Subject: Brothers and the Blackberry
Date: Thursday, March 1, 2007 8:26 AM
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Conversation: Brothers and the Blackberry

It's my understanding that Jessica has been asked to provide Blackberry
updates as often as every 10 minutes.

As someone who has covered trials, that just can't be done and effectively
cover the trial.

A compromise can be reached here. If something truly momentous happens (the
judge tells Lisa to shut up, or Melvin Brothers says Vincent told him he was
going to Bakersfield or something else of critical consequence) then that
can be sent by Blackberry as soon as the testimony reaches a conclusion on
the issue and there is preliminary questioning on a less urgent matter.

But the reality of covering a trial is you have to listen to all the
foundation questions to get the nuances of the critical facts. Constant
distractions in a case with a gag order (so you can't ask the attorneys for
clarifications) would lessen the reliability and accuracy of our coverage.

I would note that while this is an important story, it is not getting the
highest readership. People aren't hanging on the edge of their seats to get
every last detail. People do care and it is getting high readership, but
updates every break — unless something momentous happens to get an earlier
one — seems reasonable.

I would be happy to discuss this further after the morning meeting.