

**COMMONWEALTH OF DOMINICA**

ACT No. 12 OF 2013

*I assent*



**E.T. WILLIAMS**

*President*

21<sup>st</sup> May, 2013

**AN ACT TO AMEND THE PROTECTION OF WITNESSES  
ACT, 2013.**

(Gazetted 23<sup>rd</sup> May, 2013)

BE IT ENACTED by the Parliament of the Commonwealth  
of Dominica as follows:

1. This Act may be cited as the –

Short title.

**PROTECTION OF WITNESSES (AMENDMENT)  
ACT, 2013.**

Interpretation.  
Act No.4 of 2013.

**2.** In this Act “the Act” means the Protection of Witnesses Act 2013.

Amendment of section  
13.

**3.** Section 13 of the Act is amended -

(a) in subsection (1)(a) by deleting the figures “16, 17, 18, 19, 20, 21, or 24” and substituting “16, 17, 18, 19, 20 or 21”;

(b) in subsection (2) by deleting the figures “16, 17, 18, 19, 20, 21 or 24” wherever they appear and substituting “16, 17, 18, 19, 20 or 21”.

Insertion of new section  
27.

**4.** The Act is amended by inserting the following new section 27 immediately after section 26 –

“Live link  
evidence from  
outside the  
Commonwealth  
of Dominica.

**27.** (1) The court may permit evidence to be given by means of technology, such as the live link that permits the virtual presence of the witness before the court and that permits the court and the parties to the proceedings to hear, examine and cross-examine the witness, if the witness is outside the Commonwealth of Dominica.

(2) Evidence given under subsection (1) shall be given as though the witness was physically before the court and the law relating to contempt of court with respect to a refusal by the witness to answer a question or to produce a document applies to such evidence.

(3) Where on trial evidence has been given in accordance with subsection (1), the judge shall give the jury a warning, if any, that the judge considers

**2013      PROTECTION OF WITNESSES      ACT 12**  
**(AMENDMENT)**

---

213

necessary to ensure that the fact that the evidence was given by means of technology, such as the live link, does not prejudice the accused.”.

Passed in the House of Assembly this 16<sup>th</sup> day of May, 2013.

**VERNANDA RAYMOND (MRS.)**  
*Clerk of the House of Assembly (Ag.)*

**DOMINICA**

Printed by the Government Printer at the Government Printery, Roseau

(Price \$0.60)