

CHARLES A. FRANCIS CHIEF IUDGE

OFFICE OF COURT ADMINISTRATION SECOND JUDICIAL CIRCUIT OF FLORIDA LEON COUNTY COURTHOUSE **ROOM 225** 

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GRANT SLAYDEN COURT ADMINISTRATOR

## **MEMO**

TO:

News Media

FROM:

Isaac Shuler

2<sup>nd</sup> Judicial Circuit Trial Court Technology Officer

DATE:

February 25, 2014

SUBJECT:

Rule 2.450 "Technological Coverage of Judicial Proceedings"

This memo is to serve as a friendly reminder of the technology coverage procedures of judicial proceedings in the 2<sup>nd</sup> Judicial Circuit courtrooms, including all courtrooms located in Franklin, Gadsden, Jefferson, Leon, Liberty and Wakulla counties.

Media wishing to record any courtroom proceedings must contact the Office of Court Administration at least 24 hours prior to those proceedings. The court will allow television media preference on a first-call basis. This means the media requesting coverage of a proceeding that has been authorized in advance by the court may, at the proper time, set up their television camera at the designated location. Exceptions to the 24 hour notice will be made for proceedings that have little forewarning, e.g., first appearances.

Early setup is required to ensure the camera technician the best camera position to minimize distracting movements during the proceedings, especially during witness testimony.

As stated in Rule 2.450, the presiding judge is the final authority over all courtroom matters, specifically behavior in the courtroom that affects the "proceedings before the court".

Rule 2.450 "Technological Coverage of Judicial Proceedings" can be found on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Judicial Circuit website, http://2ndcircuit.leoncountyfl.gov/courtroomCameras.php.

For approval of television news media coverage, please contact Isaac Shuler via e-mail at ShulerI@leoncountyfl.gov.

Thank you for your attention in this matter.