

IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
FOR THE NORTHERN DISTRICT OF ALABAMA
SOUTHERN DIVISION

FILED
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U.S. DISTRICT COURT
N.D. OF ALABAMA
psj

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA,)
)
vs.) Case No. CR-03-BE-530-S
)
RICHARD M. SCRUSHY,)
)
)
Defendant.)

ENTERED
JAN - 5 2004

ORDER FOR WEBPAGE PUBLICATION
OF FILED DOCUMENTS

Proceedings in this case have been subject to a considerable amount of media attention. Media and general-public requests for copies of documents publicly available in the court file have created a burden that is difficult for the Clerk's Office to meet. The policy of the Judicial Conference of the United States, however, generally discourages making documents in criminal cases widely available over the internet and the Worldwide Web because of the unique privacy concerns existing in criminal cases. Nevertheless, that policy recognizes an exception allowing webpage publication of documents in cases in which the demands for copies of filed documents create an extraordinary burden on the Clerk, the parties have consented to making copies of such documents available on a website, and the court finds that webpage publication is necessary to relieve the Clerk of the burden of the requests for copies.

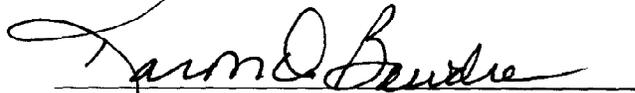
In this case, the Clerk has experienced an extraordinary demand for copies of filed documents, and it is anticipated that the demands will increase in the future. Further, the parties have consented in writing to making filed documents available as a link on the court's webpage. This court FINDS that making publicly filed documents in digital format on the court's webpage

available for viewing and copying is necessary to relieve the Clerk of the extraordinary burden created by attention focused on this case, and, further, that doing so will not infringe or prejudice the parties' right to a fair and impartial trial. The court FINDS that making such documents available through the court's webpage is the fairest and most efficient way of meeting the demand for copies of papers filed in this matter.

It is, therefore, ORDERED that the Clerk shall make such arrangements as are necessary to establish a digital link on the court's webpage through which an electronic version of all documents filed in the public court file in this case only may be accessed by the media and general public for viewing and downloading. Documents filed under seal shall not be accessible through the webpage.

The Clerk is DIRECTED to forward a copy of the foregoing to all counsel of record.

DONE this the 5th day of ~~December, 2003.~~ January, 2004.


KARON O. BOWDRE
UNITED STATES DISTRICT JUDGE