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6 **IN THE SECOND JUDICIAL DISTRICT COURT OF THE STATE OF NEVADA**

7 **IN AND FOR THE COUNTY OF WASHOE**

8 STEPHEN LARA,

9 Plaintiff,

10 vs.

11 STATE OF NEVADA ex rel. Department of Public  
12 Safety, Highway Patrol Division; COLONEL ANNE  
13 CARPENTER, in her capacity as Chief of the Nevada  
14 Highway Patrol; and SERGEANT GLENN  
RIGDON, in his official capacity as an officer of the  
Nevada Highway Patrol; and JOHN DOES I-X,

Defendants.

CASE NO.: CV21-01595

DEPT. NO.: 4

15 **ORDER REGARDING ELECTRONIC COVERAGE OF COURT PROCEEDINGS**

16 This Court is in receipt of written requests for electronic media coverage filed by Alex Falconi, a  
17 representative from Our Nevada Judges for the September 4, 2024 Oral Arguments on Plaintiff's  
18 Motion for Partial Judgment on the Pleadings, March 19, 2025 90-Day Status Conference, May  
19 14, 2025 30-Day Calendar Call Conference, and the Jury Trial set to commence on June 23,  
20 2025.

21 Rules 229 – 246 of the Nevada Supreme Court Rules (hereinafter "NSCR") govern  
22 electronic media coverage of court proceedings.<sup>1</sup> The Court notes that NSCR 230(2) states the  
23 following:

24 [u]nder these rules, there is a presumption that all courtroom proceedings that are  
25 open to the public are subject to electronic coverage. A judge shall make  
26 particularized findings on the record when determining whether electronic  
coverage will be allowed at a proceeding, in whole or in part. Specifically, the  
judge shall consider the following factors:

27 (a) The impact of coverage upon the right of any party to a fair trial;

28 <sup>1</sup> These rules are encompassed in "Part IV. Rules on Electronic Coverage of Court Proceedings" of NSCR.

- 1 (b) The impact of coverage upon the right of privacy of any party or witness;  
2 (c) The impact of coverage upon the safety and well-being of any party,  
witness or juror;
- 3 (d) The likelihood that coverage would distract participants or would detract  
4 from the dignity of the proceedings;  
5 (e) The adequacy of the physical facilities of the court for coverage; and  
6 (f) Any other factor affecting the fair administration of justice.

6 Having considered the presumption that all courtroom proceedings that are open to the  
7 public are subject to electronic coverage set forth in NSCR 230(2) and the factors delineated in  
8 NSCR 230(2), the Court finds it appropriate to presumptively grant the Alex Falconi of Our  
9 Nevada Judge's written request for electronic media access – subject to revocation pursuant to  
10 NSCR 231.<sup>2</sup>

11 Based on the foregoing and good cause appearing,

12 IT IS HEREBY ORDERED that the request for electronic media access is presumptively  
13 granted in accordance with NSCR 229-246, inclusive, and is subject to revocation pursuant to  
14 NSCR 231. The Court has notified the parties that it will allow electronic media coverage. They  
15 have not made any objection.

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25 <sup>2</sup> NSCR 231 states the following:

- 26 1. If any news reporter fails to comply with the conditions prescribed by the judge, the judge may  
27 revoke that individual's permission to provide electronic coverage of the proceeding.  
28 2. This authorization may be revoked at any time without prior notice when, in the judge's  
discretion, it appears that electronic coverage of the judicial proceedings is interfering in any way  
with the proper administration of justice.  
3. If permission is revoked, the judge shall make particularized findings on the record.

1 IT IS HEREBY FURTHER ORDERED that, pursuant to NSCR 233,<sup>3</sup>the representative  
2 from Our Nevada Judges or any other media entity wanting to cover this case must coordinate  
3 pooling arrangements amongst themselves. Any pooling arrangements must be made prior to  
4 coverage. No more than one video camera and one still camera will be permitted at any time.

5 IT IS HEREBY FURTHER ORDERED that any electronic coverage equipment must be  
6 in place in the courtroom no later than fifteen (15) minutes before the start of any proceeding and  
7 may not be removed from the courtroom except during a natural break in proceedings. Both  
8 video and still cameras must be set up in an area designated by the Department 4 bailiff.

