

PRESS RELEASE

Amsterdam, 16th November 2018

DUTCH 'E-COURT' TAKES SUPREME COURT JUSTICES AND OTHER MAGISTRATES TO COURT

The first online private court of the Netherlands, e-Court, is about to take judges to court from all parts of the country and of all levels: from State District Court judges up to and including Justices of the Supreme Court of the Netherlands. They will be questioned under oath to explain their share in a nationwide media-attack against e-Court of January 2018, and the subsequent shutdown in February 2018.

Everything is pointing to a carefully planned ambush to take out the competition of e-Court. How long was this secretly prepared? What was the role of the Board of the State Judiciary? These are questions e-Court requires to be answered.

'We seem to be dealing with a diligently orchestrated attack against e-Court. The stature of the judiciary has been jeopardized. The trust in an old institution is at stake', according to mr. R.H.M.J. baron van Hövell tot Westerflier, LLM, chairman of e-Court and former magistrate.

According to e-Court the state judiciary has acted in tort in three different ways:

1. Reputational attacks. Judges made incorrect negative statements, initiated unlawful comparative advertising and gave a false representation of e-Court in the media;
2. The shutdown of e-Court. In February 2018 all public courts were ordered to refuse their legally required cooperation for arbitration, by the central advisory body of magistrates, and
3. Unfair competition. For some time now, the public courts try to steal the ideas of e-Court by interviewing court bailiffs and their customers about the advantages of the e-Court approach, in order to try and copy as much of it as possible for their own use.

'How is it possible that controversial political wishes, prejudices and lies were presented to the media as facts and legal analysis? The public courts have tried very hard to destroy e-Court and take off with our ideas. We cannot even trust the impartial handling of our case by the Supreme Court anymore due to the involvement of two advocates-general and one Supreme Court Justice, which is a sad thing to say and not the first time they have tried to undercut our initiative', according to mrs. dr. H.W.R. Nakad-Weststrate, justice innovator and founder of e-Court.

The government has tried for many years to reduce the workload of the public courts and to promote alternatives, such as arbitration. Arbitration is a regulatory form of private justice and according to the Dutch legislator, an equivalent alternative for state justice. The Parties have a lot of freedom to organise the proceedings. e-Court has used the opportunity to the benefit of the parties. The quality of the proceedings are high, as well as the quality of the verdicts. The costs are very low and the aim is to reach as many amicable settlements as possible and to litigate as little as possible. The legal protection is well taken care of. In addition, e-Court has been able to achieve the modernization and digitalization of court proceedings, the state has long wished for. This explains the successful rise of e-Court in the Netherlands.

END OF PRESS RELEASE

Profile e-Court

The private court e-Court has been founded in 2009 to offer a high-quality, affordable and fast alternative for public court proceedings. The focus is on debt collection proceedings (small claims). e-Court is unique in its efficiency by offering transparent, digital court proceedings within eight weeks. Over the years e-Court has proven to actively help reduce the number of people with long term debt problems. We help by offering proceedings that have adequate safeguards, at very low cost. In addition, we have been able to reduce the number of court cases dramatically. With its innovative services e-Court has proven to offer a valuable alternative for debt collection proceedings.

www.e-court.nl

info@e-court.nl