

DISTRICT COURT, WELD COUNTY, COLORADO Court Address: 915 10 th Street, Greeley, CO 80631 Mail Address: P.O. Box 2038, Greeley, CO 80632 (970) 475-2400	
The People of the State of Colorado , Plaintiff, v. CHRISTOPHER LEE WATTS , Defendant.	DATE FILED: September 12, 2018 Case Number: 18CR2003 Div.: 5
ORDER (C-10)	

THIS MATTER comes before the Court on the Court’s own initiative. Recent court filings have been filed with a security setting in the Case Management System as “Suppressed”. According to Chief Justice Directive 05-01, Section 3.08 “Suppressed court record” means any court record that is accessible only to judges, court staff, parties to the case (and, if represented, their attorneys), or other authorized Department staff. Any member of the public seeking access to a suppressed court record must obtain a court order. Furthermore, Chief Justice Directive 05-01, Section 4.10 states in pertinent part that [i]nformation in the court record is accessible to the public except as prohibited by Section 4.60.

The Court has balanced the defendant’s right to a fair trial with the right to “public access”. Public court records shall be available for inspection by any person at reasonable times, except as provided in CJD 05-01 or as otherwise provided by federal or state statute, court rule or court order. “Public access” means that the public may inspect and obtain a copy of publicly accessible information in a court record, except as provided in Section 4.60 Court Records Excluded from Public Access. While Section 4.60(a) authorizes certain court records and information not be accessible to the public by court rule or court order, this Court concludes that public access shall be required and directs the filing party to redact the protected information,

pursuant to Case Management Order issued on Aug. 22, 2018.

DATE: SEPTEMBER 12, 2018

BY THE COURT:

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Marcelo A. Kopcow". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style with a long horizontal stroke at the end.

Marcelo A. Kopcow,
District Court Judge