). Requests for transcripts are governed by [Local Rule of Court 83.05](#) and [Administrative Order 27: Court Reporters' Rates for Transcripts](#).

**Security:** The United States Marshal, his Deputies, and Court Security Officers shall be responsible for maintaining order and decorum in the courthouse and may limit seating as necessary to ensure the safety of all present. All directives given by the Marshal, his Deputies, and Court Security Officers must be complied with promptly. Failure by any person to do so may subject such person to sanctions by the Court, including, but not limited to, exclusion from the Courtrooms or the Courthouse.

**Media Contact:** Media inquiries should be directed to the Clerk of Court Lynda Hill at 615-736-2793 or [Lynda\\_Hill@tnmd.uscourts.gov](mailto:Lynda_Hill@tnmd.uscourts.gov).