



TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO GAZETTE (EXTRAORDINARY)

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SUPPLEMENT TO THIS ISSUE

THE DOCUMENTS detailed hereunder have been issued and are published as a Supplement to this issue of the *Trinidad and Tobago Gazette: Legal Supplement Part B*—

Firearms (Use of Pepper Spray) Order, 2021—(Legal Notice No. 203 of 2021).

Approval in respect of New Drugs—(Legal Notice No. 204 of 2021).

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REPUBLIC OF TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO

PRACTICE DIRECTION

COURT OPERATIONS COVID-19 PANDEMIC DIRECTIONS WITH EFFECT FROM AUGUST 4, 2021 NO. 18

This Practice Direction is issued pursuant to Part 4 of the Civil Proceedings Rules 1998 (as amended), Part 20 of the Criminal Procedure Rules, Part 4 of the Family Proceedings Rules, Part 22 of the Children Court Rules, Rule 69 of the Petty Civil Court Rules and Rule 72 of the Non-Contentious Business Rules (as amended) and is applicable to the entire Judiciary of Trinidad and Tobago which includes the Supreme Court and all Summary Courts.

In response to the continuing surge in the novel coronavirus (Covid-19) cases in the Republic of Trinidad and Tobago, these Practice Directions are issued to protect the health and safety of court staff and the public.

Whereas the Judiciary of Trinidad and Tobago is committed to doing everything necessary to ensure continued access to justice and to keeping the Judiciary functioning while protecting our staff and our publics.

And whereas the Judiciary is desirous of:

- a) Reducing the number of persons coming to the nation's court buildings;
- b) Facilitating the use of electronic alternatives to in person activities at the Court by internal and external persons; and
- c) Making the courthouses and administrative offices as safe as possible for those who must physically attend those buildings;

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having regard to:

- (a) the State of Emergency proclaimed on May 15, 2021;
- (b) the Emergency Powers Regulations in place from time to time;
- (c) the Public Health regulations in place from time to time; and
- (d) the Public Health policies in place.

The following measures shall take effect:

EFFECTIVE DATES

1. This Practice Direction shall be read in conjunction with the Practice Direction published in Trinidad and Tobago Gazette Vol. 60 No. 102 dated June 30, 2020 titled “Court Operations Covid-19 Pandemic Directions with effect from July 1, 2021 No. 17” and shall take and continue to be in effect from August 3, 2021 to September 30, 2021 (this period) unless stated otherwise or superseded.
2. For the avoidance of doubt, paragraphs 2, 31-33, 35-41 and 43-44 of Practice Direction No. 17 are superseded.

TIME

3. Time will run with respect to all timelines prescribed for filing under the Rules of Court pursuant to which this Practice Direction is issued and orders made by the court with effect from August 4, 2021.

EXTENSION OF WAIVER OF FEES (FILING BY ELECTRONIC MEANS)

4. Further to Rule 67.15(5) of the Civil Proceedings Rules 1998 (as amended), Legal Notice No. 67 of 2020, the period for which the fees specified in Appendix D to Part 67 of the said Rules shall not be charged in respect of filings by electronic means shall be **April 2, 2020 to September 30 2021** inclusive.
5. Further to Rule 36.12 (3) of the Family Proceedings Rules 1998 (as amended), Legal Notice No. 72 of 2020, the period for which the fees specified in Appendix B of the said Rules shall not be charged in respect of filings by electronic means shall be **April 2, 2020 to September 30, 2021** inclusive.
6. Further to Rule 49A of the Petty Civil Courts Rules (as amended), Legal Notice No. 263 of 2020, the period for which the fees specified in the said Rules shall not be charged in respect of filings by electronic means shall be **July 6, 2020 to September 30, 2021** inclusive.

