

News Release



Cable-Satellite Public Affairs Network

400 North Capitol Street N.W., Suite 650
Washington, D.C. 20001
(202) 737-3220

Release: August 24, 1990

Contact: Rayne Pollack
Kristin Wennberg
(202) 737-3220

C-SPAN RESPONSE TO PECKHAM COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION

ON CAMERAS IN THE FEDERAL COURTS

Note: Cable Network To Cover U.S. Military Courts of Appeals Live
on August 29.

FRIDAY, AUGUST 24, 1990--C-SPAN is encouraged by the Peckham Committee's recommendation that the federal court system experiment with cameras in the courtroom. We hope and expect that the U.S. Judicial Conference will approve the plan during its September 12 meeting as an important first step in making the federal courts accessible to the public via television.

C-SPAN stands ready to offer technical assistance in planning dignified and unobtrusive coverage of federal court proceedings. As the experiment develops, C-SPAN will televise the entirety of select court proceedings to its national cable television audience.

Long an advocate of televised federal courts--including the Supreme Court--C-SPAN was the first network to televise a federal court proceeding. And, on WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 29, C-SPAN will demonstrate its commitment to televising the federal courts by returning to the U.S. COURT OF MILITARY APPEALS for LIVE COVERAGE of a proceeding determining the constitutionality of the military death penalty. (As the only federal court not covered by the rules of the U.S. Judicial Conference, the Military Court of Appeals may make its own decision regarding televised proceedings.)

###

Some TV Coverage Of Courts Backed

Panel Urges 3-Year Experiment Opening Civil Cases to Cameras

By Ruth Marcus
Washington Post Staff Writer

A committee of federal judges has recommended a three-year experimental program that would for the first time allow television coverage of federal court proceedings.

The committee, voting 4 to 1, endorsed a trial program that would open civil cases in the federal courts to television cameras, radio broadcasts and still photographers. The recommendation will be voted on next month by the policy-making body of the federal judiciary, the 27-member Judicial Conference of the United States.

Although 44 states permit cameras in their courts, the federal judiciary has long been hostile to the idea, rejecting entreaties from broadcasters since 1983 that they be allowed to televise court proceedings.

The committee recommendation, released yesterday, reiterated that the judges remain "unpersuaded that it would be appropriate to drop all restrictions" on broadcast coverage.

But the committee said it believed a "limited experiment" was justified in which television coverage would be tried by one or two appeals courts and up to six district courts.

It cited a May 7, 1990, letter from Chief Justice William H. Rehnquist, who also serves as chairman of the Judicial Conference, to Rep. Robert W. Kastenmeier (D-Wis.), a strong proponent of cameras in the courts, that he was "by no means averse to the idea" of an experimental program.

Timothy B. Dyk, a Washington lawyer who has been pushing to open federal courtrooms on behalf of a number of news media organizations, welcomed the committee recommendation. "Finally, there is real movement here," he said. "I think it reflects a real change in attitudes toward camera coverage, a real willingness to consider this and to put camera coverage on a par with other kinds of journalism."

Kastenmeier, who chairs a House Judiciary subcommittee on courts, also hailed the action. "The nation is on the brink of a major victory for openness in the federal court system," he said.

The experiment would apply only to civil cases. The Federal Rules of Criminal Procedure prohibit cameras in criminal cases.

The committee judges who favored the program are Senior U.S. District Judge Robert F. Peckham of San Francisco, appeals court Judge John P. Moore of Denver, District Judge Sam C. Pointer Jr. of Birmingham, and appeals court Judge Walter K. Stapleton of Wilmington, Del. District Judge James C. Cacheris of Alexandria opposed it.

The Washin

AN INDEPENDENT

Oil Prices and

WHILE AMERICANS have shown themselves ready to send troops at enormous cost to defend the Saudi oil fields, they remain—so far—adamantly unwilling to cut oil consumption here at home. Their spokesman in these matters, President Bush, was right to send the troops and wrong to dance away from the question of gasoline conservation. But he knows his fellow citizens well. He senses that they are with him on the first but would resist him on the second. It's a curious mixture of values.

Someone observed at his press conference in Maine on Wednesday that Bush hadn't called upon Americans to conserve energy. "I call upon Americans to conserve," he amiably replied. But he went on to say that he was trying not to "panic" people. That's an interesting commentary on the national state of mind. The president has sent more than 35,000 troops to the Persian Gulf and has begun to call up the reserves, but he fears that a warning to cut gasoline use would set off a public panic.

At the same press conference he was asked whether his call to conservation would extend as far as his own use of his motorboat, which is reputed to use 25 gallons of fuel an hour. Not at all, he responded. He doesn't want to interfere with the recreation industry. It's August, after all, and American holidays run on gasoline.

How much of a shortage should the United States brace itself for? Since June the price of a gallon of crude oil has doubled, from about 38

Judgment on

FOR THE S&L financier Charles H. Keating Jr., the decision in the Lincoln case is a stunning defeat. For the public, the decision is an unprecedented description of the looting—the term is the judge's—of a big S&L.

Mr. Keating is the chairman of the Arizona real estate firm that owned Lincoln Savings and Loan, seized last year by the federal regulators on grounds that it was being run unsafely. In a counterattack, Mr. Keating brought suit to force the authorities to return control of Lincoln to him. The judge who heard the case, Stanley Sporkin, is a former chief of enforcement of the Securities and Exchange Commission and a man who knows a great deal about financial manipulation. After hearings over six months, the judge has now found that the regulators were justified in every respect. He outlines a succession of methods by which Mr. Keating's

Some TV Coverage Of Courts Backed

Panel Urges 3-Year Experiment Opening Civil Cases to Cameras

By Ruth Marcus
Washington Post Staff Writer

A committee of federal judges has recommended a three-year experimental program that would for the first time allow television coverage of federal court proceedings.

The committee, voting 4 to 1, endorsed a trial program that would open civil cases in the federal courts to television cameras, radio broadcasts and still photographers. The recommendation will be voted on next month by the policy-making body of the federal judiciary, the 27-member Judicial Conference of the United States.

Although 44 states permit cameras in their courts, the federal judiciary has long been hostile to the idea, rejecting entreaties from broadcasters since 1983 that they be allowed to televise court proceedings.

