

# SUPREME COURT OF TASMANIA

## CIRCULAR TO PRACTITIONERS

No. 9 of 2018

25 June 2018

### **COURT SECURITY ACT 2017**

Practitioners are advised that the *Court Security Act 2017* (“the Act”) will commence on 1 July 2018. It replaces the *Admissions to Court Act 1916*.

The Act governs the good order and management of security at all Tasmanian Courts and Tribunals. All powers and duties in the *Admissions to Court Act 1916* have been modernised, together with some new provisions. The new provisions most relevant for practitioners relating to the management of security at the Supreme Court and the Magistrates Court are:

1. The use of “electronic devices” and “recording devices” (as defined) is prohibited in courtrooms except by specified groups of people or unless the Court has given permission (s11). The specified groups of people are practitioners, court staff and journalists. Please ensure that your clients and witnesses are aware of this. Any person may use an electronic device in the foyers and forecourt areas.
2. A security officer may ask any person attending court to give their name address, reason for attending court and to provide identification (s14). Practitioners are an exception to that rule if they provide evidence of their status. The Supreme Court will accept the identification card issued by the Law Society as evidence. You may wish to advise your clients and witnesses of this requirement.

I encourage all practitioners to familiarise themselves with the provisions of the [Court Security Act 2017](#).

J A Connolly  
REGISTRAR