



November 13, 2025

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NOTICE TO THE PROFESSION

R. V. MCNEIL LETTERS - UPDATED

Manitoba Justice has requested that LAM provide fees to counsel to cover the anticipated cost of counsel performing a summary review of their files where one of the investigating officers on the file is currently pending on criminal charges. We have been assured that the cost of this review will not impact LAM's ability to meet its current or future obligations.

It is anticipated that many of these file reviews will require minimal time to review, while others may require more effort. Balancing these factors LAM has been authorized to provide a fee equivalent to one hour (\$105) for counsel to do a summary review of each file where they have received a letter from Prosecutions.

Where counsel identify a file where a miscarriage of justice may have occurred LAM is asking that if Counsel are able, they secure an application from the client. If counsel are unable to locate a client they should contact Manitoba Prosecutions to ask for assistance in tracking down the client to secure an application.

Applications for Appeal to either the Court of King's Bench or Court of Appeal will be reviewed by the Executive Director. Even where counsel feel a client may not be financially eligible under the current guidelines set out in the *Area Director's Manual* they should still submit the application and we will review the issue of funding these matters with Manitoba Justice.

Counsel seeking to bill these matters will be able to do so through PBOonline or LAMAS. The programming is currently being done but an option for "WPS Review" will shortly be available. Counsel will be required to certify one of the following two options:

I have performed a summary file review of this matter and have determined:

_ there are no immediate indications that a miscarriage of justice may have occurred. I have enclosed a copy of the letter I received from Manitoba Prosecutions regarding this file.

_ there are indications that a miscarriage of justice may have occurred. I have enclosed a copy of the letter I received from Manitoba Prosecutions regarding this file.

Where there is an identified issue please provide steps taken to notify the client and or seek legal aid for the appeal.