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Subject: Clarifications - Media Pass / Card Requirements / Attainment

Date: Thu, 11 May 2023 12:27:48 -0400

Florida Ninth Judicial Circuit
Orange & Osceola Counties

May 11, 2023

Ref: Media Coverage of Judicial Nominating Commission hearings

To Whom It May Concern:

On May 3, 2023 our publication (VolusiaExposed.Com) sent one of our photojournalist to video record the Florida Supreme Court's Judicial Nominating Commission's hearing that was scheduled within courtroom 23A of the Orange County Courthouse.

Initially - court administrators were receptive to our photojournalist's attendance.

In addition to our attendance - two representatives from the Florida government owned media site TheFloridaChannel.Org were there to cover the JNC hearing.

Approximately an hour prior to the start of the hearing - two court administrators approached our photojournalist and advised him that he would not be allow to video recorded the JNC hearing. He could attend the hearing, as member of the public - but could NOT record it.

The rationale given by the two court administrators were the two below linked Adm. Orders from the local Court.

Court Adm Order 07-96-19-02

<http://volusiaexposed.com/orangecounty/2023/flsupremectjnc52023/courtrule1.pdf>

Court Adm Order 2014-04

<http://volusiaexposed.com/orangecounty/2023/flsupremectjnc52023/courtrule2.pdf>

While our photojournalist was eventually able - with the encouragement of the JNC Chair - to video record the hearing - we wish to obtain clarification regarding our access to future JNC hearings that are held within your jurisdiction.

From our (VolusiaExposed.Com) review of the two above linked administrative Court Orders - as well as Fl. Rule Of Judicial Administration 2.450 - the reason for your special judicial circuit media pass / card is to insure that court proceedings are not degraded or impaired - to wit, individuals are afforded a "fair trial".

Obviously on May 3, 2023 - in courtroom 23A - no "trial" was on-going - rather a public hearing was transpiring - a hearing that our publication had been invited to attend (JNC invite / notification).

For clarification purposes - in the future - will it be necessary for our representatives to have your media card to cover JNC hearings?

We do understand - that if in the future - our organization desires to cover an actual Court related matter (trial, hearing, etc) that it will be necessary for us to secure a temporary media authorization, as noted by your website.

<http://volusiaexposed.com/orangecounty/2023/flsupremectjnc52023/courtmediaapplication.pdf>

We are confident that our organization would meet your standards as a qualified "media organization". We have published numerous articles regarding criminal prosecutions, highlighting unethical conduct by prosecutors, the police, and yes - even the Courts - all in addition of covering several judicial circuits' JNC hearings.

In April 2015 - the Florida Supreme Court incorporated our reporting into their judicial disciplinary decision against Judge Jessica Recksiedler (18th Judicial Circuit - see page 2 of the below linked FL Supreme Court decision)

<http://volusiaexposed.com/orangecounty/2023/flsupremectjnc52023/supremecourtruling.pdf>

In closing - we would like to "suggest" that you tread a little more lightly on whom you judge to be - OR NOT to be qualified media. Prior to the start of the American Revolution - King George III stated that U.S. Founding Father Thomas Paine was merely a "dress maker". It was the "pen" of Paine - mainly his revolutionary pamphlet titled "Common Sense" that sparked the Revolutionary War against England. Since it is unknown to us whether Orange County as yet banned or censored U.S. history books - we will advise you - that the U.S. Revolutionary War was NOT a win for England.

“Without the pen of Paine, the sword of Washington would have been wielded in vain.” ~ John Adams

During our May 3, 2023 visit - one of your Court Administrators stated that because of the size of our camera - our organization could NOT be actual media. Remember this - the U.S. Constitution was not written on a computer, or with a ball point pen. It's written on animal hide - with a feather being used as a pen.

Maybe, in the future - you folks could use some of Paine's common sense when dealing with media organizations. We look forward to any clarifications you wish to provide.

Regards,

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"Don't piss down my back and tell me it's raining" ~ John Vernon as "Fletcher" - "The Outlaw Josey Wales" (1976)