

**FILED**

**JUN 23 2021**

SAN LUIS OBISPO SUPERIOR COURT  
BY *D. Roberts*  
D. Roberts, Deputy Clerk

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SUPERIOR COURT OF CALIFORNIA  
COUNTY OF SAN LUIS OBISPO

THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF  
CALIFORNIA,

Plaintiff,

v.

PAUL RUBEN FLORES,  
RUBEN RICARDO FLORES,

Defendants.

Case No.: 21F-02402

PRELIMINARY HEARING DECORUM  
AND MEDIA ORDER

The purpose of this order is to protect the parties' constitutional rights to a fair and impartial jury trial; to allow the public and the media to exercise their First Amendment rights; to ensure courtroom proceedings are conducted with respect and decorum for the proper administration of justice, and to ensure the safe, orderly use of court facilities. This order replaces all previous written orders relating to media access as to the preliminary hearing. The Court may rescind or modify this order at any time based on specific circumstances or in the court's discretion.

**Security**

The San Luis Obispo Sheriff's Department is responsible for security in the San Luis Obispo Superior Court. Failure to adhere to the rules in this order or to abide by the

1 orders of the Sheriff's Department may result in sanctions including expulsion from the  
2 courtroom and/or courthouse, and any other lawful response.

3 **Photography, Video, Audio & Electronic Devices in the Courtroom**

4 Recording of courtroom proceedings is restricted. One pool camera for still  
5 photographs and one pool camera for video is allowed. Media organizations are to  
6 cooperate to select the individuals who will be operating the pool cameras and identify  
7 them to Nikki Rodriguez, the Court media liaison, by 5 p.m. on July 1, 2021 at the  
8 following email address: [nikki.rodriguez@slo.courts.ca.gov](mailto:nikki.rodriguez@slo.courts.ca.gov). The pool cameras are not to  
9 capture images or video footage of witnesses or spectators. No other cameras are  
10 allowed. No audio recording is allowed inside the courtroom. This includes audio  
11 recordings for note-taking purposes.

12 Cell phones, smart phones, smart watches, laptops, tablets, and all other electronic  
13 devices must be turned off and stowed away while in the courtroom. The use of  
14 electronic devices is prohibited inside the courtroom at all times.

15 **Media Credentials**

16 Due to limited courtroom seating in Department 5, court-issued credentials will be  
17 issued according to the Court's protocol and discretion. A court-issued credential is  
18 required to be admitted for limited courtroom seating. There will be no exceptions to this  
19 requirement. Media outlets requesting a court credential must submit a request to  
20 [nikki.rodriguez@slo.courts.ca.gov](mailto:nikki.rodriguez@slo.courts.ca.gov) no later than 5 p.m. on July 1, 2021.

21 Media personnel must be prepared to present official credentials identifying them  
22 as a member of a recognized media organization. Court-issued credentials shall be valid  
23 for entry into Department 5 during the preliminary hearing unless they are rescinded by  
24 court order. If seat demand in Department 5 exceeds the 54-seat capacity, there will be  
25 only one assigned seat per media outlet or parent company.

26 Media credentials and court-issued credentials must be worn at all times inside the  
27 courthouse. Court-issued credentials cannot be transferred to other media personnel.  
28 Loaning another media representative a Court-issued credential that does not belong to

1 them or their parent organization will result in the loss of the media credential and its  
2 privileges for the duration of the trial.

### 3 **Courtroom Seating**

4 Audience seating in Department 5 is limited to every other seat to assure the  
5 comfort and safety of spectators in consideration of the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic.  
6 Standing is not permitted except as necessary to operate the pool cameras. Seat backs  
7 marked with red tape are not available for seating. With this arrangement, there are 54  
8 available seats in Department 5. There will be designated seating for families, court-  
9 credentialed media, and the public as deemed necessary by the Court. For those members  
10 of the public who wish to attend in-person, permission is required from the Court to  
11 occupy the public seats.

12 If demand for seats exceeds capacity, the Court retains the sole discretion in  
13 conducting seating lotteries.

14 All Court-credentialed media personnel and members of the public must check in  
15 every morning with the Media Relations table. The public and media personnel must take  
16 their seats at least 5 minutes before the start of any court session. Failure to abide by this  
17 time restriction may result in loss of assigned or lottery seating that day as determined by  
18 the Court's communications staff.

### 19 **Face Coverings**

20 Pursuant to Local Rule of Court 32.02, attached, face coverings that cover the  
21 mouth and nose must be worn by everyone in Department 5 regardless of COVID-19  
22 vaccination status. The Court has discretion to allow witnesses and attorneys to remove  
23 their face covering to ensure that they can be heard and seen. Attorneys will be allowed  
24 to remove their face covering when they are in front of the bar.

### 25 **Outside the Courtroom**

26 Video and still photography as well as audio recording and broadcasting are  
27 prohibited in any public area of the courthouse. No disruptions in the hallway will be  
28 tolerated. The noise level in the hallway must be kept to a minimum. Other courtrooms

1 will also be in session. No passageways or doors may be blocked.

2 **Violations of This Order**

3 Anyone violating this order will be subject to the discipline of the Court,  
4 including but not limited to, the Court's contempt authority, immediate removal from the  
5 courtroom, prohibition from returning to the courtroom and revocation of the court-issued  
6 media credential. Photographs and video or audio recordings made in violation of this  
7 order will be subject to equipment confiscation and erasure of the prohibited content.  
8 Violators of this order may be excluded from the courtroom for the duration of the  
9 preliminary hearing.

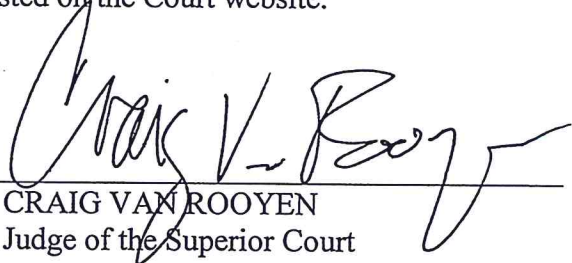
10 **Distribution of This Order**

11 This order will be displayed outside Department 5. It will be delivered to the  
12 media via electronic distribution and posted on the Court website.

13 IT IS SO ORDERED

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15 DATED: June 23, 2021

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17 CRAIG VAN ROOYEN  
18 Judge of the Superior Court  
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FILED

JUN 23 2021

SUPERIOR COURT OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA,

IN AND FOR THE COUNTY OF SAN LUIS OBISPO

SAN LUIS OBISPO SUPERIOR COURT  
BY Tammy Denchfield  
Tammy Denchfield, Deputy Clerk

EMERGENCY LOCAL RULE RE: FACE COVERINGS

Local Rule 32.02 shall be amended to read as follows:

- (a) Any person allowed or required to enter any San Luis Obispo County courtroom must wear a face covering at all times.
- (1) "Face covering" means a surgical or medical mask, a respirator worn voluntarily, or a tightly woven fabric or non-woven material of at least two layers. Single layer fabric face coverings are not permissible. A face covering must cover the nose and mouth.
- (2) "Respirator" means a respiratory protection device approved by the National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health (NIOSH) to protect the wearer from particulate matter, such as an N95 filtering facepiece respirator.
- (b) The Court and individual judicial officers reserve the authority to rescind or modify any part of this rule, as appropriate, to address changing circumstances or courtroom needs.

Dated: June 23, 2021

Jacquelyn H. Duffy  
Jacquelyn H. Duffy, Presiding Judge

*Rule 32.02 amended effective June 28, 2021; adopted effective May 28, 2020.*