



THE TECH-SAVVY LAWYER

It wouldn't be far-fetched for one to say that today's world orbits around technology. New innovations are on our finger tips every second of our lives which incessantly influence the way we live. From telecommunication, to transport, to service delivery, technology has completely changed our way of life. It's quite hard for anyone to live without technology in one way or the other.

Today's World

Technology is changing the world of legal practice. The conventional lawyer continuously finds it hard to cope with the rising challenges posed by technological advancement. Use of paper work is reducing significantly with the increasing volume of transactions concluded electronically.

Understanding
technology

It is now important that while looking for legal services, a client engages a lawyer that is well acquainted with the ever changing world of technology who can advise them better and protect their interests in the wake of a tech run world. Technology is a multi-trillion-dollar industry where investments are being made on a daily basis. These transactions rely on the law that regulates various sectors which we must apply to fit the dynamic technology sector.

As a client you must seek to engage a tech lawyer, one who is be able to advise on;

- i) The viability of your business ideas and innovations by identifying and solving the potential problems under an appropriate legal framework.
- ii) Protect your ideas and give advice on how to maintain the privacy of the ideas and innovations in today's world plagued with plagiarism.
- iii) Draft agreements and other legal documentation that can protect your interests and innovations.
- iv) Protect your intellectual property rights, including copyright, brands and trademarks. Some of these innovations may be abstract in nature, some of which are hosted online permanently and are prone to abuse by unscrupulous internet users. This requires a lawyer's unique skill to advise on their protection



A lawyer's role stretches beyond the innovation stage. It is important that you engage a tech savvy lawyer equipped with the skill to advise on the best ways to attract investors that can put resources in the innovation. The investment process should be well guided legally to guard you against any significant risks. This will range from analyzing and understanding your business model and the product functionality to identify any legal risks and propose commercially viable solutions to address them. The lawyer must also understand the general sector investment dynamics so that they can better advise on any regulatory permissions or other compliance requirements.

Most of the tech innovations generate a lot of data which becomes a major resource of the company. Your tech lawyer must be in position to advise on data protection and privacy legal compliance which when flouted may cause the collapse of the company through expensive suits or fines from regulatory bodies.

Over and above understanding the tech industry, it is important that your lawyer incorporates technology in their own practice. The long hours spent in traffic, in board rooms and law chambers in search of legal advice or simple documents can be used to increase productivity of your business.

Integration of
technology in
legal practice

A lawyer in today's world must be able to integrate technology in their everyday practice through use of online services (mails, texting, online payment platforms), telecom innovations such as video calls and conferencing, electronic signatures, software applications and many other innovations that can make the legal practice easier for both the client and the lawyer.

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