



TERRITORIAL COURT

USE OF ELECTRONIC DEVICES IN THE COURTROOM

Purpose and Application

1. This policy applies to:
 - a) All courtrooms used by the Territorial Court
 - b) All other places in which the Territorial Court sits, during those periods when it is used as a Territorial Court courtroom
 - c) All courtrooms and places where Justices of the Peace Court is held hereinafter referred to as the “courtroom”.
2. This policy sets out the permitted and prohibited uses of electronic devices in the courtroom.
3. This policy replaces the Interim Policy on Use of Electronic Devices in the Courtroom of July 23, 2012.

Definition

4. In this policy, “electronic device” means any device capable of transmitting and/or recording data or audio, including smartphones, smartwatches, cellular phones, still and video cameras, voice recorders, computers, laptops, tablets, notebooks, personal digital assistants and other similar devices.

Electronic Devices to be Turned Off

5. Except as otherwise provided in this policy, all such devices must be turned off in a courtroom.

General Public

6. Members of the general public are not permitted to use electronic devices in a courtroom.

Lawyers, Justice Personnel, Members of the Media

7. Subject to paragraph 8, electronic devices may be used in a courtroom by:

- a) Lawyers, Articling Students, Law Students, Lawyers' Assistants such as, but not limited to, Court Workers, Crown Witness Coordinators or Victim Services Worker;
- b) Justice Personnel such as Clerks of the court, Sheriffs, Court Reporters, Police Officers, Probation Officers, Community Justice Coordinator, and people holding similar positions;
- c) Members of recognized media organizations who have entered into a signed Territorial Court of the Northwest Territories Undertaking on the Use of Electronic Devices in the courtroom;

provided that electronic devices are used:

- i. only for carrying out the person's professional duties;
- ii. in a non-disruptive manner consistent with the dignity and solemnity of the proceedings;
- iii. in silent mode;
- iv. in a manner that does not interfere with court recording equipment or other courtroom technology

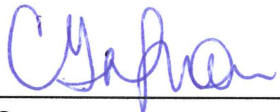
and provided that electronic devices are not used:

- v. for broadcasting in any manner whatsoever from the courtroom;
- vi. with headphones or ear-buds;
- vii. to take photographs;
- viii. as a video-recorder; or
- ix. as an audio-recorder.

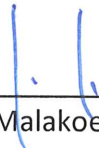
Exception

- 8. The presiding judge may choose to deviate from this policy as the circumstances require in any manner he or she deems appropriate.

Dated this 15th day of March, 2019



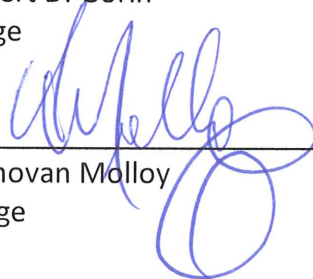
Christine Gagnon,
Chief Judge



Garth E. Malakoe
Judge



Robert D. Gorin
Judge



Donovan Molloy
Judge