

Virtual Court Media User Guide

Coronavirus (COVID-19) Fact Sheet

Last updated 12/07/21

For the purpose of reporting on open court proceedings, when it is not possible to attend in person, media may request to observe via virtual court.

Requests

Requests for virtual court details should include full listing details and be sent to the following address: <u>mediadistrictcourt@justice.nsw.gov.au</u>

Listings can be found by searching the <u>NSW Court List</u>.

District Court of New South Wales

Conditions of use

Virtual courts are still formal courtrooms. All usual court etiquette, protocols, procedures and restrictions apply including vacating when a court is closed.

- There must be no electronic recording of proceedings, and no recording or broadcasting of audio or vision of proceedings.
- Use of virtual court is subject to strict compliance with any relevant court orders and statutory non-publication prohibitions.
- Individual media representatives should observe only one virtual court at a time and listen for orders made by the Judge and any other directions.

Access details for virtual courtrooms are to be used only by accredited media observing and reporting on open court proceedings and are not to be circulated or published. Persons accessing the system for inappropriate purposes or in a way that interferes with the proper administration of justice will be referred to be dealt with for contempt of court.

When virtual court technology is in use, the Court cannot guarantee it will be uninterrupted by technical issues.

Instructions

If a request is approved you will be provided with instructions for how to connect to the virtual court room.

When asked to type your name, please clearly identify as media using this format: *MEDIA-organisation-name of reporter*. Eg. "MEDIA-Herald Express-Jane Smith"

When dialling in, please select "no camera" and "no microphone" to minimise disruption in the courtroom.

The following web browsers are known to be supported: Google Chrome (min. v.73), Mozilla Firefox (min. v.66). Please note it is not recommended to use either Internet Explorer (IE) or Microsoft Edge as these browsers do not support this particular software.