



MEMO TO COUNSEL

From: The Honourable Justice M. J. Donohue
Date: September 8, 2023
Re: Appearances in Assignment Courts

Clarity has been requested as to who may appear in Superior Court of Justice assignment courts.

CRIMINAL ASSIGNMENT COURT

The accused must be present unless a designation for counsel to appear on their behalf is filed.

Students-at-Law and Articling Students may appear on criminal remands and consent adjournments if permitted by the court.

Paralegals are not permitted to appear in Superior Court criminal assignment court.

CIVIL ASSIGNMENT COURT

Students-at-Law and Articling Students may appear in civil assignment court if the court gives permission.

Paralegals are not permitted to appear in Superior Court civil assignment court.

FAMILY ASSIGNMENT COURT/CAS ASSIGNMENT COURT

Pursuant to rule 4 of the *Family Law Rules*, a party may be represented by a person who is not a lawyer only if the court gives permission in advance.

Students-at-Law and Articling Students may appear in family assignment court/CAS assignment court if the court gives permission.

TRIAL READINESS COURT

At trial readiness court the trial counsel is expected to appear to confirm the matter is ready for trial.

Rights of Appearance | Law Society of Ontario (lso.ca)
Paralegal Rules of Conduct

The Honourable Justice M. J. Donohue
Local Administrative Justice