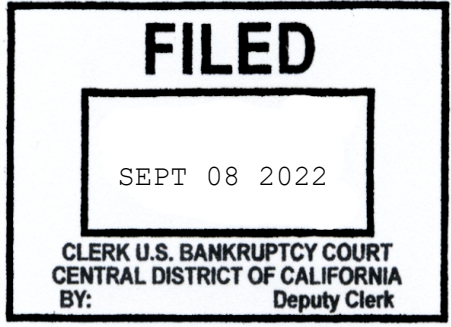


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**UNITED STATES BANKRUPTCY COURT
CENTRAL DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA**

**IN RE: PROHIBITION ON
BROADCASTING, TELEVISION,
RECORDING, AND PHOTOGRAPHING
BANKRUPTCY COURT PROCEEDINGS,
INCLUDING HEARINGS CONDUCTED
BY REMOTE TRANSMISSION**

GENERAL ORDER 22-01

WHEREAS:

1. The Judicial Conference of the United States is the governing body of the United States Courts with respect to the policies of administration of justice in the federal courts.
2. The policy of the Judicial Conference of the United States does not allow either civil or criminal courtroom proceedings in the federal courts to be broadcast, televised, recorded, or photographed for the purpose of public dissemination.
3. This policy is applicable to all United States district and appellate courts, including bankruptcy courts, which are units of the district courts.
4. Except with respect to ceremonial proceedings and appellate proceedings, the Judicial Conference policy does not authorize the contemporaneous

1 photographing, recording, or broadcasting of proceedings from the courtroom
2 to the public beyond the courthouse walls.

3 5. Following a three-year experiment with cameras in the courtroom, the Judicial
4 Conference concluded that the intimidating effect of cameras on some
5 witnesses and jurors was cause for concern. The Judicial Conference in its
6 last official policy pronouncement stated that it remains of the view that it is
7 not appropriate to allow non-ceremonial court proceedings to be the subject
8 of media broadcasting. Accordingly, the Judicial Conference policy remains
9 unchanged and does not permit the taking of photographs, or radio
10 or television coverage of court proceedings in the United States courts,
11 including the bankruptcy courts.

12 6. Pursuant to the Judicial Conference policy, the United States Bankruptcy
13 Court for the Central District of California has adopted Local Bankruptcy
14 Rule 5073-1, which generally provides that “when the court is in session,
15 the use of any form, means, or manner of radio or television broadcasting
16 and the taking or making of photographs, motion pictures, video, or sound
17 recordings is prohibited in: (1) any and all courtrooms occupied by any judge;
18 (2) any and all chambers assigned to any judge; (3) any and all areas
19 used by the clerk and court staff; (4) any garage or parking facility reserved
20 for the judges or their staff; and (5) all hallways and public areas adjacent
21 to the above-specified locations.”

22 7. During the public health emergency from the COVID-19 pandemic the
23 Judicial Conference has allowed federal courts to conduct court hearings
24 by remote transmission through videoconferencing and telephone
25 conferencing. Nevertheless, the existing Judicial Conference policy
26 prohibiting federal court proceedings from being broadcast, televised,
27 recorded, or photographed for the purpose of public dissemination remain
28 in effect.

1 8. The United States Bankruptcy Court for the Central District of California
2 during the COVID-19 pandemic public health emergency, has authorized
3 and has conducted hearings before the Court by remote transmission
4 through videoconferencing and telephone conferencing, and has permitted
5 hearing participants to appear by remote means as set forth in [General Order](#)
6 [21-05](#) and preceding general orders.

7 9. Local Bankruptcy Rule 5073-1, however, does not expressly refer to
8 hearings before the United States Bankruptcy Court for the Central District
9 of California conducted by remote transmission, and therefore, the Court
10 deems it necessary to adopt this General Order to reconcile [General Order](#)
11 [21-05](#) with Local Rule 5073-1, to effectuate the policy of the Judicial
12 Conference and to give fair notice to all litigants before the court and the
13 public. Consequently,

14 **IT IS HEREBY ORDERED:**

15 Photographing, recording, broadcasting, or televising any part of any court
16 proceeding before the United States Bankruptcy Court for the Central District of
17 California from a location outside its courthouses is prohibited, including in conjunction
18 with any appearance made by telephone or videoconference.

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20 DATED: September 8, 2022

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23 THEODOR C. ALBERT
24 Chief Judge
25 United States Bankruptcy Court
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