FINES AND COURT ORDERED COMPENSATION PAYMENTS

7. All fines due and owing at August 3, 2021 shall be paid on or before December 30, 2021.

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8. **All court ordered compensation payments NOT INCLUDING MAINTENANCE** due and owing at August 3 and for which payment was suspended, shall be paid on or before **December 30, 2021**.
9. **All fines and court ordered compensation payments NOT INCLUDING MAINTENANCE** may nevertheless be paid online at any time using credit or visa enabled debit cards.
10. For the avoidance of doubt, time for the payment of any **Public Health Fixed Penalty Notices** issued **on or before August 3, 2021** has been extended to December 30, 2021.
11. The payment of any **Public Health Fixed Penalty Notice** issued may nevertheless be paid online at any time using credit or visa enabled debit cards.
12. The hearings for Public Health Fixed Penalty Notices issued on or before December 30, 2021 in situations in which the fines are not paid, are hereby adjourned as follows:

PUBLIC HEALTH FIXED PENALTY NOTICES ISSUED DURING PERIOD	ADJOURNED DATE OF HEARING
September 5, 2020 to September 11, 2020	Tuesday 5 April 2022
September 12, 2020 to September 18, 2020	Tuesday 12 April 2022
September 19, 2020 to September 25, 2020	Tuesday 19 April 2022
September 26, 2020 to October 2, 2020	Tuesday 26 April 2022
October 3, 2020 to October 9, 2020	Tuesday 10 May 2022
October 10, 2020 to October 16, 2020	Tuesday 17 May 2022
October 17, 2020 to October 23, 2020	Tuesday 24 May 2022
October 24, 2020 to October 30, 2020	Tuesday 31 May 2022
October 31, 2020 to November 6, 2020	Tuesday 7 June 2022
November 7, 2020 to November 13, 2020	Tuesday 14 June, 2022
November 14, 2020 to November 20, 2020	Tuesday 21 June, 2022
November 21, 2020 to November 27, 2020	Tuesday 28 June, 2022
November 28, 2020 to December 4, 2020	Tuesday 5 July, 2022
December 5, 2020 to December 11, 2020	Tuesday 12 July, 2022
December 12, 2020 to December 18, 2020	Tuesday 19 July, 2022
December 19, 2020 to December 25, 2020	Tuesday 26 July, 2022
December 26, 2020 to January 1, 2021	Tuesday 2 August, 2022

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PUBLIC HEALTH FIXED PENALTY NOTICES ISSUED DURING PERIOD	ADJOURNED DATE OF HEARING
January 2, 2021 to January 8, 2021	Tuesday 9 August, 2022
January 9, 2021 to January 15, 2021	Tuesday 16 August, 2022
January 16, 2021 to January 22, 2021	Tuesday 23 August, 2022
January 23, 2021 to January 29, 2021	Tuesday 30 August, 2022
January 30, 2021 to February 5, 2021	Tuesday 6 September, 2022
February 6, 2021 to February 12, 2021	Tuesday 13 September, 2022
February 13, 2021 to February 19, 2021	Tuesday 20 September, 2022
February 20, 2021 to February 26, 2021	Tuesday 27 September, 2022
February 27, 2021 to March 5, 2021	Tuesday 4 October, 2022
March 6, 2021 to March 12, 2021	Tuesday 11 October, 2022
March 13, 2021 to March 19, 2021	Tuesday 18 October, 2022
March 20, 2021 to March 26, 2021	Tuesday 25 October, 2022
March 27, 2021 to April 2, 2021	Tuesday 1 November, 2022
April 3, 2021 to April 9, 2021	Tuesday 8 November, 2022
April 10, 2021 to April 16, 2021	Tuesday 15 November, 2022
April 17, 2021 to April 23, 2021	Tuesday 22 November, 2022
April 24, 2021 to April 30, 2021	Tuesday 29 November, 2022
May 1, 2021 to May 7, 2021	Tuesday 6 December, 2022
May 8, 2021 to May 14, 2021	Tuesday 13 December, 2022
May 15, 2021 to May 21, 2021	Tuesday 20 December, 2022
May 22, 2021 to May 28, 2021	Tuesday 3 January, 2023
May 29, 2021 to June 4, 2021	Tuesday 10 January, 2023
June 5, 2021 to June 11, 2021	Tuesday 17 January, 2023
June 12, 2021 to June 18, 2021	Tuesday 24 January, 2023
June 19, 2021 to June 25, 2021	Tuesday 31 January, 2023
June 26, 2021 to July 2, 2021	Tuesday 7 February, 2023
July 3, 2021 to July 9, 2021	Tuesday 14 February, 2023
July 10, 2021 to July 16, 2021	Tuesday 28 February, 2023
July 17, 2021 to July 23, 2021	Tuesday 7 March, 2023
July 24, 2021 to July 30, 2021	Tuesday 14 March, 2023
July 31, 2021 to August 6, 2021	Tuesday 21 March, 2023
August 7, 2021 to August 13, 2021	Tuesday 28 March, 2023
August 14, 2021 to August 20, 2021	Tuesday 4 April, 2023
August 21, 2021 to August 27, 2021	Tuesday 11 April, 2023
August 28, 2021 to September 3, 2021	Tuesday 18 April, 2023
September 4, 2021 to September 10, 2021	Tuesday 25 April, 2023

