



DRUMHELLER CIRCUIT COURTS - CRIMINAL (Drumheller, Strathmore, Siksika & Hanna)

Effective February 22, 2022

COVID-19 Measures:

Throughout the COVID-19 pandemic the Provincial Court of Alberta has continuously revised and updated policies and practices in response to the latest available data and the orders, recommendations, and other guidance provided by federal and provincial health officials. These decisions are grounded in two principles:

1. The courts are an essential public service and access to the courts must be maintained to the greatest extent possible in the circumstances of a global pandemic.
2. While the Court will consider government and health decisions applicable in the broader community, the court system is unique. People do not voluntarily choose to attend criminal court. They are required by law either as witnesses or persons charged with offences to come to court. A cautious approach is warranted in recognition of that fact.

That caution is reflected in two aspects of these decisions. First, it provides for a gradual resumption of normal operations. This allows us to limit the number of people who must come to the courthouse. Second, it allows the Court to adjust the timing of other stages of re-opening based on the progress of vaccination, and the data relating to the prevalence and transmission of COVID in the community.

Beginning February 22, 2022

All scheduled Criminal, Family, Civil, Youth and Child Protection trial and disposition matters will resume in person as of February 22, 2022, at all the above court locations. If you have a trial scheduled on or after February 22, 2022, you must appear in person for that proceeding.

Criminal, Family, Civil, Youth and Child Protection trial and disposition matters are

the only matters that are resuming in person. All protective measures and requirements (masks, social distancing, capacity limits, and plexiglass shields) remain in place.

Applications to appear remotely at any of these proceedings using video technology must be made 30 days in advance of the scheduled date, whenever possible where permitted by the applicable law and Practice Note.

All other proceedings

All other scheduled docket proceedings will be conducted by way of remote appearance by Webex or telephone, in accordance with existing Practice Notes.

TRAFFIC:

- Visit traffictickets.alberta.ca. Please note that you will need either Google Chrome or Microsoft Edge to access this application.
- Email: PC-Crim.Drumheller@gov.ab.ca (Please include court appearance date, location, your name, and ticket number in subject line of email.)

CRIMINAL:

If you have a court date on or after February 22, 2022, that is not a trial for Drumheller, Strathmore, Siksika, or Hanna, and you do not have a lawyer, please refer to the following instructions:

1. If it is the day of your appearance and your court documents say your appearance is at the CMO (Case Management Office) or in courtroom 001, contact the Courthouse no later than 1:00 p.m., at:

(403) 820-7300 or by email PC-Crim.Drumheller@gov.ab.ca (Please include your name, date of birth and court date in the subject line of the email.)
2. If you have any other reason to be in court, or unclear of what you are appearing on, please contact the Courthouse at:

(403) 820-7300 or by email PC-Crim.Drumheller@gov.ab.ca (Please include your name, date of birth and court date in the subject line of the email.)
3. Failing to either contact Duty Counsel or the Case Management Office may result in a warrant for your arrest.

ADDITIONAL RESOURCES:

Legal Aid Alberta – 1-866-845-3425 – If you have a criminal, family, or immigration matter, and would like to apply for a lawyer. Financial eligibility guidelines apply. www.legalaid.ab.ca.

Calgary Legal Guidance - (403)716-6485 or (403)234-9266 - If you can't afford a lawyer and Legal Aid Alberta/duty counsel aren't able to help you, you can ask Calgary Legal Guidance for help with criminal, civil, family, or other legal issues.

Student Legal Assistance - (403)220-6637 – For assistance in summary conviction matters only. Fee eligibility guidelines apply. For more information on SLA services, visit the website at: www.slacalgary.com

Provincial Crown Prosecutors Office – (403)297-8444 (For Strathmore and Siksika matters)

Provincial Crown Prosecutors Office – (403)823-1661 (For Drumheller and Hanna matters)

Calgary Provincial Crown (Specialized Prosecutions) – (403)297-8477

Public Prosecution Services of Canada – (403)299-3978

Native Counselling Services – (403)237-7850

As per: Assistant Chief Judge Joshua B. Hawkes
Calgary Criminal and Regional Courts

Date: February 15, 2022