

Michael Bula Solicitors, International Lawyers and Notaries

From: The Society of Notaries of Victoria Inc. <admin@notaries.org.au>
Sent: Thursday, 16 April 2020 4:38 PM
To: Michael Bula Solicitors, International Lawyers and Notaries
Subject: Victorian Notaries Bulletin No. 22. Bulletin 16 April 2020

[View this email in your browser](#)



President's Message

Dear Michael,

In this Issue:

**COVID-19 Remote Online
Notarisation (RON)**

Members' only section

Login

Please remember you **MUST** log in and edit your profile [if not already] to get the most from our new website and have full access - see the link in the red bar at the bottom of the Home Page of our website

See the latest Practice Notes, Twilight Seminar + other papers + Twinning and Collaboration with other Notarial Societies + Photo Gallery + more

[Click here and then log in](#)



Please support your SNV +

follow + like us on



Council and Subcommittee Meetings and the Annual General Meeting were held at - *La Maison de Maître* building, 203/205 Canning Street, Carlton [corner Neill Street] - a multi-use modern conference space. Now they are held by ZOOM remotely/virtually during this crisis.

COVID-19 Remote Online Notarisation (RON)

Following the Zoom meeting on 15 April 2020, the RON Subcommittee, on behalf of the Council of the Society of Notaries of Victoria, issues the following statement.

As matters presently stand and in these difficult times, the Council of the Society of Notaries of Victoria is not in a position to endorse RON.

The Legal Practitioners' Liability Committee is of the view that it is not clear at this time that remote witnessing of documents is appropriate.

Legal Practitioners' Liability Committee (LPLC) – Practice Paper – Video Conferencing Risks

The paper states that the LPLC considers that you should not witness signatures via video conferencing - in many cases when witnessing documents, the witness attests to being in the presence of the person signing the documents. Watching someone sign a document on a screen who is not in the same room as you is unlikely to be considered "in the presence of." It is also difficult for the witness to be sure that document that is subsequently sent to them to sign is the same document they saw signed on the screen.

Moreover, our Immediate Past President of the Society, Mr John Pearce, has recently confirmed with a senior staff member of the LPLC that in the view of the LPLC, if you witness in circumstances where there is legislation which requires "in the presence of", it is not clear that it includes video presence.

Personal Message

As President of the SNV and on behalf of the Council, I am aware of the very difficult position all our members find themselves in and extend to you, your families and staff - our thoughts, solidarity and support during the COVID-19 crisis. Keep safe.

The RON subcommittee will continue its fine work, to issue further statements, as matters develop, legislatively and otherwise, so watch this space.

Materials

Click on the links to read the following:

[RON Practice Note from Professor Peter Zablud](#)

[COVID-19 Bulletin Joseph Lukaitis](#)

[LIV Guidance Note of 25 March 2020](#)

[The UK Faculty office statement for COVID-19](#)

Your Society : adding value to your membership with an international dimension

Regards



Michael Bula

President SNV



Copyright © 2020 The Society of Notaries of Victoria, All rights reserved.

You were subscribed to the newsletter from The Society of Notaries of Victoria

Our mailing address is:

The Society of Notaries of Victoria
213 Canning Street
1 Queens Road
Carlton, VIC 3053
Australia

[Add us to your address book](#)

Want to change how you receive these emails?

You can [update your preferences](#), [Forward to a Friend](#) or [unsubscribe from this list](#).

