



THOMAS G. BRUTON

GUIDELINES FOR PROCEEDINGS

USA v. Spann et al

17 CR 611

The following procedures will apply in connection with the jury trial in *17 CR 611* scheduled to commence at 9 a.m. on Tuesday, November 4, 2025, in Courtroom 1441 at the Dirksen United States Courthouse located at 219 South Dearborn Street, Chicago, Illinois.

- The Courthouse will open at 7:00 a.m. and close at 6:00 p.m.
- The U.S. Marshals Service oversees security and may limit seating or access as necessary to ensure the safety of all present.
- Starting on Tuesday, November 4, 2025, Courtroom 1838 will be used for all members of the media and the public to view and hear the proceedings. During voir dire, seating in courtroom 1441 will be limited to just jurors and the parties. An overflow courtroom will be available for the members of the media and public during voir dire.
- Beginning at 8:30 a.m., on Tuesday, November 4, 2025, all members of the media and public may line up in the public corridor outside Courtroom 1838.
- Once jury selection has been completed, gallery seating will be available in courtroom 1441 beginning at 8:30 a.m., all members of the media and public may line up in the public corridor outside Courtroom 1441.
- Once jury selection has been completed, a row of seating in courtroom 1441 is reserved for news organizations that have reporters assigned to the courthouse on a full-time basis: Bloomberg News, Chicago Daily Law Bulletin, Chicago Sun-Times, Chicago Tribune, Law360, and Reuters. Each organization is allowed one reserved seat in this row and must be present at least 15 minutes prior to the start of proceedings in the public corridor outside courtroom 1441. Two sketch artists will also have seating in this row and must be present at least 15 minutes prior to the start of proceedings in the public corridor outside courtroom 1441. Members of the media in this row will be asked to present [valid, unexpired court-recognized media credentials](#) and have them on display at all times.

- No cell phones, laptops, or other electronic devices will be allowed in Courtroom 1441 except for attorneys representing parties in this case and their support staff and members of the media displaying [valid, unexpired court-recognized media credentials](#).
- Lockboxes for cell phones will be available outside Courtroom 1441 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.
- During the trial, all other media and members of the public will line up in the public corridor outside Courtroom 1441 no earlier than 8:30 a.m. Seating will be provided on a first-come, first-served basis.
- 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 14th 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.
- Failure to comply with these rules will result in removal from the courtroom and courthouse. Any violation of a court order will be addressed.

Note regarding jury selection:

- During jury selection, Courtroom 1441 will be reserved for potential jurors. Members of the media and the public will be able to view and listen to the proceedings in the overflow courtroom 1838. No cell phones, laptops, or other electronic devices will be allowed in overflow courtroom 1838 except for attorneys representing parties in this case and their support staff and members of the media displaying [valid, unexpired court-recognized media credentials](#). Lockboxes for cell phones will be available outside Courtroom 1838 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.

Contact: Additional information, regulations, and prohibitions are on the Court's website, 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