CAUSE NO. 1616871

THE STATE OF TEXAS	§	IN THE 297th JUDICIAL
v.	§	DISTRICT COURT OF
AARON YORK DEAN	§	TARRANT COUNTY, TEXAS

COURT'S FINDINGS REGARDING PUBLICITY

The Court, having taken notice of the publicity concerning this case, including the newspaper, radio, internet, and television stories which have been printed and broadcast regarding this case, now makes the following findings:

There has been extensive media coverage of this case from the time of the initial incident and throughout the investigation, and filing of charges. There is no indication this amount of extensive publicity will lessen with delay.

There has been extensive news coverage of statements made by attorneys and others associated with this case, as well as opinion pieces both on television and the internet. The Court has received numerous inquiry calls from media sources. In addition, the defense attorney has also received numerous calls as well.

This Court has an affirmative duty to guard against publicity that would prejudice these criminal proceedings.
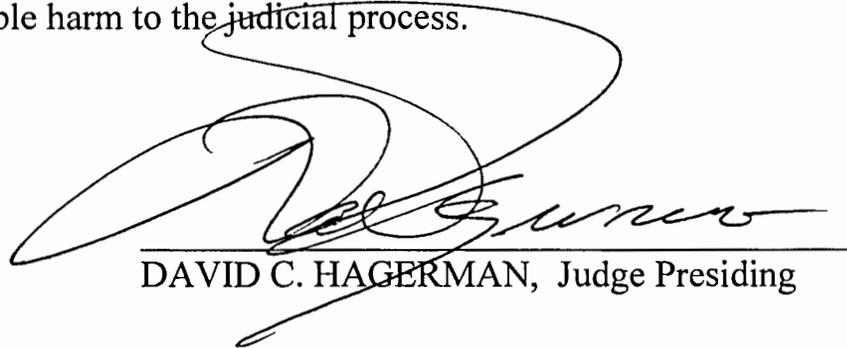
This Court finds there is a possibility that jurors may be inadvertently exposed to prejudicial publicity if an order restricting publicity is not entered in this case.

As a result of statements made to and published by the press, a serious and imminent threat to the constitutional right of the defendant herein to a fair trial exists.

Failure to impose an order restricting publicity in this case would impair the ability to maintain a fair and impartial jury.

There are no other available remedies that would effectively mitigate the effect of the potential prejudicial publicity.

An order restricting publicity in this case is necessary in order to prevent imminent and irreparable harm to the judicial process.

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DAVID C. HAGERMAN, Judge Presiding