9 IT IS HEREBY FURTHER ORDERED that no electronic coverage equipment will be  
10 permitted in the courtroom during the jury selection process.

11 IT IS HEREBY FURTHER ORDERED that capturing images of members of the jury  
12 panel is prohibited.

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<sup>3</sup> NSCR 233 states the following:

- 15 1. Unless specifically authorized by the judge, no more than one television camera person and one  
16 still photographer should be taking pictures in the courtroom at any one time. If more than one  
17 news reporter has permission to participate, it is the responsibility of the news reporters to  
18 determine who will participate at any given time or, in the alternative, how they will pool their  
19 coverage. This understanding should be reached outside the courtroom and before the court  
20 session, and must be done without imposing on the court or court personnel. In the event that the  
21 news reporters cannot agree on who will participate, the judge shall select the pool camera that  
22 will be allowed to participate. Priority as the video pool camera should favor a media outlet that is  
23 televising an entire proceeding.
- 24 2. To be eligible to participate in a camera pool, a news reporter must apply prior to a court  
25 proceeding for appropriate permission pursuant to Rule 230(1).
- 26 3. Any pooling arrangements necessitated among the news reporters by these limitations on  
27 equipment and personnel shall be the sole responsibility of the news reporters and must be  
28 arranged prior to coverage without calling upon the court to mediate any dispute regarding  
appropriate personnel or equipment. Every effort must be made for the joint use of audio and  
photographic equipment within the courtroom.
4. If pooling arrangements are employed, such data or information is to be available equally to all  
pool participants in a generally accepted form or format, and the pool representative shall charge  
no fees or expenses to the other pool participants. The pool representative is not to be given any  
economic or coverage advantage over the other pool participants. If costs are associated with  
establishing media pool coverage, the costs should be shared among the pool participants.
5. News reporters utilizing video or still cameras shall not utilize equipment that produces  
distracting sounds. News reporters utilizing such equipment may have their permission to video or  
photograph the proceeding revoked.
6. News reporters shall not interrupt a court proceeding with a technical or equipment problem.

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IT IS HEREBY FURTHER ORDERED that electronic media coverage will not be permitted during the testimony of any juvenile witness.

DATED this 27 day of August, 2024.

Connie J. Steinheimer  
DISTRICT JUDGE

**CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE**

CASE NO. CV21-01595

I certify that I am an employee of the SECOND JUDICIAL DISTRICT COURT of the STATE OF NEVADA, COUNTY OF WASHOE; that on the 27 day of August, 2024, I filed the **ORDER REGARDING ELECTRONIC COVERAGE OF COURT PROCEEDINGS** with the Clerk of the Court.

I further certify that I transmitted a true and correct copy of the foregoing document by the method(s) noted below:

         **Personal delivery to the following: [NONE]**

**Electronically filed with the Clerk of the Court, using the eFlex system which constitutes effective service for all eFiled documents pursuant to the eFile User Agreement.**

ADAM HONEY, ESQ. for ANNE CARPENTER, GLENN RIGDON, STATE OF NEVADA, DEPT. OF PUBLIC SAFETY, HIGHWAY PATROL DIV.

BENJAMIN FIELD, ESQ. for STEPHEN LARA

JORDAN SMITH, ESQ. for STEPHEN LARA

BRIAN MORRIS, ESQ. for STEPHEN LARA

**Transmitted document to the Second Judicial District Court mailing system in a sealed envelope for postage and mailing by Washoe County using the United States Postal Service in Reno, Nevada:**

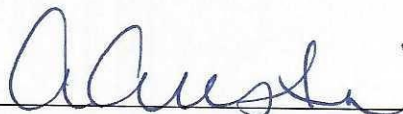
Via Email: [admin@ournevadajudges.com](mailto:admin@ournevadajudges.com)  
Alexander Falconi

         **Placed a true copy in a sealed envelope for service via:**

         Reno/Carson Messenger Service – [NONE]

         Federal Express or other overnight delivery service [NONE]

DATED this 27 day of August, 2024.

  
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