

STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA
COUNTY OF ALAMANCE

FILED
2020 DEC 18 A 10:30
ALAMANCE CO., C.S.C.
ADMINISTRATIVE ORDER
BY BB

IN THE GENERAL COURT OF JUSTICE
SUPERIOR AND DISTRICT COURT

IN RE: COURT PROCEEDINGS AND THE MEDIA/PRESS

The Undersigned Senior Resident Superior Court Judge and the Chief District Court Judge of Judicial District 15A enter this Administrative Order pursuant to Governor Roy Cooper's Orders and Chief Justice Cheri Beasley's Directives, the Alamance County Health Department Orders and Directives, and Orders previously entered by the Undersigned Senior Resident Superior Court Judge Tom Lambeth, Jr. and Chief District Court Judge Bradley Reid Allen, Sr.

Alamance County Courts have remained open to the public and the media. However, due to the COVID-19 Pandemic, restrictions have been necessary regarding access to the Courthouses and Courtrooms because of COVID-19 safety precautions; limited building space; courtroom seating limitations and the necessity of limiting persons and personal contact in the Courthouse and Courtrooms.

Signs have previously been posted outside courthouses explaining who is allowed in the building. Court Orders have been placed on the Administrative Office of the Courts website for public viewing.

In order to clarify with the media that they do have access to Courthouses and Courtrooms, the following procedures will be put into place immediately and will continue until modified:

1. If a member of the media is requesting to appear in a courthouse or courtroom, they must do the following to gain access:
 - a. For Superior Court cases, email Sharon Boger, Superior Court Trial Court Coordinator at Sharon.M.Boger@nccourts.org.
 - b. For District Court cases, email Cassandra Cobb, District Court Trial Court Coordinator at Cassandra.L.Cobb@nccourts.org.
 - c. For cases and records under The Clerk of Superior Court, email Kristie Culler at Kristie.M.Culler@nccourts.org.
2. The email must include the following:
 - a. Case name.
 - b. File number.

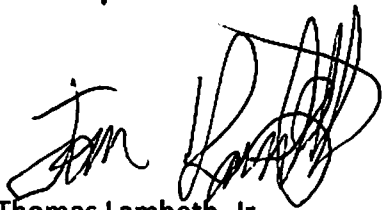
- c. Court date.
 - d. Courthouse location.
 - e. Courtroom.
 - f. A statement that you are requesting access as a member of a Media Outlet.
3. This request must be received no later than 2:00 PM the business day before the case is scheduled to be heard or access requested.
 4. If the request is for a 1st Appearance for the 2:00 PM docket, (i.e. Felony 1st Appearance Misdemeanor or Domestic Violence 1st Appearance) the request must be made by 11:00 AM the day of the hearing.
 5. Pursuant to previous Administrative Orders entered and filed, you will receive an email stating whether your request is granted or denied.
 6. Space is limited in Courtrooms to allow for proper social distancing, therefore, the 1st five (5) Media Outlets represented and approved will be allowed and no more for each Court day or Court case. This number may be reduced if Courtroom seating space does not allow five (5) Media Outlets, due to the number of scheduled defendants, witnesses or alleged victims that are in the courtroom or present for a particular case.

In specific cases including, but not limited to those of an enhanced public interest and because of limited seating availability, audio and or video live streaming may be possible to persons outside the Courtroom and made available to the public and the press to be determined by the presiding Judge.

All persons entering the Courthouse including members of the Media are subject to COVID-19 screening protocols and are not allowed to have any recording devices, including but not limited to, cameras, audio or video equipment or cell phones without permission of the Judge presiding in said Courtroom.

All persons are subject to the contempt powers of the Court for violation of this Administrative Order.

This the 18th day of December 2020.


D. Thomas Lambeth, Jr.
Senior Resident Superior Court Judge


Bradley Reid Allen, Sr.
Chief District Court Judge