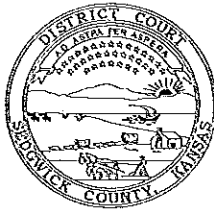


JAMES R. FLEETWOOD
CHIEF JUDGE
18th Judicial District



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<http://www.dc18.org>

DISTRICT COURT
EIGHTEENTH JUDICIAL DISTRICT
SEDGWICK COUNTY COURTHOUSE
525 NORTH MAIN, 11th FLOOR
WICHITA, KANSAS 67203

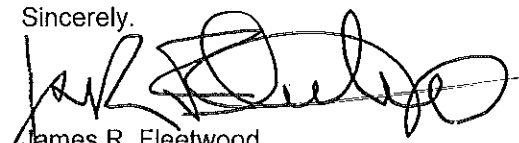
April 14, 2014

Stephen Douglas Bonney
ACLU of Kansas
947 New Hampshire
Lawrence, KS 67044

Mr. Bonney,

Thank you for your correspondence of March 24, 2014 bringing this matter to my attention. The offending sign was put up at the direction of court security some time ago without discussion with my office. I agree with you that, on its face, the sign inappropriately closes a public court. The sign referred to has been removed. For appearance purposes the paper covering the windows has also been removed and replaced with frosted glass on all but the top pane. In the future the public will be allowed to enter the courtroom. However, seating available in the courtroom referred to is limited. The presiding judge in traffic will maintain the discretion of limiting seating to defendant's and witnesses during heavy dockets to maintain the orderly operation of the court and comply with regulations established by the local fire marshal. Thank you.

Sincerely,



James R. Fleetwood
Chief Judge