

No more delays for Casey Anthony trial, judge says

By the CNN Wire Staff

August 30, 2010 -- Updated 2110 GMT (0510 HKT)



Casey Anthony, shown at an earlier hearing, did not attend Monday's status hearing in her murder trial.

Orlando, Florida (CNN) -- The judge presiding over the case of Florida murder suspect Casey Anthony warned lawyers Monday to expect long days in her upcoming trial and no more postponements.

"This case must come to an end at some point. This case must be tried at some point," Orange County Circuit Judge Belvin Perry Jr. told lawyers at a status hearing Monday afternoon. Anthony's 2-year-old daughter, Caylee, disappeared more than two years ago, "and I know that everybody has placed this on their front burner," Perry said.

Anthony has pleaded not guilty to capital murder in Caylee's death. Jury selection in her trial is set to begin May 9, with opening statements set to begin a week later.

Perry told lawyers that they can expect proceedings to run six days a week, and he warned them that all aspects of discovery needed to be resolved in advance. There will be no "trial by ambush" in his court, he warned.

"How much time you get to sleep at night will be strictly on you," Perry said. "If you don't share things, then y'all are going to find a lot of evenings ya'll are going to be together, giving depositions, taking statements. It makes for a long next day."

Caylee Anthony disappeared in July 2008. Her remains were found after five months of intense searches and speculation.

Perry has ordered that jury selection in the highly publicized case will be held in another county, with jurors brought to Orlando when opening arguments begin. Defense attorney Jose Baez has repeatedly complained about pre-trial publicity and has asked the judge to limit the release of public records about the case, but Perry has refused.

More than 5,000 pages of documents related to the case have been released, including letters from Anthony's mother and both fan mail and hate mail from the public. Anthony has refused to see visitors, because the sessions would be videotaped and eventually released.

In Session's Jean Casarez contributed to this report.