The committee recommendation, released yesterday, reiterated that the judges remain "unpersuaded that it would be appropriate to drop all restrictions" on broadcast coverage.

But the committee said it believed a "limited experiment" was justified in which television coverage would be tried by one or two appeals courts and up to six district courts.

It cited a May 7, 1990, letter from Chief Justice William H. Rehnquist, who also serves as chairman of the Judicial Conference, to Rep. Robert W. Kastenmeier (D-Wis.), a strong proponent of cameras in the courts, that he was "by no means averse to the idea" of an experimental program.

Timothy B. Dyk, a Washington lawyer who has been pushing to open federal courtrooms on behalf of a number of news media organizations, welcomed the committee recommendation. "Finally, there is real movement here," he said. "I think it reflects a real change in attitudes toward camera coverage, a real willingness to consider this and to put camera coverage on a par with other kinds of journalism."

Kastenmeier, who chairs a House Judiciary subcommittee on courts, also hailed the action. "The nation is on the brink of a major victory for openness in the federal court system," he said.

The experiment would apply only to civil cases. The Federal Rules of Criminal Procedure prohibit cameras in criminal cases.

The committee judges who favored the program are Senior U.S. District Judge Robert F. Peckham of San Francisco, appeals court Judge John P. Moore of Denver, District Judge Sam C. Pointer Jr. of Birmingham, and appeals court Judge Walter K. Stapleton of Wilmington, Del. District Judge James C. Cacheris of Alexandria opposed it.

The Washington

AN INDEPENDENT

Oil Prices and

WHILE AMERICANS have shown themselves ready to send troops at enormous cost to defend the Saudi oil fields, they remain—so far—adamantly unwilling to cut oil consumption here at home. Their spokesman in these matters, President Bush, was right to send the troops and wrong to dance away from the question of gasoline conservation. But he knows his fellow citizens well. He senses that they are with him on the first but would resist him on the second. It's a curious mixture of values.

Someone observed at his press conference in Maine on Wednesday that Bush hadn't called upon Americans to conserve energy. "I call upon Americans to conserve," he amiably replied. But he went on to say that he was trying not to "panic" people. That's an interesting commentary on the national state of mind. The president has sent more than 35,000 troops to the Persian Gulf and has begun to call up the reserves, but he fears that a warning to cut gasoline use would set off a public panic.

At the same press conference he was asked whether his call to conservation would extend as far as his own use of his motorboat, which is reputed to use 25 gallons of fuel an hour. Not at all, he responded. He doesn't want to interfere with the recreation industry. It's August, after all, and American holidays run on gasoline.

How much of a shortage should the United States brace itself for? Since June the price of a gallon of crude oil has doubled, from about 38

Judgment on

FOR THE S&L financier Charles H. Keating Jr., the decision in the Lincoln case is a stunning defeat. For the public, the decision is an unprecedented description of the looting—the term is the judge's—of a big S&L.

Mr. Keating is the chairman of the Arizona real estate firm that owned Lincoln Savings and Loan, seized last year by the federal regulators on grounds that it was being run unsafely. In a counterattack, Mr. Keating brought suit to force the authorities to return control of Lincoln to him. The judge who heard the case, Stanley Sporkin, is a former chief of enforcement of the Securities and Exchange Commission and a man who knows a great deal about financial manipulation. After hearings over six months, the judge has now found that the regulators were justified in every respect. He outlines a succession of

which Mr. Keating's parent company

Nets Welcome Federal Court TV Camera Test

By ALAN GOLDSAND

A call by a five-judge panel appointed by Chief Justice William H. Rehnquist to test the use of radio, television and still cameras in civil proceedings in Federal courts was welcomed by the cable industry's two fledgling courtroom networks last week.

The recommendation, which would reverse one made last year, will be considered by a meeting of the United States Judicial Conference on Sept. 12. If it is approved as expected, the stage will be set for a three-year experiment, beginning June 1, 1991, allowing one unobtrusive TV camera and one still camera at trials, subject to the discretion of the presiding judge.

The recommendation comes as cable's two courtroom ventures are in the midst of launch preparations. Rainbow Programming Holdings' In Court

Television network is readying for a November debut, and the American Courtroom Network venture of Time Warner Inc.'s American Lawyer Media L.P. plans to come on-stream in early 1991.

Both see the three-year experiment as a needed extension of the decision already made by 44 states to allow TV coverage in their courtrooms.

Steven Brill, president of American Lawyer Media

L.P. said: "The opportunity to also bring coverage of federal courts into people's homes can only continue to build public understanding and awareness of the real work of the judiciary."

Dennis Patton, vice president and general manager of In Court Television, said the recommendation "allows us to broaden the opportunities we have for trial coverage across the country."

"We're very enthusiastic about it because it really

supports the notion of what In Court Television is all about — demystifying the public about what really goes on in the courtroom," he stated.

Patton said his organization has been preparing for federal court coverage, in anticipation of such a decision. For example, he said, In Court Television was visibly present at a recent American Bar Association convention in Chicago last month, taping sessions on

various national issues such as gun control and the right to die that are likely to be subjects of future federal court coverage.

"From our coverage of the ABA sessions, we put together original footage for programming on these issues, Patton said.

Both networks say they will await the decision of the Judicial Conference and further details before making specific plans for federal court coverage. ■

'Maximum Speed' Slowed by Lottery Charges

By RACHEL W. THOMPSON

MTV's "Maximum Speed" sweepstakes promotion was sidetracked by a lawsuit filed last week in a California state court that charged the company with using a 900 number to run a lottery. Pacific Bell Telephone and American Telephone & Telegraph Corp. were also named as defendants.

Rita Boyle, on behalf of the public, charged in San Mateo Superior Court that

promotions said that while 900 numbers hardly constitute a profit center, they may stretch out a marketing budget significantly by helping defer the costs of production and prizes.

The charge for the MTV phone call was 90 cents for the first minute, which was split with the two phone companies. In contrast, the cost of a stamp is 25 cents. The Maximum Speed winner got to attend this past weekend's Denver Grand Prix.

An MTV Networks spokesman said he was not aware of the lawsuit, but added, "We do run a lot of contests. We've run contests since the birth of MTV."

