Advocates Seek Input on Ontario HIV Criminalization Guidelines

June 3, 2013

Responding to years of advocacy, Ontario is writing guidelines for criminal prosecutions involving nondisclosure of HIV status, Xtra! reports. HIV groups have been asking the Canadian province for such guidelines since 2010. The goal is to reduce the number of HIV prosecutions in Ontario, which is where the majority of them take place in the country. The guidelines may cover issues such as bail conditions, plea bargains and the privacy of the accused. Advocates claim that although they have met with officials to convince them to write the guidelines, they have not had input on the content. A government spokesperson said the new policy should be finalized by the fall of 2013.

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