IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
FOR THE MIDDLE DISTRICT OF ALABAMA

FILED

AUG 14 2003

CLERK
U. S. DISTRICT COURT
MIDDLE DIST. OF ALA.

IN RE:)
DEMONSTRATIONS, PARADES, OR) MISC. NO. 3154
SOLICITATIONS)

ORDER

This court recognizes the rights of persons to peacefully protest and the rights of persons to assemble and petition their government. However, such protests cannot be allowed to prevent the administration of justice of the federal courts. Nor can the court permit any interference with or intimidation of persons entering or exiting the courthouse.

Accordingly, any protests which occur in the vicinity of the United States Courthouses in Montgomery, Dothan, or Opelika, Alabama, shall be confined to the public sidewalks and shall not be held on the physical grounds of the courthouses. No person or group of persons shall parade, picket, walk, stand, or otherwise be on the federal property while displaying signs, banners, placards, or literature of any form or type nor carry on oral demonstrations or solicitations of any kind for any purpose on courthouse property.

If the United States Marshal or his deputy shall determine that such a demonstration or other act prohibited above, even though not actually on courthouse property, is proposed to take place or gathers on a sidewalk located immediately adjacent to a federal courthouse or begins to occur in such manner as to jeopardize security, endanger any federal building or its occupants, or interfere with unobstructed entry or exit from any such United States courthouse, the Marshal may rope off such area and direct that such demonstration or act be held in a safer location near the courthouse.

Nothing herein shall be deemed to affect the operation or enforcement of any local ordinance not in conflict herewith pertaining to parade permits and the like. Violators may be subject to punishment of contempt of court of the United States District Court for the Middle District of Alabama.

The Clerk shall provide the United States Marshal with a copy of this Order.

SO ORDERED on behalf of the entire Court this 14th day of August, 2003.

W. HAROLD ALBRITTON
CHIEF UNITED STATES DISTRICT JUDGE

MYRON H. THOMPSON
UNITED STATES DISTRICT JUDGE

MARK E. FULLER
UNITED STATES DISTRICT JUDGE