

CHAPTER 25  
RULES FOR EXPANDED NEWS MEDIA COVERAGE

**Rule 25.1 Definitions.** As used in this chapter:

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**25.1(4)** “*Judicial proceedings*” or “*proceedings*” includes all public trials, hearings, or other proceedings in a trial or appellate court, including those occurring in person or remotely by video or teleconference, for which expanded news media coverage is requested, except those specifically excluded by this chapter.

**25.1(5)** “*News media*” includes any person who regularly gathers, prepares, photographs, records, writes, edits, reports, or publishes news or information about matters of public interest in any medium and who successfully applies to the news media coordinator to participate in expanded news media coverage and agrees to comply with all court rules.

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**Rule 25.2 General.** Expanded news media coverage of judicial proceedings will be permitted under the following conditions:

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**25.2(12)** *Identification.* All news media personnel authorized to ~~use electronic devices in the courtroom~~ conduct expanded news media coverage during judicial proceedings must ~~wear identification, which is clearly identify visible to the judicial officer and members of the jury and which states~~ the person’s name and media affiliation at all times during the proceeding, and physical identification must be worn for all in-person proceedings.

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**25.2(14)** *Broadcasting or livestreaming by judicial officers.* Judicial officers may broadcast or livestream a judicial proceeding to alternative locations outside the courtroom to accommodate overflow crowds or for other purposes at the presiding judge’s discretion. Unless otherwise provided, the rules in this chapter apply equally to any judicial proceeding being broadcast or livestreamed pursuant to this rule.

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**Rule 25.4 Technical.**

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**25.4(3) Equipment and pooling.** The following limitations on the amount of equipment and number of photographic and broadcast news media personnel in the courtroom apply:

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*b. Electronic devices not used for recording audio, video, or still images.* The devices defined in rule 25.4(1)(d) may be used in the courtroom by members of the news media for live electronic reporting with advance approval from the judicial officer, provided the equipment does not make any disruptive noise or interfere with court equipment. Electronic devices may not be used for telephone calls by anyone in the courtroom. Electronic devices for photography, video recording, audio recording, or streaming video may not be used by anyone in the courtroom unless approved by the judicial officer in advance of the proceeding as defined in rule 25.4(3)(a). The rule applies to news media only as defined in rule 25.1. Use of ~~such~~ electronic devices ~~by others is prohibited for purposes other than expanded news media coverage is at the discretion of the court.~~

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**Rule 25.5 Supreme court and court of appeals expanded news media coverage.**

~~**25.5(1) Expanded news media coverage of oral arguments.**~~

~~*a.* All regularly scheduled Iowa Supreme Court and Iowa Court of Appeals oral arguments will be available for streaming over the Internet and expanded news media coverage. The rules in this chapter allowing objections to expanded news media coverage do not apply to supreme court and court of appeals oral arguments.~~

~~*b.* The prohibitions in rule 25.2(5) on the types of cases subject to expanded news media coverage do not apply to supreme court and court of appeals oral arguments.~~

~~**25.5(2) Expanded news media coverage.**~~

~~*a.* The rules in this chapter pertaining to expanded news media coverage apply to news media coverage occurring within the supreme court and court of appeals courtrooms in the Iowa Judicial Branch Building in Des Moines. Recordings of supreme court and court of appeals oral arguments made from other locations within the judicial building are not subject to the rules on expanded news media coverage.~~

~~b. The rules in this chapter also apply to news media coverage occurring within any space, room, or auditorium in which the supreme court or court of appeals conducts oral argument outside of the Iowa Judicial Branch Building in Des Moines. Recordings made from any location outside the immediate space, room, or auditorium in which supreme court or court of appeals conducts oral arguments are not subject to the rules on expanded news media coverage.~~

~~c. A written request for expanded news media coverage of oral arguments of the supreme court or court of appeals must be filed with the clerk of the supreme court no later than the Friday immediately preceding the week in which the argument is to be held.~~

~~d. Form 4 in rule 25.10 is the notice form for the news media coordinator to use to inform the attorneys for all parties and the presiding justice or judge of a request for expanded news media coverage of the oral argument.~~

~~{Court Order February 17, 2006; April 9, 2009; April 2, 2014, effective May 1, 2014; April 29, 2014, effective May 1, 2014; July 22, 2016}~~

**25.5(1)** The rules in this chapter pertaining to expanded news media coverage apply to any in-person news media coverage occurring within any space, room, or auditorium in which the supreme court or court of appeals conducts oral arguments or other hearings.

**25.5(2)** The rules in this chapter pertaining to expanded news media coverage do not apply to remote viewing of any appellate court oral argument or other hearing being livestreamed or broadcast.

**25.5(3)** The prohibitions in rule 25.2(5) on the types of cases subject to expanded news media coverage do not apply to appellate court oral arguments or other hearings.

**25.5(4)** The rules in this chapter allowing objections to expanded news media coverage do not apply to appellate court oral arguments or other hearings.

**25.5(5)** The news media coordinator for the appellate courts must file a written request for expanded news media coverage of a supreme court or court of appeals oral argument or other hearing with the clerk of the supreme court no later than the Friday immediately preceding the week in which the oral argument or other hearing is to be held.

**25.5(6)** The news media coordinator for the appellate courts must use rule 25.10—Form 4: *News Media Coordinator’s Notice of Request for Expanded News Media Coverage of Appellate Court Proceeding* to inform the attorneys for all

parties and the presiding justice or judge of a request for expanded news media coverage of an oral argument or other hearing.

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