

THE HONOURABLE MR. JUSTICE PAUL R. SWEENY
REGIONAL SENIOR JUDGE – CENTRAL SOUTH REGION
SUPERIOR COURT OF JUSTICE



L'HONOURABLE JUGE PAUL R. SWEENY
JUGE PRINCIPAL RÉGIONAL
COUR SUPÉRIEURE DE JUSTICE

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January 26, 2024

Central South Law Associations via email
Ontario Bar Association via email
The Advocate's Society via email

Dear Sirs and Madams,

RE: Binding Judicial Dispute Resolution (JDR) for Family Cases and Revised Notice to Profession, Parties and Public effective February 1, 2024

Binding Judicial Dispute Resolution (JDR) for Family Cases

I am pleased to advise that commencing February 1st, 2024, we will be offering Binding Judicial Dispute Resolution (JDR) in family cases throughout the Central South Region. I am attaching the Provincial Practice Advisory and my Notice which will both be posted on the Superior Court website together with the forms to be used.

Binding JDR started as a pilot project and has been successful in leading to resolutions of certain family cases in a timely, efficient and cost-effective manner. It is only for specific types of cases.

Please refer to my Notice and the Practice Advisory for full details.

Revised Notice to Profession, Parties and Public effective February 1, 2024

The purpose of this notice is to update the presumptive mode of hearing guidelines by making bail hearings, civil long motions and applications presumptively in person and adding the need for in person interpreters as a factor to consider in changing the presumptive mode of hearing. This notice introduces designated motion dates for civil motions in the Central South region and designated motion dates for family motions in Brantford, Cayuga and Simcoe. In addition, this confirms the option of in person/hybrid appearances for short civil motions at Hamilton Sopinka.

As set out in the notice, commencing February 1st, 2024, there will be fixed motion days for short civil motions at each courthouse in Central South commencing at 10:00 a.m. Short motion days are as follows:

- Hamilton John Sopinka Courthouse every Tuesday and Thursday
- Waterloo Regional Court house every Thursday
- St. Catharines Robert S. K. Welch Courthouse every Thursday
- Welland Courthouse every Friday
- Brantford Superior Court designated Fridays (contact the Trial coordinator for specific dates)
- Cayuga Courthouse designated Tuesdays (contact the Trial coordinator for specific dates)
- Simcoe Courthouse designated Thursdays (contact the Trial coordinator for specific dates)

Please also note that short family motions (less than 1 hour) are returnable on the set days for civil motions in Brantford, Cayuga and Simcoe, as set out above.

Yours very truly,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Paul R. Sweeny". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.

Mr. Justice Paul R. Sweeny
Regional Senior Judge – Central South Region
Superior Court of Justice

Enclosures.