In fact, MTV became the target of lottery charges in New Jersey last summer following a sweepstakes focusing on a fleet of 36 Corvettes. A motion by MTV to dismiss the federal district court case is still pending.

VH-1 also frequently runs contests, and Home Box Of-

fice Inc. is currently using an on-air 900 number to promote Cinemax's 10th anniversary "End of the Decade" sweepstakes. The grand prize in that contest is a Zenith Home Entertainment Center. The call costs \$1 for the first minute and 50 cents for each additional minutes, according to an HBO spokesman.

A New York City attorney whose specialty is advising corporations in the area of promotional design said

there's very little law on the subject, but that if notice of the mailing address was so brief in this case as to be effectively absent, the plaintiff "might have a good point."

But he also indicated that a court might look for evidence that the alleged oversight was intentional and that the promoter hoped to profit from it. The broadcast networks, he said, are extremely wary of this type of advertising. ■

**ID.
FROM
PRICE.**

The Clone

Plan to Put TV Cameras in Federal Courts Gains Ground

By ANN HAGEDORN
And AMY DOCKSER MARCUS

Staff Reporters of THE WALL STREET JOURNAL

Federal courts may soon follow most state courts in opening their doors to the scrutiny of television viewers.

A committee of federal judges has issued a report recommending that cameras be allowed in federal courtrooms on an experimental basis. The plan, which requires the approval of the U.S. Judicial Conference, would allow cameras into civil proceedings in six district courts and two appeals courts for three years. The courts would participate on a volunteer basis beginning July 1, 1991.

Timothy Dyk, a Washington attorney who represents a coalition of news organizations including the National Association of Broadcasters, C-Span and several newspapers, has been trying to persuade the U.S. Judicial Conference to permit cameras and other broadcast equipment into federal courtrooms for nearly seven years. The Conference is headed by Chief Justice William Rehnquist and sets rules for all nonmilitary federal courts except the Supreme Court.

The Judicial Conference will decide whether to authorize the plan at its September session. Advocates believe that the experiment has a good chance of getting approval. In a May 7, 1990, letter to U.S. Rep. Robert W. Kastenmeier, a proponent of cameras in the courts, Chief Justice Rehnquist wrote, "I am by no means averse to the idea of the sort of experiment with television and radio coverage in federal courts which you describe."

Proponents of cameras in the courts have long argued that the benefits include public education and the incentive for courts under the watchful eye of the public to work more efficiently. They say that modern cameras and state-of-the-art lighting and sound equipment permits broadcasters to work without being intrusive.

"The benefit is that it takes the mystique and elitism out of the law and puts the law on a level of everyman," said James Goodale, a New York attorney and media specialist.

According to Mr. Dyk, 45 states allow cameras in their courts. "The federal courts are about to enter the electronic age," he said. "What having cameras means in part is that the public will have greater confidence in the judicial system by seeing how it works."

Opponents fear that lights, cameras and microphones might disrupt courtroom proceedings. They also worry that the broadcast media might misinterpret or trivialize legal issues and that jurors and witnesses might alter their performance if they are televised.

The committee that proposed the plan, the Ad Hoc Committee on Cameras in the Courtroom, recommended against opening the courts to cameras last fall. The committee's chairman, U.S. District Judge Robert Peckham, of San Francisco, couldn't be reached for comment.

Two people familiar with the decision said that lobbying efforts by Steven Brill, president of the American Lawyer Media Limited Partnership, in which Time Warner Inc. is a limited partner, may have influenced the committee to change its position. Mr. Brill is planning to launch a 24-hour cable channel primarily devoted to live trial coverage.

"The argument is basic," said Mr. Brill. "If there's one branch of government that is meant to be public, it's the courts. ... The strength of a democracy is based on people knowing what's going on."

LEGAL BEAT



ve Properties & Estates



s of Success

Yacht Basin on Hilton Head Island, whose members enjoy splendid accommodations and an array of the island's finest amenities including golf and tennis. Membership inquiries invited.

HARBOUR TOWN YACHT CLUB

A Private Equity Club

(803) 671-5551 / Toll-Free (800) 635-8410

multi-ownership interests. J. David Everett, Broker-In-Charge.



COAST RANCH

bordering Federal and State Preserves with two miles of ocean frontage. Minutes from Gold Beach Resort with airport. Property may be subdivided. Incomparable investment opportunity at \$2,500./acre.

• GOLD BEACH, OREGON 97444 • (503) 247-6825

SHELTER ISLAND NEW YORK 4 B.R. CONTEMPORARY

1.8 acre with 10-mile views. 300 ft.

Bruce Collins' Draft Statement
in response to Peckham Cmte Report

C-SPAN STATEMENT RE PECKHAM COMMITTEE REPORT

C-SPAN is encouraged by the Peckham Committee's recommendation that the federal court system experiment with television cameras in its courtrooms. The recommendation is an important first step for the federal judiciary toward making its proceedings accessible to the public through televised coverage, as 44 state court systems have done for years.

C-SPAN hopes and expects that the experiment will be approved. As soon as we know which courts will be participating, we will offer any technical assistance they will accept in planning dignified and unobtrusive coverage of their proceedings--a skill C-SPAN has developed in over a decade of covering public affairs events. As the experiment develops, C-SPAN will also televise the entirety of selected court proceedings to a national cable television audience.

C-SPAN has long been an advocate of televised federal courts, including the U.S. Supreme Court, and was the first television network to actually cover a federal court proceeding. That historic coverage was of an oral argument before the U.S. Court of Military Appeals, a federal court that has not been subject to the ban on cameras. In _____ C-SPAN promised to Chief Justice William Rehnquist (ap?) that it would televise every hour of oral argument before the Supreme Court should tv cameras be permitted there. We repeat that promise here as the wave toward

cameras in the federal courts seems to progress with this
recommendation.

M E M O R A N D U M

TO: Cameras Group
FROM: Timothy B. Dyk
 Barbara McDowell
RE: Peckham Committee Report
DATE: August 23, 1990

We have received an advance copy of the report to be officially issued tomorrow by the Peckham Committee, which proposes a three-year cameras experiment in the federal district and appellate courts. The report recommends that the experiment be conducted in up to two courts of appeals and up to six district courts. The experiment would be limited to courts that agree to participate.

