



**NOTICE TO THE PROFESSION IN CENTRAL SOUTH REGION
RE: CIVIL, FAMILY, CRIMINAL EXPANSION**

From: Harrison S. Arrell
Regional Senior Justice – Superior Court of Justice
Central South Region

Date: April 28, 2020

The Central South Region now feels it has sufficient capacity to further expand the services it can provide.

CIVIL:

1. Counsel who had civil pretrials scheduled to be heard in March, April or May 2020, that did not get heard should contact opposing parties to confirm the pretrial could go forward by zoom or conference call. If the parties agree that they wish the pretrial to be heard, they should contact the Trial Coordinator who will provide a non-negotiable date for the pretrial and the coordinates to connect to the pretrial. **Counsel must have access to the instructing party at all times** during the hearing. Pretrial briefs **must be concise, in WORD format** and should be emailed to the Trial Coordinator for distribution to the judge 3 days before the hearing.

- Brantford: BrantfS@ontario.ca
- Cayuga: Cayuga.Superior.Court@ontario.ca
- Hamilton: Hamilton.Superior.Court@ontario.ca
- Kitchener/Waterloo: Kitchener.Superior.Court@ontario.ca
- Simcoe: Simcoe.Superior.Court@ontario.ca
- St. Catharines: St.Catharines.Superior.Court@ontario.ca
- Welland: Welland.Superior.Court@ontario.ca

2. Civil pretrials currently scheduled for after June 1st, 2020 will proceed as scheduled.

3. It is expected that there will be a 3-week civil non-jury sittings in July and August 2020 for all non-jury cases not heard at the spring sittings. Counsel should prepare to be called to trial on those cases. The exact dates of this sittings will be posted shortly for all court sites.

4. The court will hear simple contested motions or applications where the issues of fact and law are not complex and which can be argued in less than 45 minutes by zoom or conference call. Counsel should contact the Trial Coordinators after service has been completed and responding material, if any, has been filed. The Trial Coordinator will provide a non-negotiable date for the motion and the coordinates to connect to the motion. **Concise material shall be filed, in WORD format** 3 days in advance of the hearing by email at:

- Brantford: BrantfordSCJCourt@ontario.ca
- Cayuga: HaldimandCountyCourt@ontario.ca
- Hamilton: HamiltonSCJCourt@ontario.ca
- Kitchener/Waterloo: Kitchener.Courthouse@ontario.ca
- Simcoe: Simcoe.SCJ.Courts@ontario.ca
- St. Catharines: SCJStCatharinesCourthouse@ontario.ca
- Welland: SCJWellandCourthouse@ontario.ca

5. Counsel are reminded, as per my Notice to Profession of April 2nd, 2020, that the court will deal with consent, unopposed, and other basket and motions and applications in writing as per the protocol set out in the notice of April 2nd, 2020.

6. Counsel are also reminded that unscheduled civil pretrials will be heard by the court if it is likely to resolve the case. See my notice dated April 2nd, 2020.

FAMILY:

1. There will be a family trial sittings in July and August 2020 for cases not heard at the spring sittings. The sittings will be separate time periods for St. Catharines and Welland. The usual running monthly sittings in Hamilton Family Court will continue in late June, July, and August 2020, for cases already

scheduled for that time period, along with cases not heard during the March, April and May 2020 sittings. Counsel should prepare accordingly. The exact dates of these sittings will be posted shortly.

2. The Court is now prepared to deal with Divorces and Adoptions. Materials for consideration by the court should follow the directives set out in the paragraph 31 of the Protocol released April 7, 2020 and should be sent by email to:

- Brantford: BrantfordSCJCourt@ontario.ca
- Cayuga: HaldimandCountyCourt@ontario.ca
- Hamilton: HamiltonSCJCourt@ontario.ca
- Kitchener/Waterloo: Kitchener.Courthouse@ontario.ca
- Simcoe: Simcoe.SCJ.Courts@ontario.ca
- St. Catharines: SCJStCatharinesCourthouse@ontario.ca
- Welland: SCJWellandCourthouse@ontario.ca

3. The Court will hear case conferences and settlement conferences not reached in March, April or May 2020. Counsel must contact the opposing side to confirm consent that the matter can be heard by zoom or conference call. The Trial Coordinator will provide a non-negotiable date for the conference and the coordinates to connect to the conference. **Concise briefs must be filed to the Trial Coordinator in WORD format** 3 days in advance of the hearing by email at:

- Brantford: BrantfS@ontario.ca
- Cayuga: Cayuga.Superior.Court@ontario.ca
- Hamilton Family Court: Hamilton.Family.Superior.Court@ontario.ca
- Kitchener/Waterloo: Kitchener.Superior.Court@ontario.ca
- Simcoe: Simcoe.Superior.Court@ontario.ca
- St. Catharines: St.Catharines.Superior.Court@ontario.ca
- Welland: Welland.Superior.Court@ontario.ca

4. Requirements regarding materials to be filed for case conferences as set out in paragraph 13 of the Protocol released April 7, 2020 **continue to apply and apply equally** to settlement conference materials.

CRIMINAL:

1. Criminal non-jury trials scheduled for June, July and August 2020 will proceed as scheduled. If a further judicial pretrial would be helpful, counsel should contact the trial coordinator to arrange such a pretrial.
2. Trials that were scheduled for March, April, and May, 2020 can be scheduled for a further judicial pretrial to discuss resolution, re-election and/or re-scheduling. Counsel should contact the Trial Coordinators who will provide a non-negotiable date for the pretrial and the coordinates to connect to the pretrial.



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