

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
WESTERN DISTRICT OF KENTUCKY
LOUISVILLE DIVISION

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

Plaintiff

v.

Criminal Action No. 3:22-cr-84-RGJ

BRETT HANKISON

Defendant

* * * * *

RULES OF ORDER FOR TRIAL

1. Trial will begin on Monday, October 30, 2023, with jury selection in Courtroom 3. Trial will be held Monday through Friday of each week until completed, except for Federal Holidays and any days excluded by order of the Court. The Courtroom will open for seating at 9:00 a.m. each day.

2. **Courtroom 3. *Jury selection only.***

- a. Jury Panel Seating: All seats in the rows of the public gallery, jury box, and all extra seats placed in rows and around jury box.
- b. There will be no seating for spectators, media, victims' family and close personal friends, or Defendant's family and close personal friends.

3. **Courtroom 3. *Trial and Verdict.***

- a. The victims' family and close personal friends and Defendant's family and close personal friends may sit in the front row of the public gallery on either side of the courtroom (approximately 10 spaces). Attorneys for any witnesses may sit in any unoccupied space in the front row of the public gallery on either side of the courtroom. The public may sit in the last three rows of the public gallery on each side of courtroom (approximately 34

spaces). Seating by the public and press at beginning of trial day and after recesses will be first come, first served until seating capacity is filled.

- b. Consistent with General Order 2018-09 RE: Courthouse Security and Limitation on the Use of Portable Communication Devices Within the United States Courthouses in the Western District of Kentucky, portable communication devices are not allowed in the courtrooms except by court employees, officers of the court engaged in the conduct of court business, and law enforcement personnel.
- c. Consistent with the Judicial Council's Policy Guidelines, cameras of any kind (including camera telephones and laptop computer cameras), video cameras of any kind (including video telephones and video cameras connected to laptop computers), and audio recording devices of any kind are not permitted in the Courthouse.
- d. No conversations or gestures that would disrupt the proceedings or distract jurors or witnesses are permitted.
- e. No signs, hats, t-shirts, or other clothing that display slogans that could be construed to influence members of the jury or make any statement about any issue relevant to the trial will be permitted. Enforcement of this prohibition is left to the sole discretion of the Court and U.S. Marshal.
- f. Any member of the public or press who desires to view the proceedings from Courtroom 3 must be seated before the proceedings are scheduled to commence and, except in case of emergencies, may not exit the courtroom until there is a recess. No member of the general public or

the press will be permitted to enter the courtroom while the proceedings are in progress.

4. **Courtroom 4. *Overflow for Public and Media.*** Remote facility for video and audio transmission of proceedings from Courtroom 4. (Seating capacity approximately 65).

- a. Seating will be on a first come first served basis until all seating capacity is filled.
- b. No stand-alone cameras or tape recording devices are permitted. Laptop computers are permitted for note-taking purposes.
- c. No loitering in the hallway of Courtroom 4 is permitted.
- d. Photographing and video or audio recording or transmission of court proceedings are prohibited. Consistent with the Judicial Council's Policy Guidelines, cameras of any kind (including camera telephones and laptop computer cameras), video cameras of any kind (including video telephones and video cameras connected to laptop computers), and audio recording devices of any kind are not permitted in the Courthouse.
- e. No conversations or gestures that would disrupt or distract other viewing of the proceeding are permitted. Maintaining order in the overflow room is left to the sole discretion of the U.S. Marshal and Court Security Officers (CSOs).

5. **Media Center.** The Fifth Floor will be a second remote location for video and audio transmission of the proceedings available to media only.

- a. Only credentialed members of the media will be permitted to enter this room.

- b. Seating will be on a first come first served basis until all seating capacity is filled.
- c. No stand-alone cameras or tape recording devices are permitted in the media center. Laptop computers will be permitted for note-taking purposes.
- d. Photographing and video or audio recording or transmission of court proceedings are prohibited. Consistent with the Judicial Council's Policy Guidelines, cameras of any kind (including camera telephones and laptop computer cameras), video cameras of any kind (including video telephones and video cameras connected to laptop computers), and audio recording devices of any kind are not permitted in the Courthouse.
- e. There shall be no broadcasting from the Fifth Floor Media Center.

6. **Media interviews** of trial participants in the courtroom and hallways or lobbies of the courthouse are prohibited. Interviews and conversations with the media may be conducted outside the courthouse, in the designated area.

7. **Evidence.** The original exhibits admitted in evidence will not be available to the public for copying or inspection. They may be viewed on the public courtroom screen when they are received in evidence and displayed to the jury.


8. Juror Contacts and Security.

- a. Consistent with Local Rule 24.1 no person, party, or attorney, nor any representative of a party or attorney, may contact, interview, or communicate with any juror before, during or after trial.
- b. Following jurors, obtaining their license plates numbers, photographing them, or attempting in any way to obtain their identities is prohibited.

- c. Conversations, interviews and written communications with prospective jurors, and with selected jurors, including alternate jurors, before the court has discharged the jury are prohibited.
- d. Sketch artists rendering court proceedings are prohibited from drawing detailed sketches of any member of the jury; however, silhouettes with no distinguishing features may be done.

9. The United States Marshal and the Court Security Officers (CSOs) shall be responsible for maintaining order and decorum in the courthouse. All orders given by the Marshal or CSOs shall be deemed orders of this Court and must be complied with immediately. Failure by any person to do so will be subject to sanctions by the Court.

10. Any violation of any portion of this order may result in the imposition of contempt sanctions against the violator individually and, if attending in the capacity of an employee or agent, against the employer or principal.


Rebecca Grady Jennings, District Judge
United States District Court

October 23, 2023