The Committee has drafted a set of rules for the pilot program. These rules would limit camera coverage, at both the trial and appellate levels, to civil proceedings. The rules would allow one television camera in district courts and two television cameras in appellate courts. One still camera would be allowed in both trial and appellate proceedings. The media would be required to give "reasonable advance notice" of plans to use cameras at a particular proceeding. The rules provide that the presiding judge could "refuse, limit or terminate media coverage" of all or portions of a proceeding "in the interests of justice," to "assure the orderly conduct

of the proceedings," or for other reasons that he or she considers "necessary or appropriate."

The Peckham Committee's recommendations will now be reviewed by the Judicial Conference, which is scheduled to meet September 12, 1990.

If you would like to receive the full eight-page report and 13-page attachments by fax, please call Barbara McDowell at (202) 879-5482 by the end of the day. Otherwise, we will send these materials to you by regular mail.

a0450-----

r w PM-Courts-Cameras 08-24 0316

^PM-Courts-Cameras,290<

^Committee Recommends Federal Courts Open to Cameras and Microphones<

^By RICHARD CARELLI

^Associated Press Writer

WASHINGTON (AP) — Federal courts may open their doors just a crack to radio, television and photographic coverage.

A five-judge committee of the policy-making U.S. Judicial Conference will recommend an experiment in lifting the longtime ban on such coverage when it meets next month, conference spokesman David Sellers said Thursday.

"What the five-judge committee will recommend is a three-year experiment," Sellers said. "The conference could accept, amend, reject or merely table the recommendation."

The experiment, if approved, would be limited to two federal appeals courts and six federal trial courts. The committee, headed by U.S. District Judge Robert Peckham of San Francisco, is not recommending which courts be selected for the experiment.

Civil — but not criminal — proceedings could be open to TV cameras and other coverage now barred by federal court rules, Sellers said.

Judges would have broad discretion to bar such coverage in any particular case, he said.

Sellers said the committee's recommendation would entail no government expense. "Any expense would be borne by the news media," he said.

Peckham's committee is recommending that the experiment begin in July 1991.

The Judicial Conference is composed of 27 federal judges, and is headed by Chief Justice William H. Rehnquist. The conference has been asked repeatedly in recent years by news media representatives to open federal courts to TV, radio and photographic coverage.

Peckham's committee told the conference last year that it lacked sufficient information to make any recommendation for changing the longtime ban.

Most state courts allow some type of electronic or photographic coverage of civil and criminal proceedings.

AP-DS-08-24-90 0221EDT<

Calls ASAP -

yes

- ✓ ~~B~~-Casting
- ✓ Cable World
- ✓ AP - Carelli
- ✓ UPI - ask who wrote
- ✓ Gannett News Service - Tony Mauro
- Nat'l Journal
- ✓ ○ Nat'l Public Radio - All Thing Considered
- Time
- ✓ ○ Newsweek
- ✓ ○ U.S. News
- Cong. Quarterly
- Mutual Radio
- ✓ ○ Legal Times

doing a story on the
Peckham Committee's
Vote ^{yesterday} ~~on~~ ^{to recommend} cameras in the
Federal Court? on experimental basis
C-SPAN is readying
a statement. May
we fax it over to you.

fax
782-6512

✓ Mike Foarol Tack Nail
Fax to: 293.3435
TB insect

Call 293.3435

Group of 2000 in the
Tack Nail Committee
Vote in favor of the
Tack Nail Committee
Group of 2000 in the
Tack Nail Committee
Vote in favor of the
Tack Nail Committee

Mike Foarol
Tack Nail
Committee

✓ *call*
Mr. Richard Carelli
Supreme Court Reporter
ASSOCIATED PRESS
2021 K St., NW #606
Washington, DC 20006
PR-Legal

*Fax +
phone cost*

~~Merrill Hartson~~
~~Justice Reporter~~
~~ASSOCIATED PRESS~~
~~2021 K Street, NW #606~~
~~Washington, DC 20006~~
~~PR-Legal~~

✓
Mr. Lyle Denniston
Supreme Court Reporter
BALTIMORE SUN
1627 K Street, NW #1100
Washington, DC 20006
PR-Legal

Ms. Rita Braver
Supreme Court Reporter
CBS News
2020 M Street, NW
Washington, D.C. 20036
PR-Legal

Mr. Glen Elsasser
Supreme Court Reporter
CHICAGO TRIBUNE
1615 L Street, NW #300
Washington, DC 20036
PR-Legal

Mr. Michael Briggs
Supreme Court Reporter
CHICAGO SUN TIMES
1112 National Press Building
Washington, DC 20045
PR-Legal

✓ *call*
Joan Biskupic
Legal Reporter
CONGRESSIONAL QUARTERLY
1414 22nd Street, NW
Washington, DC 20037
PR-Legal

Mr. Steve McGonigle
Legal Reporter
DALLAS MORNING NEWS
1012 National Press Building
Washington, DC 20045
PR-Legal

Mr. Robert LaRussa
Supreme Court Reporter
FAIRCHILD PUBLICATIONS
1333 H Street, NW #570
Washington, DC 20005
PR-Legal

✓
Mr. Anthony Mauro
Legal Reporter
GANNETT NEWS SERVICE
P.O. Box 7858
Washington, DC 20044
PR-Legal

*Denise Martin
Ex. Editor
American Lawyer
600 2nd Ave
NY 10016*

Mr. Aaron Epstein
Supreme Court Reporter
KNIGHT-RIDDER NEWSPAPERS
700 National Press Bldg.
Washington, D.C. 20045
PR-Legal

*Legal Times
Eric Effron
Editor*

✓
Ms. Debra Levy
Supreme Court Reporter
LEGAL TIMES
1730 M Street, NW #803
Washington, D.C. 20036
PR-Legal

✓
Mr. Ron Ostrow
Justice Reporter
LOS ANGELES TIMES
1875 Eye Street, NW #1100
Washington, DC 20006
PR-Legal

Mr. Charles Roberts
Bureau Chief
LOS ANGELES DAILY JOURNAL
1128 National Press Building
Washington, DC 20045
PR-Legal

Mr. David Savage
Supreme Court Reporter
LOS ANGELES TIMES
1875 Eye Street, NW #1100
Washington, DC 20006
PR-Legal

