



TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO GAZETTE (EXTRAORDINARY)

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REPUBLIC OF TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO

PRACTICE DIRECTION

SUPPLEMENT TO THE PRACTICE DIRECTION (COURT OPERATIONS COVID-19 PANDEMIC DIRECTIONS WITH EFFECT FROM OCTOBER 1, 2021 NO. 19) ISSUED ON THE 30TH SEPTEMBER, 2021 AND PUBLISHED IN THE TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO GAZETTE VOLUME 60 NO. 149

**SUPPLEMENT TO THE PRACTICE DIRECTION (HEARINGS BY ELECTRONIC MEANS) ISSUED ON THE 26TH MARCH, 2020 AND PUBLISHED IN THE TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO GAZETTE VOLUME 59 NO. 41
NO. 19.1**

This Practice Direction is issued pursuant to Part 4 of the Civil Proceedings Rules 1998, Part 20 of the Criminal Procedure Rules 2016, Part 4 of the Family Proceedings Rules 1998, Part 22 of the Children Court Rules 2018, Rule 69 of the Petty Civil Court Rules and Rule 72 of the Non-Contentious Business Rules (as amended) and is applicable to all divisions of the Judiciary of Trinidad and Tobago including the Supreme Court and the Summary Courts.

The objectives of this Practice Direction are to:

1. Provide for the anonymising and/or non-disclosure of the telephone number and/or email address of a party to a matter, where said information is by practice included on a Notice of Hearing by Electronic Means, in prescribed circumstances;

2. Extend the deadlines for the payments of fines and court-ordered compensation payments not including maintenance in light of the continued challenges associated with the COVID-19 pandemic; and
3. Extend the deadline for the payment of traffic tickets received prior to May 26th, 2020 in light of the continued challenges associated with the COVID-19 pandemic.

Accordingly, the following measures shall take effect:

1. This Practice Direction is intended to supersede and/or replace the provisions of any prior Practice Direction to the extent of any inconsistency, but otherwise shall be read in conjunction with any other Practice Direction in force for the time being.

ANONYMIZING AND/OR NON DISCLOSURE OF CONTACT INFORMATION

2. Notwithstanding Paragraph 8(d) of the Practice Direction (Court Operations COVID-19 Pandemic Directions With Effect From October 1, 2021 No. 19) issued on the 30th September, 2021 and published in the Trinidad and Tobago Gazette Volume 60 No. 149; **and** Paragraph 6(d) of the Practice Direction (Hearings by Electronic Means) issued on the 26th March, 2020 and published in the Trinidad and Tobago Gazette Volume 59 No. 41, the court office may anonymise and/or withhold the telephone number and/or email address of a party to a matter, or issue a Notice of Hearing by Electronic Means without the telephone number and/or email address of a party to the matter stated therein:
 - a. For applications made under the Domestic Violence Act Chapter 45:56; or
 - b. In any matter, where the Registrar of the Supreme Court or the Magistracy Registrar and Clerk of the Court, as the case may be, directs that it is necessary and appropriate in the circumstances.
3. A party to a matter may make an oral or written request to the Registrar of the Supreme Court or Magistracy Registrar and Clerk of the Court, for the telephone number and/or email address of that party to be anonymised and/or withheld when notifying parties of a Hearing by Electronic Means having regard to the safety and security of that party or any other person in a matter.
4. Nothing contained above shall be construed as preventing the Court from directing that the telephone number and/or email address of a party be withheld from or provided to any party to the matter, or any attorney-at-law, or any third party, where the Court is of the view that it is in the interest of justice so to do.

EXTENSION OF DEADLINES FOR THE PAYMENT OF FINES AND COURT ORDERED COMPENSATION PAYMENTS NOT INCLUDING MAINTENANCE

5. The deadline for persons who are unable to pay Public Health Fixed Penalties, fines or court ordered compensation payments by credit card or Visa enabled debit card to make such payments is extended to **February 14, 2022**, unless the court orders otherwise.
6. The deadline for persons to pay all fines due and owing at January 3, 2022 is extended to **February 14, 2022**, unless the court orders otherwise.
7. The deadline for persons to pay all **court ordered compensation payments NOT INCLUDING MAINTENANCE** due and owing at January 3, 2022 is extended to **February 14, 2022**, unless the court orders otherwise.
8. The deadline for persons to pay all Public Health Fixed Penalties issued on or before January 3, 2022 is extended to **February 14, 2022**, unless the court orders otherwise.
9. The hearings for Public Health Fixed Penalty Notices issued between December 31, 2021 and January 3, 2022, 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
December 31, 2021 to January 3, 2022	Tuesday 5 September, 2023

10. The hearings for Public Health Fixed Penalty Notices issued on or after January 4, 2022, in situations in which the fines are not paid, shall be the date as stated on the Fixed Penalty Notice.

EXTENSION OF DEADLINE FOR THE PAYMENT OF TRAFFIC TICKETS RECEIVED PRIOR TO MAY 26, 2020

11. The deadline for persons to pay all traffic tickets issued on or before May 26th, 2020 is extended until further notice.

Dated this 30th day of November, 2021

/s/ Ivor Archie
Chief Justice