

**IN THE SUPREME COURT OF MISSISSIPPI
No. 2001-AD-00001**

FILED

FEB 15 2001

ADMINISTRATIVE ORDER

**OFFICE OF THE CLERK
SUPREME COURT
COURT OF APPEALS**

The appellate courts at present preserve oral arguments in cases before these courts by audio recording, and the Supreme Court has under consideration the acquisition and installation of equipment and facilities for video recording arguments before the Supreme Court and the Court of Appeals. Recognizing that public access to proceedings before the Supreme Court and the Court of Appeals promotes the fair and efficient administration of justice, the Supreme Court, en banc, has determined that certain procedures and protocols should be adopted at this time.

IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED that the following practices shall be instituted for the preservation and dissemination of audio and video recordings of proceedings before these courts, conditioned on the availability and installation of equipment and facilities to accommodate such recordings. The entry of this order does not, however, create a right in favor of any party, and failure to provide the benefits set out herein shall not be considered error in cases before the courts.

1. The appellate courts will continue their practice of making audio recordings of oral arguments before the courts, and will likewise make video recordings of such proceedings.

2. Such audio and video recordings will be retained by the clerk of the Supreme Court and the Court of Appeals until such time as the Supreme Court shall order their

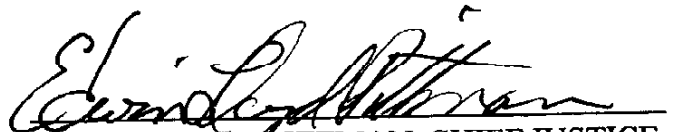
destruction.

3. Copies of such audio and video recordings will be made available to the public on request for a cost representing the cost of copying as shall from time to time be established by the Supreme Court.

4. In addition, subject to the availability and installation of equipment and facilities, such proceedings will be broadcasted over the Internet through the Supreme Court's web site or such other site as the Supreme Court shall direct.

5. To the extent that equipment and facilities accommodate doing so, commercial and educational broadcasters will be allowed to connect with the court's recording systems for recording or broadcasting such proceedings.

SO ORDERED, this the 6th day of February, 2001.


EDWIN LLOYD PITTMAN, CHIEF JUSTICE,
FOR THE COURT

MCRAE, P.J., NOT PARTICIPATING