

Update: COVID-19 Pandemic Planning - Scheduling of Criminal and Family Matters in the Ontario Court of Justice (as of March 20, 2020)

Please do not come into a courthouse if you have been advised by public health officials, your doctor or the Ontario Ministry of Health (MOH) website (<https://www.ontario.ca/page/2019-novel-coronavirus>) to self-isolate.

In response to the COVID-19 pandemic, the Ontario Court of Justice issued a directive on March 15, 2020, "COVID-19 Pandemic Planning for the Scheduling of Matters in the Ontario Court of Justice" to reduce the number of people who attend court for criminal, family and *Provincial Offences Act* matters. That directive has been revised and extended, as of March 20, 2020.

Unless you have an urgent criminal or an urgent family court appearance in the Ontario Court of Justice between Friday March 20, 2020 and Friday May 29, 2020 do not attend court.

All family trials, criminal trials and preliminary inquiries between Friday March 20, 2020 and Friday May 29, 2020 are suspended, subject to a judge seized with a continuing matter ordering otherwise. This applies to both in-custody and out-of-custody accused.

The Court is reducing the number of courtrooms that will operate. Judicial officials will remain available to preside over:

- regularly scheduled bail courts, remand and plea courts for in-custody proceedings;
- plea court for urgent out-of-custody matters;
- urgent family proceedings;
- applications under the *Health Protection and Promotion Act*; and
- urgent and/or essential intake court functions.

For more details, please see

[COVID-19 Pandemic Planning – Scheduling of Criminal Matters in the Ontario Court of Justice](#) (March 20, 2020)

[COVID-19 Pandemic Planning – Scheduling of Family Matters in the Ontario Court of Justice](#) (March 20, 2020)

For information about the scheduling of *Provincial Offences Act* proceedings, please see [Notice to Public regarding Provincial Offences Act Matters](#).