



**THOMAS G. BRUTON**

## **GUIDELINES FOR PROCEEDINGS**

*USA v. Liggins et al.*

*21 cr 618*

The following procedures will apply in connection with the jury trial *21 CR 618* scheduled to commence at 9:00 a.m. on October 10, 2023, in Courtroom 2541 at the Dirksen United States Courthouse located at 219 South Dearborn Street, Chicago, Illinois.

The trial will generally run Monday through Thursday, with proceedings generally beginning at 9:00 a.m.

- The Courthouse will open at 7:00 a.m. and close at 6:00 p.m.
- The U.S. Marshals Service will be in charge of providing security and may limit seating or access as necessary to ensure the safety of all present.
- Beginning at 8:30 a.m., all members of the media and public may line up in the public corridor outside Courtroom 2541.
- The first two rows of the north and south galleries will be reserved. [Credentialed members of the media](#) including sketch artists will be seated in the second row of the south end of the gallery and must be present at 8:45 a.m. in the hallway outside the courtroom.
- Courtroom 1944D will serve as an audio and video overflow courtroom. Only members of the media with [valid, unexpired court-recognized media credentials](#) may use laptops and smart phones, etc. to work on their stories in Courtroom 1944D but may not record, stream, or photograph while in the courtroom pursuant to Local Rule 83.1.
- No cell phones, laptops, tablets, smartwatches or other electronic devices will be allowed in Courtroom 2541 or Overflow Courtroom 1944D, with the credentialed media exception listed above. Lockboxes for cell phones will be available outside Courtroom 2541 and Overflow Courtroom 1944D on a first come, first served basis with limited availability. The lockboxes do not accommodate laptops or tablets, and those devices are not allowed in the courtroom. Only attorneys of record and their authorized staff will be allowed to bring their electronic devices into courtroom 2541.

- All other media and public will line up in the public corridor outside Courtroom 2541 no earlier than 8:30 a.m. Seating will be provided on a first come, first served basis in rows 3, 4, and 5 of the gallery.
- Recording, streaming, broadcasting, or photographing is prohibited pursuant to Local Rule 83.1.
- Photographing and video or audio recording or transmission of any court proceeding, including in an overflow room, is prohibited.
- No beverages or food are allowed in the courtroom.
- No conversations or disruptive gestures are permitted in the courtroom.
- No interviews or interview requests are permitted on the 25<sup>th</sup> floor, 19<sup>th</sup> floor, or any other floor of the Dirksen U.S. Courthouse other than in the lobby, pursuant to the August 23, 2018, [Joint Courthouse Security Order](#).
- Interviews may occur only in the designated media area of the lobby. [Only credentialed members of the media](#) may use the media area of the lobby. Filming of any security equipment or uniformed security personnel is strictly prohibited.
- Members of the media must display court media credentials on their person while in the courthouse.
- Credentialed members of the media will have lobby access until 6:00 p.m.
- The recording, streaming, or use of cameras is not allowed in the Courthouse, except in the media area in the lobby. Cameras, photography, and recording are prohibited in all areas of the Courthouse except in the media area of the lobby.
- The U.S. Marshals Service can restrict the entrance to the media area in the lobby should there arise a life safety concern with occupancy.
- The media is reminded that public safety must be considered, and any action that may cause an unsafe environment will be addressed by the U.S. Marshals Service. No member of the public or the media can block an entrance or exit to the Courthouse.
- Pursuant to LR 83.1, the designated Freedom of Speech and Expression area is the Federal Plaza, located at the southwest corner of Adams and Dearborn Streets. The General Services Administration maintains this area and may require special permitting. Soliciting and loitering within the court environs is prohibited. The unapproved congregating of groups or the causing of a disturbance or nuisance within or on the curtilage of the courthouses of this Court is

prohibited. Demonstrating, protesting, picketing or parading outside of the courthouses of this Court is prohibited only when such action obstructs or impedes the orderly administration of justice.

- Failure to comply with these rules will result in removal from the courtroom and courthouse. Any violation of a court order will be addressed.

**Please note that during jury selection the following applies for Courtroom 2541:**

- public and media seating will be available in the last three rows of the north gallery only on a first come, first served basis.
- on October 10, court proceedings may be limited as potential jurors will be dismissed for the day after completion of their questionnaires.

**Contact:** Additional information, regulations, and prohibitions are on the Court's website, [www.ilnd.uscourts.gov](http://www.ilnd.uscourts.gov), and posted in the Courthouse. If you have any questions regarding the guidelines, please contact Julie Hodek, Public Information Officer, at [julie\\_hodek@ilnd.uscourts.gov](mailto:julie_hodek@ilnd.uscourts.gov)