

IN THE SUPREME COURT OF THE STATE OF ARIZONA

In the Matter of:)
)
SPECIAL ELECTRONIC ACCESS TO) Administrative Order
SUPERIOR COURT PROCEEDINGS) No. 2001 - 19
_____)

Arizona Supreme Court Rule 122 permits electronic and photographic access to court proceedings subject to certain specified limitations and subject to the trial judge's approval of the proposed access. It is in the interest of justice that the public understands as fully as possible the operation of the justice system, including the courts. A major national television network proposes to produce a program that promotes this interest and that requires extraordinary access to judicial proceedings.

Now, therefore, pursuant to Article VI, Section 3, of the Arizona Constitution,

IT IS ORDERED that the presiding judge of the superior court in Maricopa County is hereby delegated authority to selectively waive provisions of Arizona Supreme Court Rule 122 to permit the filming of the proposed program if such waiver is necessary and reasonable and the parties and other participants involved consent in advance.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that the trial judge in each proceeding selected for filming shall have discretion as provided in Rule 122 and comparable to that provided in Rule 122 for matters permitted by the presiding judge's order to regulate how filming is actually conducted on a day-to-day basis and to rule upon any issues concerning the filming that arise during trial.

Dated this 17 day of January, 2001.

THOMAS A. ZLAKET
Chief Justice