
MEDIA RELEASE

Court of Appeal Live Webcast

St. John's, NL, September 26, 2017:

Chief Justice Derek Green announced today that there will be a live webcast of the hearing of an appeal from the Newfoundland and Labrador Court of Appeal beginning at 10:00 a.m. on Friday, October 13, 2017. The live webcast will be available at <http://video.isilive.ca/nfld/remote.html>

The case being webcast involves an appeal against a conviction for armed robbery and a sentence of six years for break, entry and theft in a dwelling house. The issues on appeal include whether a statement made by a co-accused to the police should have been admitted into evidence at the trial in support of the conviction of the accused, and whether the sentence for break, entry and theft was a fit sentence.

This initiative of webcasting appeals is intended to promote public access to and understanding of the Court's process. If successful, the Court intends to engage in further webcasts of other hearings in the future.

Kathy Blake, Registrar of the Court of Appeal commented that "Some other provinces have begun using webcasting in their courts in recent years. The webcasting of this appeal will continue to expand the Court of Appeal's access to justice initiatives in Newfoundland and Labrador allowing the public a better understanding of legal processes and instilling public confidence in the Court through greater transparency of the courtroom."

Although the courtroom in the Court of Appeal is open to the public, there is limited seating. By webcasting the appeal, greater opportunity for the public to observe the appeal process will be provided.

The Honourable Andrew Parsons, Minister of Justice and Public Safety commented that "As administrators of justice, we have to do better to promote access to the courts as well as ensure the public understands the process. By using technology and sharing the court process via webcasting, we hope to make it easier for people to be engaged and learn more about the justice system in Newfoundland and Labrador."

Further information about the initiative and how to access the webcast can be obtained by contacting Kathy Blake, Registrar of the Court of Appeal, 709-729-0801; Email: kathyblake@supreme.court.nl.ca.