✓
Ms. Bonnie Erbe
Supreme Court Reporter
MUTUAL RADIO
1755 S. Jefferson Davis Hwy
Arlington, VA 22202
PR-Legal

✓
Mr. John Moore
Legal Reporter
NATIONAL JOURNAL
1730 M Street, NW
Washington, DC 20036

✓
Ms. Nina Totenberg
Legal Affairs Correspondent
NATIONAL PUBLIC RADIO
2025 M Street, NW
Washington, DC 20036
PR-Legal

✓ Lisa Markoff
Law School Editor
NATIONAL LAW JOURNAL
111 8th Avenue
New York, New York 10011
PR-Legal

✓ Ms. Leslie Maitland-Werner
Legal Reporter
NEW YORK TIMES
1627 Eye Street, NW
Washington, DC 20006
PR-Legal

Mr. Jack Landau
Legal Reporter
NEWHOUSE NEWS SERVICE
2000 Pennsylvania Ave., NW #3900
Washington, DC 20006
PR-Legal

✓ Mr. Jim Vicini
Justice Reporter
REUTERS
1333 H Street, NW #410
Washington, DC 20005
PR-Legal

✓ ~~Mr. Stephen Holmes~~
Law Reporter
TIME MAGAZINE
1050 Connecticut Ave., NW
Washington, DC 20036-5334
PR-Legal

Mr. Fred Strasser
Bureau Chief
NATIONAL LAW JOURNAL
1183 National Press Building
Washington, DC 20045
PR-Legal

Ms. Linda Greenhouse
Legal Reporter
NEW YORK TIMES
1627 Eye Street, NW
Washington, DC 20006
PR-Legal

Bob Cohn
Mr. ~~Richard Sandza~~
Justice Reporter
NEWSWEEK MAGAZINE
1750 Pennsylvania Ave., NW
Washington, DC 20006
PR-Legal

Mr. John Bennett
Justice Reporter
SCRIPPS HOWARD NEWSPAPERS
1110 Vermont Ave., NW #610
Washington, DC 20005
PR-Legal

✓ Mr. Ted Gest
Legal Affairs Reporter
U.S. NEWS & WORLD REPORT
2400 N Street, NW
Washington, DC 20037
PR-Legal

Mr. Carl Stern
Justice Correspondent
NBC News
4001 Nebraska Ave., NW
Washington, DC 20016
PR-Legal

Ms. Kathryn Kahler
Justice Reporter
NEWHOUSE NEWS SERVICE
2000 Pennsylvania Ave., NW #3900
Washington, DC 20006
PR-Legal

Ms. Ann McDaniel
Justice Reporter
NEWSWEEK MAGAZINE
1750 Pennsylvania Ave., NW
Washington, DC 20006
PR-Legal

Ms. Mary Deibel
Supreme Court Reporter
SCRIPPS HOWARD NEWSPAPERS
1110 Vermont Ave., NW #610
Washington, DC 20005
PR-Legal

✓ Mr. Henry Reske
Supreme Court Reporter
UPI
1400 Eye St., NW
Washington, DC 20005
PR-Legal

1627 Eye Street, NW
Washington, DC 20006
PR-Legal

1627 Eye Street, NW
Washington, DC 20006
PR-Legal

NEWHOUSE NEWS SERVICE
2000 Pennsylvania Ave., NW #3900
Washington, DC 20006
PR-Legal

Mr. Jack Landau
Legal Reporter
NEWHOUSE NEWS SERVICE
2000 Pennsylvania Ave., NW #3900
Washington, DC 20006
PR-Legal

Mr. Richard Sandza
Justice Reporter
NEWSWEEK MAGAZINE
1750 Pennsylvania Ave., NW
Washington, DC 20006
PR-Legal

Ms. Ann McDaniel
Justice Reporter
NEWSWEEK MAGAZINE
1750 Pennsylvania Ave., NW
Washington, DC 20006
PR-Legal

Mr. Jim Vicini
Justice Reporter
REUTERS
1333 H Street, NW #410
Washington, DC 20005
PR-Legal

Mr. John Bennett
Justice Reporter
SCRIPPS HOWARD NEWSPAPERS
1110 Vermont Ave., NW #610
Washington, DC 20005
PR-Legal

Ms. Mary Deibel
Supreme Court Reporter
SCRIPPS HOWARD NEWSPAPERS
1110 Vermont Ave., NW #610
Washington, DC 20005
PR-Legal

Mr. Stephen Holmes
Law Reporter
TIME MAGAZINE
1050 Connecticut Ave., NW
Washington, DC 20036-5334
PR-Legal

Mr. Ted Gest
Legal Affairs Reporter
U.S. NEWS & WORLD REPORT
2400 N Street, NW
Washington, DC 20037
PR-Legal

Mr. Henry Reske
Supreme Court Reporter
UPI
1400 Eye St., NW
Washington, DC 20005
PR-Legal

Ms. Anne Saker
Justice Reporter
UPI
1400 Eye St., NW
Washington, DC 20005
PR-Legal

Ms. Andrea Neal
Supreme Court Reporter
UPI
1400 Eye St., NW
Washington, DC 20005
PR-Legal

Mr. Steve Wermeil
Legal Reporter
WALL STREET JOURNAL
1025 Connecticut Ave., NW
Washington, DC 20036
PR-Legal

Mr. Paul Barrett
Legal Reporter
WALL STREET JOURNAL
1025 Connecticut Ave., NW
Washington, DC 20036
PR-Legal

Ms. Ruth Marcus
Supreme Court Reporter
WASHINGTON POST
1150 15th St., NW
Washington, DC 20071
PR-Legal

Ms. Dawn Weyrich
Supreme Court Reporter
WASHINGTON TIMES
3600 New York Ave., NE
Washington, D.C. 20002
PR-Legal

Mr. Jerry Seper
Justice Reporter
WASHINGTON TIMES
3600 New York Ave., NE
Washington, DC 20002
PR-Legal

C-SPAN
400 N. Capitol St., N.W.
Suite 650
Washington, D.C. 20001

TELECOPIER TRANSMISSION

TO: Mike Feazel - TV Digest

FROM: Kristin Wennberg

RE: Urgent News Release - TV in Court

DATE: 8.24.90

NUMBER OF PAGES: _____
(Including Cover)

If you do not receive all pages, please call Kristin Wennberg at 202-626-7975.

