



## commission of inquiry

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### Guidelines for the Media Coverage of the Proceedings of the Commission

The Practice Directives of the Supreme Court of Appeal contained in Practice Notice 1/2009 apply as adapted to the Commission in relation to the Media Representatives or employers who wish to film or record the proceedings of the Commission.

The requests for permission to film or record the proceedings of the Commission will be considered based on the following guidelines:

1. The Chairperson of the Commission (Chairperson) grants the permission to film subject to the following provisions set out below:
2. Media Representatives or employers who wish to film or record the proceedings must notify the Secretary of its intention to do so within a reasonable prior to the commencement of the proceedings. The Secretary will then establish from the Chairperson if there is any particular objection to the request.
3. Any party who wishes to object to any filming or recording of the proceedings must raise its objection in writing.
4. The Chairperson may, on good cause withdraw or change the conditions.
5. Equipment limitations:
  - (a) Video: one camera only may be used at a time and the location of the camera is not to change while the Inquiry is in session.
  - (b) Audio: the media must install their own audio recording system provided this is unobstructive and does not interfere with the proceedings. Individual journalists may bring tape recorders in the Auditorium for purposes of recording the proceedings but changing of cassettes is not permitted while the Inquiry is in session;
  - (c) Still Cameras: Only one camera is allowed and the location of the camera is not to change and no changing of lenses or film is permitted while the Inquiry is in session;
  - (d) All camera, video and audio equipment must be in position at least 15 minutes before the start of the proceedings and may be moved or removed only when the Inquiry is in not in session. Cameras cables and the like are not to interfere with the free movement in the Auditorium.



- (e) Lighting: no movie lights, flash attachments or artificial lighting devices are permitted during the proceedings.
  - (f) Operating signals: no visible or audible light signal may be used on any equipment.
6. Pooling arrangements:
- (a) Only one Media Representative may conduct each of the audio, video and still photography activity.
  - (b) The Media Representative is to be determined by the media themselves and is to operate an open and impartial distribution scheme, in terms of which the footage, sound and photographs would have to be distributed in a clean form, that is with no visible logos etc to any media organisation requesting same and would also be archived in such a manner that it remains freely available to the media.
  - (c) If no agreement can be reached on these arrangements, no expanded media coverage may take place.
7. Rules regarding behaviour of Media Representatives:
- (a) Conduct must consistent with decorum and dignity of the Inquiry.
  - (b) No identifying names, marks, logos or symbols should be used on any equipment or clothing worn by representatives.
  - (c) All Media Representatives (including camera crew) must be appropriately dressed and must display their accreditation tags at all times.
  - (d) Equipment must be positioned and be operated to minimise any distraction while the Inquiry is in session.
  - (e) Equipment must not be placed in or removed from the Auditorium.
  - (f) No film, videotape, cassette tape or lens may be changed.
8. There is absolute bar on:
- (a) Audio recordings or close up photography on discussions by Commissioners.
  - (b) Audio recordings or close up photography of communication between legal representatives or between parties and their legal representatives.
  - (c) Close-up photographs or filming of Commissioners, evidence leaders, lawyers or parties in the Inquiry.
  - (d) Recordings (whether video or audio) being used for commercial or political advertising purposes.
  - (e) Use of sound bytes without the prior consent of the Chairperson.
9. Failure to comply with these instructions may lead to contempt of the Inquiry proceedings.