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NOTICE TO THE CRIMINAL BAR

DESIGNATED ASSIGNMENT COURT (DAC) PROCEDURES AND EXPECATIONS

May 11, 2020

Pursuant to the May 6, 2020 *Update on the Continued Suspension of Nunavut Court of Justice Regular Operations*, the NCJ will convene a Designated Assignment Court (DAC) to hear matters that have been put to June 1, 2020 to be spoken-to. The DAC will begin at 9:30 a.m. on Monday June 1 and continue through to the close of business on Friday, June 5, 2020.

During the DAC the NCJ will operate three telephone courts simultaneously. Each court room will be dedicated to hearing one of the following types of cases: in-custody; out-of-custody/general Assignment Court; or JP matters. Call-in information for each courtroom is provided at the conclusion of this Notice.

Registry Procedures for DAC

In order to ensure the efficient use of court time, and due to the length of the DAC docket, the following procedures have been adopted after consultation with the Criminal Registry:

• Counsel are kindly asked, where appropriate, to file Designations electronically through the <u>ncj.criminal@gov.nu.ca</u> email address by the close of business on Friday May 29, 2020.

- To reduce the size of the DAC dockets, Designated counsel consenting to the adjournment of a matter from the June 1 DAC are asked to complete the attached adjournment form (Form 34) and to file the form electronically with the Criminal Registry by May 29, 2020. This will enable the Registry to remove appropriate matters from the docket.
- Counsel are to advise the Registry prior to June 1, via email (<u>ncj.criminal@gov.nu.ca</u>), what files will require interpretation. All interpretation will be consecutive.
- Counsel are asked to advise the Registry, via email, if an in-custody accused will not be required to be present at the June 1 hearing. The Registry will then work with corrections to ensure those required to appear via video do so as efficiently as possible.

The Registry has asked that counsel review the docket for Courtroom #2 as soon as possible. The Courtroom #2 docket is for out-of-custody accused and for cases (in and out-of-custody) that were set to the June 1 Assignment Court prior to the March 17 suspension of regular operations.

All in-custody individuals with matters in Assignment Court should have a Designation of Counsel on file prior to June 1. If such a Designation is not received by May 29, the matter will be moved to Courtroom #3's docket for in-custody matters.

Lastly, the NCJ is kindly asking that, in advance of June 1, it be advised of the names of counsel who will be speaking to each matter. This will assist the Court in administering the calling of the telephone list. It is anticipated that the list will be addressed alphabetically.

NCJ Expectations / Adjournments

The DAC is not intended to be a forum for blanket adjournments. While there will be an inevitable need to put certain matters to the next Assignment Court list still scheduled to proceed on August 10, 2020, it is the expectation of the NCJ that counsel will vet the June 1 dockets in the coming weeks to identify matters suitable to be scheduled for remote (telephone) hearing in June.

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It is anticipated that files adjourned during the June 1 DAC will be put to the August 10, 2020 Assignment Court docket.

Call-in Information / Further Questions

Call-in information for court the week of June 1 is as follows:

Courtroom #1- Justice of the Peace Court

Toll free: 1-866-969-8429

Conference ID: 5726404

Courtroom #2- NCJ Court (Out of Custody/ Assignment Court)

Toll free: 1-866-969-8429

Conference ID: 7340384

Courtroom #3- NCJ Court (In-Custody)

Toll free: 1-866-969-8429

Conference ID: 2812309

Mediation Room- Iqaluit-JP @ 13:30pm (Bail)

Toll free: 1-866-969-8429

Conference ID: 8011635

If counsel have any questions or concerns with any of the above or the DAC in general, please do not hesitate to contact ELO Mark Mossey at <u>mmossey@gov.nu.ca</u> at your convenience.

Mark Mossey ELO, Office of Chief Justice Neil Sharkey