NOTE:

Mike:

Susan Swain asked me to fax this over to you. If you have any questions, please call me at 626-7975.

Thank you!

- Kristin Wennberg

293.3435

C-SPAN
400 N. Capitol St., N.W.
Suite 650
Washington, D.C. 20001

TELECOPIER TRANSMISSION

TO: Bob Minzesheimer - USA Today

FROM: Kristin Wennberg

RE: Urgent News Release - TV Cameras in
Federal Court

DATE: 8.24.90

NUMBER OF PAGES:
(Including Cover)

3

If you do not receive all pages, please call Kristin Wennberg at 202-626-7975.

NOTE:

Bob:

Didn't want USA Today to miss out on this story. I've sent over the AP story and C-SPAN's reaction for your use.

Please call me this weekend at 656-1375 if you need anything.

Thanks! - Kristine

276.5527

C-SPAN
400 N. Capitol St., N.W.
Suite 650
Washington, D.C. 20001

TELECOPIER TRANSMISSION

TO: DICK CAROLLI - AP

FROM: Kristin Wennberg

RE: Urgent News Release

DATE: 8.24.90

NUMBER OF PAGES: 2
(Including Cover)

If you do not receive all pages, please call Kristin Wennberg at 202-626-7975.

NOTE:

C-SPAN
400 N. Capitol St., N.W.
Suite 650
Washington, D.C. 20001

TELECOPIER TRANSMISSION

TO: Carol Flock - UP 1

FROM: Kristin Wennberg

RE: Urgent News Release

DATE: 8-24-90

NUMBER OF PAGES: 2
(Including Cover)

If you do not receive all pages, please call Kristin Wennberg at 202-626-7975.

NOTE:

C-SPAN
400 N. Capitol St., N.W.
Suite 650
Washington, D.C. 20001

TELECOPIER TRANSMISSION

TO: Nina Totenberg - NPR

FROM: Kristin Wennberg

RE: Urgent News Release

DATE: 8.24.90

NUMBER OF PAGES: 2
(Including Cover)

If you do not receive all pages, please call Kristin Wennberg at 202-626-7975.

NOTE:

C-SPAN
400 N. Capitol St., N.W.
Suite 650
Washington, D.C. 20001

TELECOPIER TRANSMISSION

TO: Bob Cohn - Newsweek

FROM: Kristin Wennberg

RE: Urgent News Release

DATE: 8.24.90

NUMBER OF PAGES: 2
(Including Cover)

If you do not receive all pages, please call Kristin Wennberg at 202-626-7975.

NOTE:

C-SPAN
400 N. Capitol St., N.W.
Suite 650
Washington, D.C. 20001

TELECOPIER TRANSMISSION

TO: Ted Gest - US News and World Report

FROM: Kristin Wennberg

RE: Urgent News Release

DATE: 8.24.90

NUMBER OF PAGES: 2
(Including Cover)

If you do not receive all pages, please call Kristin Wennberg at 202-626-7975.

NOTE:

C-SPAN
400 N. Capitol St., N.W.
Suite 650
Washington, D.C. 20001

TELECOPIER TRANSMISSION

TO: matt Stump - Broadcasting

FROM: Kristin Wennberg

RE: Urgent News Release

DATE: 8.24.90

NUMBER OF PAGES: 2
(Including Cover)

If you do not receive all pages, please call Kristin Wennberg at 202-626-7975.

NOTE:

C-SPAN
400 N. Capitol St., N.W.
Suite 650
Washington, D.C. 20001

TELECOPIER TRANSMISSION

TO: Vincente Pasdeloup - Cable World

FROM: Kristin Wennberg

RE: Urgent News Release

DATE: 8.24.90

NUMBER OF PAGES: 2
(Including Cover)

If you do not receive all pages, please call Kristin Wennberg at 202-626-7975.

NOTE:

C-SPAN
400 N. Capitol St., N.W.
Suite 650
Washington, D.C. 20001

TELECOPIER TRANSMISSION

TO: Laura Malt - Electronic Media

FROM: Kristin Wennberg

RE: Urgent News Release

DATE: 8.30.90

NUMBER OF PAGES:
(Including Cover)

46

If you do not receive all pages, please call Kristin Wennberg at 202-626-7975.

NOTE:

Laura:

Hope you find the materials interesting. Please
call me if you want more info or want to
interview anybody.

Thanks,

Kristin

- Sent her - Military Court of Appeals
- Peckham statements
- AP story
- 2 fact sheets.

REGULARLY SCHEDULED PROGRAMMING

U.S. House of Representatives	Live, daily (when Congress is in session)
Event of the Day	Weeknights at 8:00 pm ET-- Relevant public policy programming--in its entirety and without commentary.
Congressional Hearings	Daily (when Congress is in session) House and Senate hearings-- in their entirety -- present a close-up view of the political system.
Viewer Call-In Programs	Live, weekdays at 8:00 am & 6:30 pm ET (90 minutes each) Viewers question elected legislators, policymakers, and journalists about issues of the day.
"Journalists' Roundtable"	Live Fridays at 8:00am ET, re-airs Saturdays at 9:00pm ET Reporters examine current issues.
"Communications Today"	Saturdays at 11:00 am ET Focus on media trends, technology, and communications law.
National Press Club	Saturdays at 6:00 pm ET (60 minutes) Newsmakers address the Washington press corps.
"America & the Courts"	Saturdays at 7:00pm ET Interviews, discussions, and speeches on the federal judiciary.
"Booknotes"	Sundays at 8:00pm ET (60 minutes) Interviews with authors of public policy, political and historical books.
British House of Commons	Sundays at 9:00pm ET "Question Time" from the floor of Britain's chief lawmaking body.
"Capital Agenda"	Sundays at 9:30pm ET Capitol Hill staffers discuss the coming week in Congress

SPECIAL SERIES

"Supreme Court Review"	The weeks when the Court hears oral arguments, "America and the Courts" airs interviews examining current activities at the Supreme Court.
"American Profile"	Airs on national holidays. (60 minutes) In-depth interviews with public officials, opinion and business leaders who help shape the nation.

