



LOCAL COURT PRACTICE NOTE NO 7 OF 2008

ISSUED: 4 December 2008

Re-issued pursuant to section 27 Local Court Act 2007

Use of Audio Visual Link in criminal and civil proceedings

The purpose of this Practice Note is to establish arrangements for the use of AVL in criminal and certain civil proceedings in accordance with the *Evidence (Audio and Audio Visual Links) Act 1998*. This Practice Note should be read in conjunction with Practice Note 5 of 2007.

1. Appearances by accused persons or defendants in criminal proceedings

When making arrangements for the appearance of accused persons or defendants in proceedings, the Court will have regard to the operational requirements of the Department of Corrective Services and the Department of Juvenile Justice. The following priorities apply for the use of AVL:

1. Bail hearings in any NSW court
2. Mentions in criminal proceedings and arraignments in any NSW court
3. Appellate hearings in any NSW court
4. Sentencing hearings in any NSW court, and
5. Other hearings in any NSW court

2. Appearance by government agency witnesses

Parties must advise the Court and each other, no less than 10 working days prior to a hearing, if government witnesses are to give evidence by AVL.

3. Applications by designated government agencies

Applications by government agencies to make AVL directions must be lodged at the Court and copies served on parties to the proceedings no later than 10 working days prior to a hearing.

This Practice Note commences on 1 January 2009.

Graeme Henson
Chief Magistrate