



SUPREME COURT OF NEWFOUNDLAND AND LABRADOR

NOTICE TO THE PROFESSION AND GENERAL PUBLIC: RESCHEDULING MISSED APPEARANCES IN THE ST. JOHN'S FAMILY DIVISION

Issued: June 3, 2020

In response to the public health emergency caused by the COVID-19 pandemic, the Supreme Court of Newfoundland and Labrador suspended its normal operations on March 18, 2020, permitting only urgent and emergency matters to proceed. As a result, a number of matters were postponed. The Court is now working on finding ways to address the backlog of appearances that were missed since that date. Further to this, the Court issues the following Notice outlining the rescheduling process for certain types of appearances in the **Family Division in St. John's**.

Missed Applications, Case Management Hearings, and Default Summons

If you were required to appear for an application, case management hearing or default summons between March 19 - May 14 and it did not proceed, your matter will now proceed **via teleconference** on the corresponding "rescheduled date" in the table below, unless you have previously been contacted by the Court to reschedule your appearance. Your matter will be held on the rescheduled date at the time originally set (for example, if your matter was set for 10:00AM on March 19, it is now set for 10:00AM on June 18). With that said, some delay is anticipated owing to the time required to connect to parties via teleconference.

To minimize such delays, please ensure the telephone number at which you would like to be contacted for the appearance is on file with the Court by emailing familyscheduling@supreme.court.nl.ca as soon as possible (this requirement also applies to counsel, who must provide one direct telephone number for this purpose). Please include in your email: **court file number; case name; date and time of court appearance and your current telephone number** (only one number). Please also ensure your phone line is free the day of your scheduled matter. If the Court cannot reach you at the time set for your appearance, the judge may proceed in your absence and may, in some circumstances, make an Order against you.

Please note that the scheduling of dates in the table below is contingent on a number of factors. As a result, matters set on earlier original dates are not necessarily given earlier rescheduled dates.

Family Division Recovery Docket March 19-September 10, 2020	
Original Date	Rescheduled Date
Thursday, March 19	Thursday, June 18
Friday, March 20	Friday, June 19
Monday, March 23	Monday, June 29
Thursday, March 26	Friday, July 3
Friday, March 27	Friday, June 26
Tuesday, April 7	Wednesday, July 22
Wednesday, April 8	Tuesday, June 16
Tuesday, April 14	Tuesday, June 23
Wednesday, April 15	Tuesday, June 23
Wednesday, April 22	Thursday, June 25
Friday, April 24	Tuesday, June 30
Monday, April 27	Tuesday, August 25
Wednesday, April 29	Monday, June 15
Friday, May 1	Friday, June 26
Monday, May 4	Wednesday, September 2
Tuesday, May 5	Thursday, August 27
Wednesday, May 6	Thursday, August 13
Thursday, May 7	Wednesday, August 12
Friday, May 8	Tuesday, September 1
Monday, May 11	Thursday, September 10
Tuesday, May 12	Thursday, September 3
Wednesday, May 13	Wednesday, June 24
Thursday, May 14	Thursday, September 10

Settlement Conferences

If your settlement conference was set between March 19 - May 22, 2020, and it did not proceed, and you still wish to go ahead with it, you must file another Request for Settlement Conference (Form F25.03A). That form is available here:

<https://www.assembly.nl.ca/legislation/sr/regulations/RulesSc/RulesScForms/FormF25.03A.pdf>

When the Court receives a Request from both parties, a new date will be set for the settlement conference to be heard via video conference without the need for a Case Management Hearing.

To minimize delays on the day of the settlement conference and prior to the settlement conference, all parties who will participate in the settlement conference must test their video conferencing equipment and the video link supplied by the Court. Wherever possible, counsel should make arrangements for their clients to appear with them in their office, to minimize the number of video connections required.

The Court will continue to post further updates and details regarding its operations. Please continue to check the Supreme Court website at www.court.nl.ca/supreme.

RAYMOND P. WHALEN
Chief Justice