FACT SHEET

Corporate Headquarters	Suite 650 400 North Capitol Street, NW Washington, D.C. 20001 (202) 737-3220
Funding	Private, non-profit cooperative of the cable television industry. No tax dollars are used to finance operation.
Chairman and CEO	Brian P. Lamb
Programming Executives	Susan Swain, Senior Vice President Terry Murphy, Director of Programming
Press Contact	Rayne Pollack, Press Manager Kristin Wennberg, Press Coordinator
Programming Content	In addition to providing House and Senate video feeds, each day C-SPAN selects public events and hearings for telecast.
Full-time Employees	155

The C-SPAN Networks

In 1979, C-SPAN was created by the cable television industry to provide live gavel-to-gavel coverage of the U.S. House of Representatives. Today, in addition to the live House proceedings, C-SPAN offers a front row seat to other public events from the nation's capital and across the country. On any given day C-SPAN crews cover between five and fifteen events. Each event is aired without commentary or analysis.

The cable industry created C-SPAN II in 1986 to cablecast the live sessions of the U.S. Senate, in their entirety. C-SPAN II's round-the-clock programming complements the original C-SPAN network by offering more viewing alternatives to cable TV audiences interested in public affairs programming.

	<u>C-SPAN</u>	<u>C-SPAN II</u>
Launch Date	March 19, 1979 (3.5 million households at launch)	June 2, 1986 (7.5 million households at launch)
Households (as of 8/90)	50.7 million 55% U.S. TV HH	21.4 million 23% U.S. TV HH
Affiliates	3,917 CATV Systems	781 CATV Systems
Satellite	Galaxy III, TR 24	Galaxy III, TR 14
Transmission Hours	24 hours a day	24 hours a day

Catharine Stettin

FTX: 212 228-5859

1. Kastennine 16 to Perblum
2. Lehngest 16 to Kastennine

COLORADO
ILLINOIS
MASSACHUSETTS
NEW YORK
PENNSYLVANIA
RHODE ISLAND
VIRGINIA
WASHINGTON
WEST VIRGINIA
WISCONSIN
MISSOURI
MINNESOTA
NEBRASKA
NEVADA
NEW JERSEY
NEW MEXICO
NEW YORK
NORTH CAROLINA
NORTH DAKOTA
OHIO
OKLAHOMA
OREGON
PENNSYLVANIA
RHODE ISLAND
SOUTH CAROLINA
SOUTH DAKOTA
Tennessee
Texas
Utah
Vermont
Virginia
Washington
West Virginia
Wisconsin
Wyoming

House of Representatives
COMMITTEE ON THE JUDICIARY
2138 RAYBURN HOUSE OFFICE BUILDING
WASHINGTON, DC 20515-6216

May 1, 1990

The Honorable Robert F. Peckham
Chief Judge
United States District Court
for the Northern District of
California
450 Golden Gate Avenue
San Francisco, California 94102

Re: U.S. Judicial Conference Ad Hoc
Committee on Cameras in the Courtroom

Dear Judge Peckham:

The purpose of this letter is to inform you of my view that the time has come for the Federal judicial branch to allow cameras in the courtroom. My expression of this opinion is not done rashly and without reflection. It has developed over time and is rooted in my experiences as the long-time chairman of the House Judiciary Subcommittee which oversees the Federal courts.

Earlier this year, as you may know, the Federal Courts Study Committee conducted a series of field hearings to solicit suggestions for improving the Federal court system. As a member of the Committee, I chaired the hearing in Madison, Wisconsin. The hearing was a good one, eliciting testimony about a number of important topics. I was particularly impressed by the testimony there about the need to permit radio and television coverage of the Federal courts at work. The Study Committee, in its Final Report, ultimately deferred on this issue to your Ad Hoc Committee on Cameras in the Courtroom.

Since you are so directly involved in the Judicial Conference's reassessment of this question, I want to share with you some of my thoughts and, in return, request a report from you on your Committee's progress. That will enable me to delineate a course for my Subcommittee on this important issue.

It is timely for the Federal courts, at both the trial and appellate levels, to permit electronic and photographic news coverage in the courtroom. I am familiar with the history of the issue -- and, indeed, with some of the inherent problems that existed decades ago -- but technology has changed and so has the

traditional resistance of many judges and lawyers. Of greatest importance, perhaps, is the unchanged and still unmet need to provide the public with more information that will lead to a better understanding of the Federal courts. On this latter point the Federal Courts Study Committee recommended that the courts hold "press days" to facilitate communications between the courts and the media, and further that the courts expand publications programs to explain court operations to the public. I heartily concurred in these recommendations.

I was the first chair of a congressional subcommittee to open legislative proceedings (mark-ups) to the press and the public. That occurred over twenty years ago, and given the current success of C-SPAN, certainly has neither hindered the legislative process nor reduced citizen confidence in the Congress.

My own state provides a compelling example of the benefits of cameras in the courtroom. Wisconsin was one of the first states to permit virtually unlimited radio and television coverage of its judicial system. What began as an "experiment" in 1979 is now a matter of common practice, accepted by the bench, by the bar and by the public served by the courts. There is no better evidence of that than the State Bar's unequivocal commitment to expanded news media coverage as a means of providing better public access to the Federal courts. John Dacker, the State Bar's new president, urged the Study Committee at its hearing to recommend permitting cameras in the Federal courtrooms. In fact, the Wisconsin Bar's Board of Governors, on April 21, 1990, unanimously approved a resolution for presentation to the ABA House of Delegates urging the Judicial Conference of the United States and the circuit courts to adopt rules authorizing such courtroom coverage. I am enclosing a copy of the recommended resolution and an accompanying report which I believe you will find pertinent to your Committee's work.

David Zweifel -- editor of the Capital Times and President of the Wisconsin Freedom of Information Council -- presented testimony on behalf of the Freedom of Information Committee of the American Society of Newspaper Editors. Mr. Zweifel concluded his statement by observing "If the federal courts are really sincere about gaining more public understanding and visibility and drawing the attention that they deserve, nothing will serve more to achieve those goals than opening the courtrooms of the country to the light of cameras." A copy of his remarks is enclosed.

