

Lawyer, Law Office –What Does It Mean? How Does It Work? Pros and Cos

In contemporary world informational technologies rapidly develop and permeate into more and more spheres of social and human activity including legal activity and advocacy. Armenia is also deeply embedded in these ongoing global changes. Particularly state authorities continually insert technological tools of administration and judicial management and enlarge the scope of services rendered: online tax administration, electronic submission of application on provision of payment decrees, application of electronic systems of document flow in Registry Office, State Cadastre and elsewhere as well as electronic system of distribution of judicial cases etc.

As a result of these innovative changes subjectivity in judicial and administrative cases gradually diminishes at least in organizational and management sense.

State sponsored technological equipment of judicial and legal fields as well as IT solutions therein inevitably influence the nature and technological aspects of legal services.

Nowadays almost all successful law firms or attorneys use online advertisements or other online marketing tools, information on legal service providers, scope of legal services, price policy, pro bono packages etc. is provided in websites, special pages in social media and in internet advertisements, online consulting is widely spread by means of which potential customers ask an attorney the most urgent legal questions and may arrange a meeting with him (her) etc.

IT technologies in the field of legal services have become indispensable also due to Covid 19 pandemic. In such harsh conditions of social interaction online portals and internet tools of civil circulation save life of the society from potential collapse.

The RA Chamber of Advocates as specialized organization of attorneys' self-organization employs the strategy of continuous insertion of IT technologies of interaction with attorneys. In particular especially due to Covid 19 pandemic mechanisms of organization of distanced Board meetings such as Google Meet, Zoom etc are used. Also there are necessary means of online arrangement of attorneys' training as well as admission to and studying in the School of Advocates, attorneys may pay membership fees via internet applications, find and download necessary information including decisions of the Board from the website of the Chamber etc.

Besides "Mullberry" electronic system of document flow operates in the Staff of the Chamber and Public Defender Office via which online circulation and supervision of assignments, as well as entering and exiting documents is secured.

Positive traits of expanding development of IT technologies in management of legal issues are acceleration of operations, the opportunity of efficient performance of multifunctional tasks within the reporting period and the ability to contact with colleagues, customers and state bodies within the territory of the country in question as well abroad.

Negative aspects of the IT development is rather high risk of money laundering and fraud, outages in case of breakdown of technological tools, insufficient accessibility of several legal services for people with poor computer knowledge especially in remote rural areas and no alternative means of having such services for this category of population etc.

In order to extract gain from insertion and fast growth of high technologies for the whole society it is necessary to improve legal, media and computer knowledge of people all over the country and apply efficient systems of control over illegal activities in internet. In this case technological development will really bring universal rise of life level.