



PROVINCIAL COURT
OF SASKATCHEWAN

CRIMINAL PRACTICE DIRECTIVE 19

ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE

Effective: October 1, 2026

Purpose

This Practice Directive sets out the Court's expectations for the use of artificial intelligence tools in preparing and presenting written and oral submissions to the Provincial Court of Saskatchewan.

Application

This Practice Directive applies to all criminal proceedings before the Provincial Court of Saskatchewan and to all counsel and self-represented parties who file documents or make submissions to the Court.

Directives

1. The use of artificial intelligence [AI] tools, including large language models, to assist in preparing written or oral submissions is permitted. However, their use does not reduce or displace the professional and ethical responsibilities of those appearing before the Court.
2. Counsel and self-represented parties are responsible for the accuracy, authenticity, and reliability of all materials filed with or presented to the Court, regardless of whether AI tools were used in their preparation.
3. Where AI tools are used to generate, summarize, or cite case law, statutes, commentary, or other legal materials, all such references must be independently verified against authoritative sources before filing or submission, including:
 - 3.1 Official Court or legislative websites;
 - 3.2 Recognized commercial legal publishers; and
 - 3.3 Reputable public services such as CanLII.
4. Any use of AI must include meaningful human review sufficient to confirm:
 - 4.1 Citations correspond to real and accurately described authorities;
 - 4.2 Quoted passages are accurate; and
 - 4.3 AI-generated summaries or analysis accurately reflect the content of the source materials.

5. For lawyers, reliance on AI without adequate review is inconsistent with the standard of competence required by professional and ethical duties owed to the Court and to clients.

Commentary

AI tools present both opportunities and risks in legal practice. Among the most significant risks is the potential for these tools to produce fabricated or inaccurate legal authorities. The directives above do not prohibit the use of AI; they place the responsibility for accuracy squarely on the person filing or presenting the materials, consistent with the obligations that already apply to all who appear before the Court.