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In this e-news: URGENT CORRECTION TO JUSTICE OF THE PEACE HANDBOOK

1. Justice of the Peace Handbook—February 2020

Section Advanced Care Directive (ACD) & Medical Treatment Decision Maker (MTDM)

While the HJSS is reviewing this section of the corresponding regulations, as a result of the feedback from one of our members; please take note of the following as issued by the Office of the Public Advocate.

- Page 35 /36 of the Handbook sets out the witnessing requirements of an Advanced Care Directive. It states that the document must be witnessed by two adult witnesses, one of whom must be an authorised witness, including JP's.

OPA Witness Guidelines states that :- to make a valid Advance Care Directive, signing must be witnessed by two witnesses, one of whom is **a registered medical practitioner**. An Honorary Justice may act as the second witness in such a case.

- Page 36 of the Handbook sets out the witnessing requirements for a Medical Treatment Decision Maker. It states that the document must be witnessed by two adult witnesses, one of whom must be an authorised witness, including JP's.

OPA Witness Guidelines states that :- to appoint a valid Medical Treatment Decision Maker, signing must be witnessed by two witnesses, one of whom **must be a registered medical practitioner or authorised to witness affidavits, including a JP**.

Please note the above conditions as per the OPA guidelines for Witnessing, when you are asked to be a witness for a ACD or MTDM.

If any members have noticed any other points with the revised Justice of the Peace Handbook issue Feb 2020, please contact RVAHJ - Administration (Cathy) so that they can be forwarded to HJSS for inclusion in the review process.

Yours sincerely,
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