

BARBADOS

No.2/2002

**IN THE SUPREME COURT OF JUDICATURE
HIGH COURT**

PRACTICE DIRECTION

Re: The Listing of Applications in Chambers

The Chief Justice, after consultation with the Judicial Council, issues the following Practice Direction:

Background

1. Earlier this year the Judicial Council established two sub-committees to examine the difficulties which conduce to inefficiencies in the hearing and disposal of applications in Chambers and to make recommendations for improvement in the system and procedure relating to such applications.
2. One sub-committee examined general applications in Chambers whereas the other considered the special case of applications in the Family Division of the High Court.
3. Under the existing system, many hours of productive time are wasted by attorneys-at-law and litigants alike and the excessively long hours worked by the judiciary on many 'Chambers Days' tax their mental and physical capacities unreasonably.
4. Both sub-committees agreed that the problem central to inefficiency was the congestion arising from listing all applications for hearing at the same time (viz. 9.30 a.m.) irrespective of their nature or anticipated length of hearing.
5. The sub-committees have recommended that there be changes in the listing of applications. These recommendations are intended to assist the Registrar in the better organization and management of cases, improve the efficiency and effectiveness of the administration of justice in the High Court and make the courts more user-friendly.

New Schedules

6. Accordingly, with effect from February 3, 2003, applications will be listed and heard in specific time periods according to the nature of the application and its anticipated length of hearing as follows:

A - APPLICATIONS IN CHAMBERS GENERALLY

Time	Type of Application
(a) 9.15 a.m. – 9.30 a.m.	Applications for agreed adjournments of which written notice has been given.
(b) 9.30 a.m. – 10.00 a.m.	Applications for Bail.
(c) 10.00 a.m. – 10.30 a.m.	Consent Orders. Attorneys-at-law should, as far as practicable, have a draft Order to submit for approval at the hearing.
(d) 10.30 a.m. – 11.30 a.m.	Short matters. These include Foreclosure applications, Summary Judgments, Renewal of Writs, Judgment Summonses, Examination of Judgment Debtors, Applications for Committal, Charging Orders.
All documents relating to the matters listed in this time period must be headed prominently and in such a manner as to indicate clearly the nature of the application.	
(e) 11.30 a.m. – Completion of list	Urgent applications and other applications where argument on issues is anticipated. Each matter in this time period should be allocated a total time of 20 minutes for argument.

B – APPLICATIONS IN THE FAMILY DIVISION

Time	Type of Application
(a) 9.30 a.m. – 10.30 a.m. (Up to 10 cases may be listed)	Applications for agreed adjournments of which written notice has been given. Consent Orders, Applications for Divorce where there are no children under the age of 18 and other non-contentious, short matters.
(b) 10.30 a.m. – 12.00 noon (up to 10 cases may be listed)	Applications where the argument is not anticipated to exceed 10 minutes.
(c) 12.00 noon – completion of list	Disposal of remaining cases on the list.

NOTICE TO THE REGISTRAR

Attorneys-at-Law for applicants must obtain from the Registrar and return by 3.00 p.m. on the Wednesday in the week prior to the hearing of the application, the prescribed Form on which must be indicated the time period to which the application applies. The return of the Form is essential to assist the Registrar in organizing and managing the relevant files for the day's hearing.

Dated the 4th day of December 2002

DAVID A.C. SIMMONS
Chief Justice

**PRACTICE DIRECTION NO 2/2002
PRESCRIBED FORM A**

BARBADOS

**IN THE SUPREME COURT OF
JUDICATURE
HIGH COURT
(CIVIL JURISDICTION)**

Suit No. of

BETWEEN

AND

To: The Registrar

NOTICE

TAKE NOTICE that an application in the abovenamed matter is to be heard in Chambers on the day of 200 .

It is an application for: *(State nature of application)(See overleaf)*

It should be listed for hearing as appears in the box. *(Please tick box)*

9.15 a.m. – 9.30 a.m.	<input type="checkbox"/>
9.30 a.m. – 10.00 a.m.	<input type="checkbox"/>
10.00 a.m. – 10.30 a.m.	<input type="checkbox"/>
10.30 a.m. – 11.30 a.m.	<input type="checkbox"/>
12 noon and after	<input type="checkbox"/>

**APPLICATIONS IN CHAMBERS
(Non-Family Matters)**

Time	Type of Application
(a) 9.15 a.m. – 9.30 a.m.	Applications for agreed adjournments of which written notice has been given.
(b) 9.30 a.m. – 10.00 a.m.	Applications for Bail.
(c) 10.00 a.m. – 10.30 a.m.	Consent Orders. Attorneys-at-law should, as far as practicable, have a draft Order to submit for approval at the hearing.
(d) 10.30 a.m. – 11.30 a.m.	Short matters. These include Foreclosure applications, Summary Judgments, Renewal of Writs, Judgment Summonses, Examination of Judgment Debtors, Applications for Committal, Charging Orders.
<p>All documents relating to the matters listed in this time period must be headed prominently and in such a manner as to indicate clearly the nature of the application.</p>	
(e) 11.30 a.m. – Completion of list	Urgent applications and other applications where argument on issues is anticipated. Each matter in this time period should be allocated a total time of 20 minutes for argument.

**PRACTICE DIRECTION NO 2/2002
PRESCRIBED FORM B**

BARBADOS

**IN THE SUPREME COURT OF
JUDICATURE
HIGH COURT
(CIVIL JURISDICTION)**

Suit No. of

BETWEEN

AND

To: The Registrar

NOTICE

TAKE NOTICE that an application in the abovenamed matter is to be heard in Chambers on the day of 200 .

It is an application for: *(State nature of application)(See overleaf)*

It should be listed for hearing as appears in the box. *(Please tick box)*

9.30 a.m. – 10.30 a.m.	<input type="checkbox"/>
10.30 a.m. – 12.30 p.m.	<input type="checkbox"/>
1.00 p.m. – Completion of list	<input type="checkbox"/>

APPLICATIONS IN THE FAMILY DIVISION

Time	Type of Application
(a) 9.30 a.m. – 10.30 a.m. (Up to 10 cases may be listed)	Applications for agreed adjournments of which written notice has been given. Consent Orders, Applications for Divorce where there are no children under the age of 18 and other non-contentious, short matters.
(b) 10.30 a.m. – 12.00 p.m. (up to 10 cases may be listed)	Applications where the argument is not anticipated to exceed 10 minutes.
(c) 12.00 noon – completion of list	Disposal of remaining cases on the list.