

## **Update – Additional Court Locations Commencing Virtual Criminal Case Management Appearances on September 8, 2020 (Published September 2, 2020)**

The Ontario Court of Justice is continuing to implement virtual criminal case management courts, in which criminal case management appearances will be conducted by videoconference or audioconference.

On September 8, 2020, virtual criminal case management courts will be implemented in the following locations:

<b><u>Region</u></b>	<b><u>Courthouse</u></b>
Central East	Barrie, Lindsay, Peterborough
Central West	Brantford, Milton, Niagara (St. Catharines/Welland/Fort Erie)
East	Brockville, Cornwall, Perth
West	Chatham, London, Sarnia,
Northeast	North Bay, Parry Sound, Sault Ste Marie, Sudbury
Toronto	Toronto North (1000 Finch), Toronto West (2201 Finch)

Details about virtual criminal case management court appearances are available in the Notice, [“Scheduling and Conducting of Virtual Criminal Case Management Appearances”](#).

Further information about criminal proceedings in the Ontario Court of Justice, including the definition of “case management appearances”, is available in the [COVID-19: Notice to Counsel and the Public re: Criminal Matters in the Ontario Court of Justice](#).

Please continue to check the [Ontario Court of Justice website](#) for updates.

**Note:** The automatic adjournment of criminal case management appearances due to the COVID-19 pandemic has resulted in large dockets. In addition, it will likely take all participants some time to adapt to the new procedures and technology involved in conducting these appearances using remote technology. The Court encourages and appreciates the cooperation and patience of all participants, particularly at the beginning of this initiative. The Court will revise and refine the procedures for these virtual case management courts, as appropriate, based on feedback and as court operations continue to evolve in response to the COVID-19 pandemic.

### **Attendance at Case Management Court**

The number of people who may be present in the courthouse and in the courtroom remains restricted in order to comply with health and safety precautions and maintain safe physical distancing to prevent the

spread of COVID-19. For this reason, in-person attendances for criminal court case management appearances can not currently be accommodated at all court locations.

If you have a case management criminal court appearance in any of the court locations listed above, do not attend court in person.

## **Scheduling and Connection Information**

Each case management court has its own unique video link and its own unique telephone number / passcode combination that is needed to connect to the court. This information is set out in [courthouse-specific schedules](#) available on the Ontario Court of Justice website.

To facilitate more orderly proceedings and to limit the number of people waiting on the line to have their matters addressed, case management court lists have been subdivided into tiers. Counsel and accused persons are encouraged to connect to the case management courtroom at the time specified for their tier. However, the Court recognizes that, as a result of the automatic adjournment of matters and other scheduling changes, counsel may have conflicting court obligations which will prevent counsel from being able to attend during the allotted time.

The scheduling and connection information for criminal case management courts may change in response to the COVID-19 pandemic and as court operations continue to expand. Please continue to check the [Ontario Court of Justice website](#) for updates.

## **Criminal Case Management Court Appearances in Other Court Locations**

Province-wide implementation of virtual criminal case management courts will continue over the next several weeks.

In the meantime, the automatic adjournment of criminal court appearances for accused persons who are not in custody will continue at other court locations until the virtual criminal case management court is implemented at that particular location.

If you have a case management criminal court appearance in the Ontario Court of Justice on or before September 18, 2020 in a location other than those listed below, do not attend court. The court will adjourn your matter without you being present, using a court order called a "[bench warrant with discretion](#)", which will require you to attend court on the new date.

Appearances between August 24, 2020 and September 18, 2020 will be adjourned to a date approximately five (5) weeks from the original date. To find out what date your matter is being adjourned to, see the [list of adjournment dates](#).

## **Courthouse-specific Scheduling and Connection Information**

(for all Virtual Criminal Case Management Court locations implemented on or before September 8, 2020)

Barrie	Brantford	Brockville
Cayuga	Chatham	Cornwall
Goderich	Guelph	Kitchener
Lindsay	London	Milton
Niagara (St. Catharines / Welland / Fort Erie)	North Bay	Oshawa
Orangeville	L'Orignal	Ottawa
Parry Sound	Pembroke	Perth
Peterborough	St. Thomas	Sarnia
Simcoe	Stratford	Sault Ste Marie
Sudbury	Thunder Bay	Timmins
Toronto East (1911 Eglinton)	Toronto North (1000 Finch)	Toronto West (2201 Finch)
Windsor	Woodstock	