

Appendix 3: Memorandum from Attorney General, Court Services Division (excerpt)**Ministry of the Attorney General**

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**M E M O R A N D U M**

DATE: November 6, 2020

TO: Municipal Court Managers

FROM: Jaimie Lee
A/Director, Program Management Branch
Court Services Division

SUBJECT: **Expansion of Remote Proceedings for *Provincial Offences Act* (POA) Courts**

Over the last several months, the Ministry of the Attorney General (“the ministry”) has had ongoing discussions regarding court recovery and technology for *Provincial Offences Act* (POA) courts with the Ontario Court of Justice (OCJ) and municipal partners. I thank you for your cooperation and professionalism in reaching this point.

Remote Proceedings

Many municipal partners have expressed eagerness to begin or expand remote options for court attendance and to accept documents delivered electronically. To support this, the Legislature amended the POA to enable the enhanced use of remote appearances in POA proceedings.

Municipal partners recently received POA Scheduling Guidelines during the Covid-19 Pandemic from the Ontario Court of Justice which outlines how remote proceedings can move forward. The Court has provided the direction that only JVN and Zoom Pro have been approved for use. The ministry is currently gathering education materials, information on accounts and technology specifications to help support municipal partners in the implementation of remote proceedings. We look forward to sharing this bundle of resources with you as it becomes finalized.