

**UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
MIDDLE DISTRICT OF TENNESSEE**

PUBLIC NOTICE

Public Access to Video and Teleconference Hearings

In light of the ongoing national emergency with respect to the coronavirus pandemic, the United States District Court for the Middle District of Tennessee has issued general orders supporting teleconference and video conference for civil and criminal hearings in accordance with the applicable statutes and rules of the Judicial Conference of the United States. This Court continues to support strongly the presumption of public access to hearings before the court and in support of that presumption, for the duration of this national emergency, makes the following accommodations available:

- 1) Access to teleconference and videoconference hearings will be made available to the public via teleconference. To request access, send an email to publicaccess@tnmd.uscourts.gov by 4:00 p.m. the day before the scheduled hearing and provide the date of the hearing and the case style or case number. The requestor will receive an email response, not less than 30 minutes prior to the scheduled hearing, containing access instructions.
- 2) Participants are reminded of the general prohibition against photographing, recording, and rebroadcasting of court proceedings. Violation of these prohibitions may result in sanctions, including restricted entry to future hearings, denial of entry to future hearings, or any other sanctions deemed necessary by the Court. (Local Rule 83.03(a)(1), provided below).
- 3) Participants who violate Local Rule 83.03(a)(1) may face sanctions including restricted entry to future hearings, denial of entry to future hearings, or any other sanctions deemed necessary by the judicial officer.

RULE 83.03 PHOTOGRAPY, BROADCASTING, AND ELECTRONIC DEVICES

(a) General Prohibition.

(1) No photography, video or audio broadcasting (other than by General Services Administration personnel, Federal Protective services personnel and United States Marshals Service personnel), or video or audio recording (other than by Court personnel) will be permitted on the floors of the courthouse occupied by the Court (including inside any petit jury room or grand jury room), or of any conference calls conducted by the Court, except by court order. This prohibition also includes photography, video or audio broadcasting, and video or audio recording by remote means.

April 9, 2020