

FOREWORD

The Crown Prosecutor serves a unique and important function in the administration of justice. As an agent of the Attorney General, the Crown Prosecutor administers all criminal and quasi-criminal prosecutions and related matters that fall within the jurisdiction of the Attorney General.

Upon the establishment of Public Prosecution Services in 1967, prosecution policies and guidelines were developed to assist the Crown Prosecutor in discharging this responsibility fairly and consistently. The policies and guidelines were first published in May of 1987 as the *Public Prosecution Operational Manual*. The Manual was intended to be, and did become, a working document for the Crown Prosecutor to use to ensure the proper administration of criminal justice in New Brunswick.

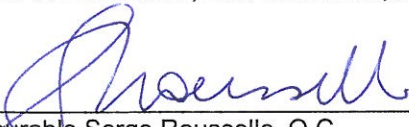
By 2003, the Manual was in need of, and underwent, a major revision. Afterwards, it was being expanded in a supplemental fashion, and had grown to include policies and directives from the Attorney General as well as directives and guidelines from the Director of Public Prosecutions.

This latest revision amalgamates all former policies, guidelines, and directives into a single type of document: Public Prosecution Services policies, all of which hold equivalent status. Former versions of the documents that are now policies have been revised to clarify the position of the Attorney General and conform to developments in the law. New policies have been created to address emerging areas of law. Such revisions ensure that the Attorney General's directions remain clear and current to enable Crown Prosecutors to continue to discharge their responsibilities in a just manner, in accordance with the intentions of the Attorney General, and under the laws of Canada and New Brunswick.

This Manual is also meant to inform the public. To facilitate this objective, public access to the Manual is available on the Attorney General's website. As well, the policies have been drafted, and are presented, in a manner that is meant to make them easy to understand.

I approve of the policies and appendices that comprise this latest edition of the Manual. I also recognize the importance of the ongoing development of this Manual, which may result in the addition of new policies on topics of special interest, the supplementation of existing policies, and the deletion of outdated information and policies as necessary in the opinion of the Director of Public Prosecutions.

Signed at Fredericton, New Brunswick, this 1st day of September, 2015.



Honourable Serge Rousselle, Q.C.
Attorney General of New Brunswick