

STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA)	THE COURT OF GENERAL SESSIONS
)	THIRTEENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT
COUNTY OF GREENVILLE)	
)	
EX PARTE: ROBERT M. ARIAIL, SOLICITOR)	
THIRTEENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT)	<u>ORDER</u>
)	
In Re: Video Conferencing)	
_____)	

This matter is before the Court at the request of the Office of the Thirteenth Circuit Solicitor for the purpose of the approval of a videoconferencing arrangement between the Courthouse and the Law Enforcement Center in Greenville, South Carolina. The initial purpose of the arrangement is to conduct bond hearings for incarcerated defendants thereby eliminating the need for transfer of defendants to the Courthouse from the Law Enforcement Center. This arrangement should likewise facilitate a more expeditious handling of those cases which will ensure a more timely disposition of matters involving incarcerated defendants. Further, it is anticipated that the arrangement could be expanded to include Preliminary Hearings, Motions, guilty pleas and other similar matters.

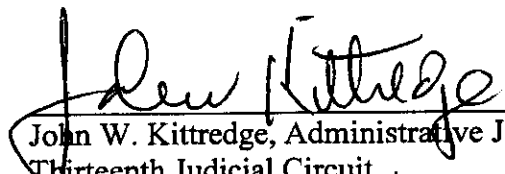
The Court is informed that the arrangement includes all and more of the equipment required as set forth in the Order of the Supreme Court dated March 7, 1994 concerning the implementation of videoconferencing for these same purposes in Magistrate Courts. The plan proposed by the Solicitor's Office includes the following:

1. The establishment of private dedicated space in the Law Enforcement Center where the defendant and/or his attorney will be located during any proceeding.
2. Wiring of all 8 courtrooms in the Courthouse.
3. The acquisition of portable equipment set up for the courtroom consisting of the following:
 - (a) Video cameras which are voice activated and each cover a 180 degree range of space thus allowing full coverage of the entire courtroom;
 - (b) 2 monitors in the courtroom, one to monitor the facility at the Law Enforcement Center and the other to display documents being presented in the courtroom;


- (c) A visual presenter to display documents on the monitor.
4. One private telephone line from the Law Enforcement Center to a small conference room adjacent to each of the courtrooms.
 5. A dedicated fax line between the Law Enforcement Center and each courtroom.
 6. Two fax machines, one at the Law Enforcement Center and one in the courtroom.
 7. A telephone in the Law Enforcement Center facility.
 8. One camera and one monitor in the Law Enforcement Center facility for the purpose of monitoring the proceedings in the courtroom and transmitting the proceedings from the Law Enforcement Center to the courtroom.

This Court finds that such proposed plan, while both innovative and efficient, protects all of the rights of the defendant at this critical state in the legal proceedings. Therefore, this Court, as Administrative Judge for the Thirteenth Judicial Circuit, approves and endorses the proposed plan and submits same to the South Carolina Supreme Court for endorsement.

IT IS SO ORDERED.


John W. Kittredge, Administrative Judge
Thirteenth Judicial Circuit 11-10-00

I So Move:


Robert M. Ariail
Solicitor, Thirteenth Judicial Circuit

to Hon. Ariail



South Carolina Court Administration
South Carolina Supreme Court
Columbia, South Carolina

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November 29, 2000

The Honorable John W. Kittredge
Circuit Court Judge
Greenville County Courthouse
Suite 214, 305 East North Street
Greenville, South Carolina 29601

Re: Video Conferencing in Greenville County

Dear Judge Kittredge:

Chief Justice Jean Hofer Toal has approved your proposed order for video conferencing of bond hearings in Greenville County. A copy of this order will be filed for future reference at Court Administration.

We appreciate your support of Solicitor Ariail's proposal, and your initiative in using technology for selected judicial proceedings. Your suggestion concerning the use of video conferencing in juvenile detention hearings will be forwarded to the Family Court Judges Advisory Committee for its review and comment to the Chief Justice. If I can be of any assistance to you in this video conferencing project, or with any other matter, please feel free to contact me, or any staff member.

Sincerely,

Rosalyn Frierson
Rosalyn W. Frierson

cc: The Honorable Jean H. Toal