



PARTICIPATING IN VIRTUAL COURT PROCEEDINGS IN THE SUPREME COURT

Thursday, July 15, 2021

Counsel, parties and others participating in a virtual proceeding in the Supreme Court of Nova Scotia are reminded that the Court expects participants to connect from a quiet, private area, preferably from your workplace or home, to minimize disruptions and ensure any sensitive information is not disclosed to individuals not involved in the proceeding.

To help ensure the integrity of the proceedings, when virtual court opens, the presiding judge may ask counsel and others to confirm their location.

Counsel participating in a virtual court proceeding (by video or telephone) are strongly encouraged to use a reliable headset with a microphone. Earphones are also acceptable. Whenever possible, participants connecting by telephone should avoid using the speaker phone option.

These considerations will help provide a better audio experience and reduce background noise for others when you are speaking. For virtual judicial settlement conferences and other matters not on the public record, it also reduces the risk of other people overhearing confidential discussions.

The Court appreciates that due to the pandemic, counsel may have family obligations that make it difficult to participate in a virtual court proceeding. Every effort should be made to minimize disruptions, and any potential issues should be raised with the Court prior to the hearing.

For a full list of considerations that counsel should review before taking part in a virtual court proceeding, go to https://www.courts.ns.ca/Virtual_Court.htm.

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