Undoubtedly, you are already familiar with the trial and appellate court decisions on this question. I found particularly

relevant Judge Barbara Crabb's comments in a recent decision from the U.S. District for the Western District of Wisconsin (Lac Courts Oreilles Band v. Wisconsin, 17 Med. L. Rptr. 1381 (W.D. Wis., Jan. 30, 1990)). Judge Crabb denied a motion for limited broadcast news coverage of a very important civil bench trial only because she felt bound by the policy of the Judicial Conference. But she did not question the merits of the case for cameras in the Federal courts. It was not surprising that every television station in the State and the Wisconsin Newspaper Association as well joined that motion, and significant that the State Bar joined it as well.

In view of the acceptance of this kind of expanded media coverage in 45 States, it is my thought that the Judicial Conference and the Judiciary Committees of the Congress would benefit from a program in the Federal courts, giving courts the discretion to begin addressing this issue. We took that step in Congress several years ago, as you know, and the "experiment" has effectively become a television tradition that brings our work into people's homes across the country.

I am firmly committed to a Federal judiciary that has the resources it needs and the independence guaranteed it by the Constitution. I have taken a lead -- along with my full Committee Chairman (Mr. Brooks) -- to bring the fruits of automation to the Federal court system. Late last year, President Bush signed Public Law 101-162, which created an automation fund for the Federal judiciary. Allowing the Federal court system to benefit from technological change, in the words of Judge Richard Bilby (Chairman, Committee on Judicial Improvements), is one of the judicial branch's highest priorities.

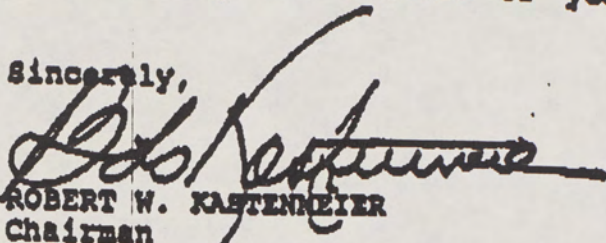
In my view, we ought not differentiate between technological changes in digitalized information, video and audio taping, and information processing. You, as one of the foremost proponents of experimentation within the Federal courts, hopefully share my confidence in technological change, controlled experimentation, and learning from each other.

There is room within the Federal judicial system for greater public access -- in part through news coverage with cameras and microphones -- which can only lead to greater public confidence

May 1, 1990
Page 4

in the Federal judiciary. The legislative and judicial branches share that goal, I know, and I look forward to learning more about your Committee's work and having the benefit of your insights.

Sincerely,


ROBERT W. KASTENMEIER
Chairman
Subcommittee on Courts,
Intellectual Property, and the
Administration of Justice

RWK:mrj

Enclosure

CC: Hon. William Rehnquist
Hon. Barbara Crabb
John Decker, Esq.

CHAMBERS OF
THE CHIEF JUSTICE

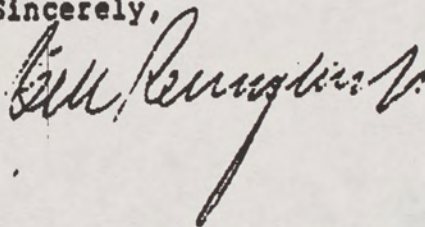
May 7, 1990

The Honorable Robert W. Kastenmeier
Chairman
Subcommittee on Courts, Intellectual Property
And the Administration of Justice
Congress of the United States
Committee on the Judiciary
2138 Rayburn Building
Washington, D.C. 20515-6216

Dear Bob,

Thanks for your letter of May 4th, enclosing a copy of your letter to Bob Peckham about television and radio coverage of federal court proceedings. I am by no means averse to the idea of the sort of experiment with television and radio coverage in federal courts which you describe, but before committing myself I would like to see what Bob Peckham's Committee has to say on the subject.

Sincerely,



C-SPAN
400 N. Capitol St., N.W.
Suite 650
Washington, D.C. 20001

TELECOPIER TRANSMISSION

TO: Catherine Stratton -

FROM: Kristin Wennberg

RE: Urgent News Release

DATE: 9.7.90

NUMBER OF PAGES: _____
(Including Cover)

If you do not receive all pages, please call Kristin Wennberg at 202-626-7975.

NOTE:

Bruce Collins suggested I send you copies
of these two letters. If you have any
questions, please call me at 202-626-7975.

- Kristin Wennberg

212.228.5859

C-SPAN
400 N. Capitol St., N.W.
Suite 650
Washington, D.C. 20001

TELECOPIER TRANSMISSION

TO: Garry Sturgess - Legal Times

FROM: Kristin Wennberg

RE: Urgent News Release

DATE: 8.24.90

NUMBER OF PAGES: 2
(Including Cover)

If you do not receive all pages, please call Kristin Wennberg at 202-626-7975.

NOTE:

Time: ~~Steve Helms~~ - New York Times

Jerome ~~Mike~~ Cramer

212.522. ~~2927~~

212.522.2927

~~Jerome Cramer~~

Jerome Cramer

212.522.1212

My office in D.C.

4635005
Fax.

Newsweek - Richard ~~Sauls~~ Bob Cohn

626.2000

Fax: 783.6572

interested - wants contact name

US News - Ted Grant

955.2000

Fax: 955-2713

no story - but wants for his files

CC

USA Today

Bob Minzesheimer

Mutual Radio - Bonnie Erbe (Erbe)

685.2000

not want be back in today

Local Times - Eric Offon

~~Eric Offon~~ ? Gampburgess

Fax: 457.0718

9/12 reaction

Senate & House Judiciary

Military Court

Appeals

28th
Co
Comedy

Fax: 783.0315

✓ Cable World

- Vincent Pasdeloup

→ OVA

Fax: 331.3734 ←

Denver - 5pm Thursday -

331.3710

→ Camera in court - fax over a statement in regards to Paul's recommendation
to allow cameras in federal court on an experimental basis

→ Dick Carulli - AT

828-6400

Fax 828-6422

No updates today

→ 828-6410

recommendation that
cameras be allowed
in federal court for
a 3 year experimental
period

UPI - ~~Carol~~ Carol Fleck

~~Harry Rocco~~

Fax: 789-2362

No story planned, but will look at it

Gannett - Tony Mauro - Not in today
276-3400

Nat'l Journal

- John Moore

Bob
Munich

NPR - All Things Considered

Mina Totenberg

Fax: 822-2329

No story, but will take anyway