

FINANCIAL SERVICES TRIBUNAL

PRACTICE DIRECTION IN RESPECT OF COURT REPORTING

Introduction

The purpose of this Practice Direction is to clarify the Tribunal's practice in respect of court reporting services provided at the Tribunal hearings.

Under the Rules of Practice and Procedure for Proceedings before the Financial Services Tribunal, Rule 29.01 states:

29.01 A party at its own expense may arrange a court reporter to record all or any part of a hearing that the Tribunal does not arrange to have recorded or, with the leave of the Tribunal, all or any part of a pre-hearing conference or a hearing on a motion.

COMMENTARY

The Financial Services Tribunal has developed a practice of ordering and paying for the services of court reporters at all hearings where evidence includes oral testimony by witnesses. These services are not utilized for pre-hearing conferences nor for hearings on Financial Hardship Unlocking.

Accordingly, a court reporter will record most hearings at the expense of the Tribunal.

Pursuant to Rules 29.02 to 29.04, parties may obtain copies of the transcript at their own expense from the reporting service. Any party who orders a transcript must provide the Tribunal with an original certified copy of the transcript as provided by the court reporter at no cost to the Tribunal. The Tribunal through the Registrar may direct additional certified copies be provided, not exceeding three, at no cost to the Tribunal. No other visual or audio recording of the proceeding may be made without authorization by the Tribunal.