

**COURT OF APPEAL**  
**PRACTICE DIRECTION NO 1/2024**  
**(Form of Judgments)**

**Introduction**

- 1.1 This Practice Direction is made with the concurrence of the President and Judges of the Court of Appeal.
- 1.2 On 1 February 2010, the court issued *Practice Direction No 1/2010 – Judgments: Form and Citation* which introduced a standard format in which Court of Appeal judgments would be prepared for delivery and how they should be cited. The format is stated at paragraph 1.1 of that Practice Direction.
- 1.3 This Practice Direction supplements the format prescribed in Practice Direction No 1/2010.
- 1.4 This Practice Direction intends to formalise the inclusion of catchwords and the application of 1.5 line spacing in the judgments of the Court of Appeal.
- 1.5 This Practice Direction takes effect immediately.

**Form of Judgments**

*Catchwords*

- 2.1 Catchwords will be placed immediately below the date of delivery stated on the judgment and before the commencement of the text of the judgment.
- 2.2 These catchwords shall begin with a broad subject heading, followed by a concise identification of the salient issues, concluding with the full title(s) and relevant sections of any legislation cited. Each phrase will begin with a capital letter and be separated by en dashes.

*Line spacing*


- 3.1 All judgments of the Court of Appeal will be prepared and issued with 1.5 line spacing.

**Conclusion**

- 4.1 These changes form part of the court's initiatives to assist court users and other readers of the court's judgments with expediting research and saving time, costs

and resources. The use of catchwords will aid in the process of legal research by facilitating the easy identification of the legal issues, principles and legislation dealt with in judgments.

- 4.2 Comments on this practice direction and suggestions for further improvement are invited.
- 4.3 Please address all comments and suggestions to the Registrar of the Court of Appeal, Public Building West, King Street, Kingston.

  
Marva McDonald-Bishop, OJ, CD  
President of the Court of Appeal  
1 October 2024