### IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF FAIRFAX COUNTY

JOHN C. DEPP, II,	)	
Plaintiff, v.	)	CL-2019-2911
AMBER LAURA HEARD	)	
Defendant.	)	
	ORDER	

It is hereby **ORDERED** as follows:

## (1) General Provisions

- a. Courtroom 5J on the 5th floor of the Fairfax County Circuit Court will be used for this trial. Not everyone who wishes to be present during the proceedings may be accommodated in the courtroom. There are a limited number of seats available for the litigants, their counsel, and members of the media and public.
- b. The courtroom deputy will open the courtroom for all spectators shortly before the proceedings begin each day. You must be seated at least ten (10) minutes prior to the time for the start of the court session.
- c. All spectators and their belongings will be subject to a security screening upon entry into the courthouse and, at the discretion of the presiding judge, again prior to entering the courtroom.
- d. Access to the 5<sup>th</sup> floor of the Courthouse will be limited to individuals with business on the floor.

#### (2) Courtroom Seating

- a. The first row of the gallery will be reserved for each party's legal team.
- b. Seats for all others will be provided on a first-come, first-served basis and will be subject to availability. The Sheriff's Office will designate an area outside the Courthouse as a cue line for entry.
- c. One overflow courtroom will be utilized as well.

### (3) Rules Governing All Spectators

a. Quiet and order shall be maintained at all times. Audible comments of any kind during the court proceedings or provocative or uncivil behavior within the courtroom or courthouse will not be tolerated. There shall be no gestures, facial expressions, or the like, suggesting approval or disapproval during the proceedings. Anyone violating this Order will be expelled immediately from the courtroom and will not be able to return during the pendency of the trial.

- b. All spectators are expected to dress in a manner consistent with the decorum of a judicial proceeding. No chewing gum and no food or drink is permitted in the courtroom at any time.
- c. The presiding judge has discretion to implement protocols for entry and exit during the court proceedings, to control the conduct of the proceedings, and to prevent distractions.

# (4) Cellular Telephones

- a. Members of the gallery, whether credentialed media or not, may not use or display cellular telephones in any courtroom or during any court proceeding. All cellular telephones must be turned off or placed in silent or vibrate mode and shall not be used, viewed or otherwise displayed while in any courtroom. Any phone or electronic device visible in the courtroom shall be confiscated and the individual will be expelled from the courtroom for the pendency of the trial.
- b. Attorneys of record may utilize cellular telephones for texting, organizational functions, research and writing functions, and other data transmission functions. Cellular telephones and other similar electronic devices cannot be used to record or send photographs, video, or audio. All cellular telephones must be placed in either silent or vibrate mode. All Bluetooth and similar wireless devices must be turned off, removed from the wearer and secured out of sight.

# (5) Laptop Computers, Similar Devices and Other Portable Electronic Devices

- a. Use of laptop computers and other portable electronic devices by members of the gallery is <u>prohibited</u>. Electronic devices visible will be confiscated and the individual will be expelled from the courtroom for the pendency of the trial.
- b. Attorneys of record may use a laptop computer or other portable electronic device when their case is in session, and they are actively participating in the proceeding. Attorneys may use electronic devices to conduct research, check calendars, check or send emails and perform other related tasks. No computer or other electronic device can be used to record or send photographs, video, or audio.

### (6) Media

### a. Definitions

i. For purposes of this Order, "media" is defined as: 1) traditional print and broadcast communication channels, such as radio, television, newspapers, and magazines, through which news and information is disseminated that reach or influence people widely for newsworthy, entertainment, or other purposes; 2) motion picture entities, including documentary and independent filmmakers; and 3) the next generation of digital, computerized or networked information and communication technologies, not directly associated with traditional print and/or broadcast media entities and defined as: An online entity which was a previously established, independent site that contains regularly updated original news content above and beyond links, forums, troubleshooting tips and reader contributions; said content is thoroughly reviewed by an independent editor before publication; has readership or viewership of more than 1000 per month; and has previously covered the judicial branch for the six (6) months immediately prior to requesting to cover proceedings in this Circuit. Fan sites, web logs or blogs and portable websites do not qualify as media.

- b. All media representatives must read this Order.
- c. A pool camera system will be utilized and all media requesting access must coordinate with the designated pool camera representative and must sign the Media Credential Order.
- d. All media representatives should always: (i) display proper media credentials and/or identification supplied to them by their employer; (ii) exhibit proper courtroom decorum; and (iii) dress professionally. Eating, drinking, or chewing gum in the Courtroom is prohibited.
- e. Media representatives may not record audio of "side-bar" or "bench" conferences. There shall be no in court recording or broadcast while court is in recess, except as may be necessary for members of the media to set up or troubleshoot equipment or to capture the appearance of a litigant entering or leaving the courtroom. To protect the attorney-client privilege, the effective right to counsel, and the due process of all litigants, there shall be no recording or broadcast of conferences that occur in court between attorneys and their clients, between co-counsel, or between counsel and the presiding judge held at the bench. Upon the conclusion or recess of proceedings being covered by the media (including after recording a litigant leaving the courtroom), any video or audio recording (including live streaming), if applicable, shall cease to avoid the inadvertent capture of any of the aforementioned types of communications. Interviews of jurors after their release from service is at the individual juror's discretion and must be conducted in a location not otherwise prohibited by this Order. The purpose and intent of this paragraph is not to prevent the media from covering legal proceedings, but to protect the vital due process rights of all litigants.

### (7) Courthouse and Courthouse Grounds

- a. There will be no overnight camping on Courthouse grounds. This includes the entire Judicial Complex within the boundaries of Chain Bridge Road, Judicial Drive, and Main Street.
- b. Further measures will be taken if the flow of pedestrian or vehicle traffic is impeded or entry to the Courthouse is affected.

# (8) Litigants

 a. Litigants and their legal teams in this trial will not pose for pictures or sign autographs in the Courthouse or on Courthouse grounds.

Any violation of this order may be found as contempt and violators will be punished accordingly.

ENTERED this 29th day of March 2022.

The Honorable Penney S. Azcarate