



Magistrates' Court of Victoria

Practice Direction 1 of 2013

Audio Recordings

Background

There have been an increasing number of requests for audio recordings of cases in the Magistrates' Court of Victoria. This demand has led to a review of the current processes and protocols relating to access and release of audio recordings.

Direction

1. This Practice Direction introduces the '*Audio Recording Protocols*' dated May 2013 (and any updated version of these protocols).
2. All proceedings heard before the Magistrates' Court will continue to be recorded by the Court's audio recording equipment.
3. A copy of the recording may be released to an approved party upon payment of the applicable fee, in accordance with the protocols.
4. All audio recordings of proceedings in the Magistrates' Court of Victoria will be retained for 12 months from the date of the hearing.

Revocation of previous Practice Direction

This Practice Direction revokes Practice Direction 1 of 1999.

Commencement

This Practice Direction will take effect from 27 May 2013.

A handwritten signature in black ink, consisting of a stylized 'P' and 'L' followed by a horizontal line.

PETER LAURITSEN
Chief Magistrate
22 May 2013