



Magistrates' Court of Victoria Practice Direction

No. 2 of 2023

Audio Recordings

Background

1. Proceedings heard before the Magistrates' Court of Victoria (the Court) are recorded by the Court's audio recording equipment.
2. Audio recordings of proceedings in the Magistrates' Court of Victoria are retained for 12 months from the date of hearing.

Direction

3. Unless the Court determines in any particular matter that a recording should not be released, a copy of a recording may be released to a party to a proceeding or their legal representative upon payment of the applicable fee or approval of application for fee waiver. Release of a recording may be subject to conditions as determined by the Court.
4. A copy of a recording may be requested by a non-party to a proceeding, such request requires approval by the Court. If approval is granted a copy of the recording may be released upon payment of the applicable fee or approval of application for fee waiver. Release of a recording may be subject to conditions as determined by the Court.
5. Where an appeal is lodged to the County Court of Victoria in relation to a Family Violence Intervention Order or Personal Safety Intervention Order, a copy of the recording will be released to the County Court of Victoria without fee.
6. Further guidance as to audio recordings is available on the Magistrates' Court website at <https://www.mcv.vic.gov.au/going-court/documents-and-recordings>.

Revocation of previous Practice Direction

This Practice Direction revokes Practice Direction No. 1 of 2013.

Commencement

This Practice Direction takes effect from 14 April 2023.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Lisa Hannan'.

Justice Lisa Hannan
CHIEF MAGISTRATE

Date: 14 April 2023