

23 - 2014

NOTICE TO THE PROFESSION

PBONLINE UPGRADES

Effective June 2, 2014 Private Bar lawyers, (PB) will have the ability to submit authorization requests through PBOonline for:

- Trial, (family and child protection matters)
- Bail Review
- Examinations for Discovery/Cross Exam on Affidavit
- Extraordinary Remedies
- Disbursements
- Travel Time and Mileage

PB lawyers will also have the ability to attach scanned/electronic copies of documents, (i.e. cost quotes etc.) to their authorization request(s) through their PBOonline account.

Once authorization requests have been reviewed at Legal Aid Manitoba (LAM), PB lawyers will be able to see the status of their authorization request(s) through their PBOonline accounts.

PB lawyers will also receive notice through their PBOonline accounts of pre-authorized items such as time and travel, and Big Case Management, (BCM) hours.

PLEASE NOTE THE FOLLOWING:

- Effective June 2, 2014, PB authorization requests that are not made through PBOonline, may not be accepted and counsel will be instructed to submit their request(s) through PBOonline.
- All Legal Aid Certificates and supporting documents, (disclosure received by LAM etc.) are available to PB lawyers through PBOonline.
- Effective June 2, 2014, paper copies of Certificates and supporting documents will no longer be sent by LAM to counsel, (staff or private bar).
- Pursuant to s. 24 of the *Legal Aid Regulation*, a Certificate that has not been accepted within 30 days of issuance (signed by counsel or their designate) expires unless the period is extended by an Area Director. Certificates that have expired as per s. 24 of the *Regulation* will be assigned to another lawyer.

WE URGE ALL PRIVATE BAR LAWYERS TO VIEW THE INSTRUCTIONAL VIDEO TUTORIAL REGARDING THE ABOVE NOTED UPGRADES TO PBONLINE AT:

<http://www.legalaid.mb.ca/for-lawyers/pbonline>

FURTHER ASSISTANCE MAY ALSO BE PROVIDED BY CONTACTING:

pbhelpdesk@legalaid.mb.ca

WINNIPEG CRIMINAL DUTY COUNSEL BACK-UP

From time to time there may be a need to retain private bar lawyers to cover duty counsel courts in Winnipeg due to the sudden unavailability of staff counsel. Usually these will be the youth and adult bail courts, and there may be very short notice. Counsel who are interested in these duties should forward their names and contact information to the attention of LAM's Senior Area Director at: pb@legalaid.mb.ca

APPLICANTS SEEKING COVERAGE ON QB APPEAL MATTERS

In the last [Notice to the Profession \(22-2014\)](#) we provided you with the new procedure for those seeking legal aid to appeal to the Court of Appeal, Federal Court of Appeal or Supreme Court of Canada. This policy applies to summary appeals to the Court of Queen's Bench as well.

USING LEGAL AID MANITOBA TO ROUTE CALLS

LAM has received a number of reports from legal aid clients, (individuals who have counsel appointed to assist them) who have been told to call LAM's main reception line and ask that their call be transferred to the lawyer assigned to their matter. The primary purpose of LAM's main telephone line is to provide information services to the general public and individuals wishing to apply for legal aid, not to route calls to law offices. Counsel are urged to advise clients to contact their respective offices directly.