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PUBLIC HEALTH FIXED PENALTY NOTICES ISSUED DURING PERIOD	ADJOURNED DATE OF HEARING
September 11, 2021 to September 17, 2021	Tuesday 2 May, 2023
September 18, 2021 to September 24, 2021	Tuesday 9 May, 2023
September 25, 2021 to October 1, 2021	Tuesday 16 May, 2023
October 2, 2021 to October 8, 2021	Tuesday 23 May, 2023
October 9, 2021 to October 15, 2021	Tuesday 6 June, 2023
October 16, 2021 to October 22, 2021	Tuesday 13 June, 2023
October 23, 2021 to October 29, 2021	Tuesday 20 June, 2023
October 30, 2021 to November 5, 2021	Tuesday 27 June, 2023
November 6, 2021 to November 12, 2021	Tuesday 4 July, 2023
November 13, 2021 to November 19, 2021	Tuesday 11 July, 2023
November 20, 2021 to November 26, 2021	Tuesday 18 July, 2023
November 27, 2021 to December 3, 2021	Tuesday 25 July, 2023
December 4, 2021 to December 10, 2021	Tuesday 8 August, 2023
December 11, 2021 to December 17, 2021	Tuesday 15 August, 2023
December 18, 2021 to December 24, 2021	Tuesday 22 August, 2023
December 25, to December 30, 2021	Tuesday 29 August, 2023

13. The hearings for Public Health Fixed Penalty Notices issued on or after December 31, 2021, in situations in which the fines are not paid, shall be the date as stated on the Fixed Penalty Notice.

SERVICE AND COMMISSIONER FEES

14. All service fees, commissioner of affidavit fees and fees for services will be noted during this period and payment will be suspended until September 30, 2021.

TRAFFIC TICKETS RECEIVED PRIOR TO MAY 26, 2020

15. While provision has been made in the Miscellaneous Amendments Act, Act No. 10 of 2020, for all tickets issued before May 26, 2020 to be settled within six (6) months from May 26, 2020, by payment of 50% of the penalty, which said payment had been extended for a period of four (4) months from November 26, 2020 by Legal Notice No. 366 of 2020

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which said payment had been further extended from March 26, 2021 to May 31, 2021 by Legal Notice No. 89 of 2021 and which said payment had been further extended by Legal Notice No. 171 of 2021, time for the payment of all tickets issued before May 26, 2020 shall be from June 1, 2021 to September 30, 2021.

16. The payment of the tickets referred to in paragraph 15 above, may be paid online using credit or visa enabled debit cards.

Dated this 3rd day of August, 2021

/s/ Ivor Archie
Chief Justice