

Around the Nation*Post*
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Judge Limits Press

NORWALK, Calif. — Superior Court Judge Julius A. Leetham, presiding over proceedings in the shotgun slaying of 4-year-old Joyce Ann Huff, Friday issued a "gag order" believed to be the first that directly orders the news media to refrain from certain types of coverage.

The order came during the state superior court appearance here of Donald Paul Antelo, 21, and Oscar Hernandez, 22, both charged with murder in the July killing of the Hawaiian Gardens, Calif., child.

Previous court orders of this type have been limited to prohibiting lawyers, court aides and police from releasing certain types of information on criminal cases.

In his order the judge extended the control to "all agencies of the public media, including written publications, radio and television, and their respective

reporters, editors, publishers and other agents."

"It being the opinion of this court that constitutional protections are of little value if the news disseminating agencies seek, investigate, editorialize and disseminate information of proscribed character with respect to this cause, giving anonymity and asserting protection as to their sources of information," he wrote.

The order had been requested by Antelo's attorney, Irving Kanarek, and was opposed by Deputy District Attorney Reuben Ortega.