

## **Criminal Legal Aid Scheme**

### **Criminal Justice (Legal Aid) (Tax Clearance Certificate) Regulations, 1999**

#### **Notice to Practitioners Retention of name on Criminal Legal Aid Panel for the panel year commencing 1 December 2020**

The Department of Justice has advised that a solicitor who wishes to have his/her name retained on the legal aid panel(s) beyond 30 November 2020, must submit to the relevant County Registrar(s)/Office Manager(s) an electronic Tax Clearance Certificate (eTC).

In December 2015 Revenue introduced a new electronic tax clearance certificate (eTC) processing system, which ended the issuing of paper certificates. The new system in Revenue allows applicants to apply for their eTC and allows Public Sector Bodies to verify eTCs from 1 January 2016. Solicitors have the facility to print down their eTC from the Revenue website.

**A printed eTC dated after 30 November 2020 should be forwarded to the relevant County Registrar(s)/Office Manager(s). NB – In order to remain on the Panel in 2021 a solicitor must submit their eTC to the Court Office after the 30 November 2020. If a solicitor does not forward their printed eTC dated after 30 November 2020 to the relevant County Registrar(s)/Office Manager(s) their name will be removed from the Criminal Legal Aid Panel(s) with effect from 1 January 2021.**

#### **NB**

No fees under the Criminal Justice (Legal Aid) Regulations shall be payable to a solicitor who accepts an assignment to a case if his/her name is not, at the time of assignment, on the relevant Solicitors' Panel.