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PRESS RELEASE

The Rules Committee of the Senior Courts of Belize Issues Practice Direction on the use of Artificial Intelligence (AI) in the Courts.

Belize City, Belize - The Honourable Chief Justice, Madam Louise Esther Blenman, announces that the Rules Committee of the Senior Courts of Belize has issued Practice Direction No. 18 of 2025 on the Ethical Use of Generative Artificial Intelligence (AI) in Court Proceedings. The Practice Direction came into effect on **August 12, 2025**.

This direction is the first of its kind in Belize, providing formal guidance for the responsible and ethical use of AI by Judges, Magistrates, Registrars, Attorneys-at-Law, and all court users. It reflects the judiciary's commitment to innovation and modernization within the justice system, ensuring that emerging technologies are used in an ethical manner to enhance, rather than undermine the integrity and fairness of judicial proceedings.

The Practice Direction provides clear guidance on the acceptable use of AI in legal research, drafting, and submissions. It emphasizes the importance of accuracy, confidentiality, and disclosure, reminding court users that AI-generated content must be verified and that accountability remains paramount. The issuance of this practice direction on the use of AI positions Belize among the first in the Commonwealth Caribbean to responsibly integrate AI, to strengthen efficiency, transparency, accountability, and public trust in the administration of justice.

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