



## EDMONTON PROVINCIAL COURT CRIMINAL DIVISION COURT RESUMPTION PROTOCOL

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**Effective: September 8, 2020**

### **Purpose:**

As the Provincial Court of Alberta begins to expand the services provided to Albertans while the Court Pandemic Plan still remains in effect, the purpose of this Practice Note is to update what types of matters will be heard in the courtrooms located in the Edmonton Law Courts and the manner in which they are to be addressed.

### **Procedures/Guidelines:**

Effective July 6, 2020, courtrooms returned to pre-COVID-19 courtroom configurations, as outlined in the Schedule.

The court resumed all services for in-custody and out of custody matters, including all specialized courts.

The following 14 courtrooms are operating:

- 7 docket/low complexity trial courtrooms: 265, 267, 268, 353, 356, 357, 446
- 7 trial courtrooms: 266, 269, 354, 355, 359, 445, 448

Remote appearances will continue in all docket courtrooms and will accommodate some limited in-person docket appearances by self-represented individuals. The following courtrooms will be WebEx enabled: 265; 267; 268; 356; 357; and, 446.

In addition, to address physical distancing challenges, 353 (low complexity non-domestic trials) and 446 (in-custody and out of custody summary dispositions) will both move to split morning and afternoon sessions. As noted above, a remote appearance option in 446 will be available via WebEx, as well as CCTV to avoid in-custody individuals being brought in person.

Until the end of this calendar year, courtroom 355 will not be operating as an assignment courtroom. Trials, preliminary inquiries and other lengthy hearing matters will be pre-assigned to one of the 7 trial courtrooms noted above.

**Everyone entering the courthouse will be required to wear a mask or protective face covering in all public areas of the courthouse outside the courtrooms.**

**The Case Management office will remain closed to all in person appearances. All appearances by self-represented litigants and by Counsel will be by remote appearance only via email or telephone pursuant to the Case Management Office and Out of Custody Docket Court Resumption Protocol.**

- [Case Management Offices \(CMO\) Out of Custody Docket Protocol.](#)

COURTROOM	TIME	MATTERS TO BE DEALT WITH / COMMENTS
<b>265*</b> (In-Custody Docket) (Remote via WebEx)	9:00	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Continuous in-custody docket court</li> <li>• First Appearance &amp; Remand Matters</li> <li>• Brief Guilty Pleas (less than 10 mins.) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>→ i.e. joint submission for time served</li> <li>→ Courtroom #446 preferred site for dispositions</li> <li>→ Brief Bail Hearings (less than 10 mins.)</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
<b>356*</b> <b>Required Appearance Court (R.A.C.)</b> <b>Unscheduled Disposition Court</b> (Remote via WebEx)	9:00	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Guilty Pleas from 265 (with the consent of #356 Crown) and CMO Counter (less than 20 mins.)</li> <li>• Required Appearance Court (R.A.C.) - matters from CMO Counter</li> <li>• Scheduled Bail Hearings (less than 30 mins)</li> </ul> <p><b>Note: This Courtroom commences at 9:00 a.m. and must remain open until at least 2:30 p.m. to accommodate the CMO Counter or Warrants.</b></p> <p><b>The Judge may adjourn court at the end of the a.m. list, but are on call if someone appears at the CMO counter requiring RAC.</b></p>
<b>446</b> (Remote via WebEx)	9:30	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• SCHEDULED Summary Disposition Court (Monday, Wednesday, Thursday, Friday) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>→ <u>Contested and lengthy guilty pleas for Provincial and Federal matters.</u></li> <li>→ Split Docket: Morning commencing at 9:30 a.m. Afternoon commencing at 2:00 p.m.</li> <li>→ Up to 60 mins. maximum (matters exceeding 60 mins. must be booked in 355)</li> <li>→ Adjournments <u>must</u> be scheduled through the CMO</li> </ul> </li> </ul> <p><b><u>Closed Tuesdays</u></b></p>
<b>353</b>	9:30	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>→ SCHEDULED Low Complexity General Prosecution Matters, Process Hearings and Peace Bonds.</li> <li>→ Split docket trial courtroom: Morning commencing at 9:30 a.m. Afternoon commencing at 2:00 p.m.</li> </ul> <p><b>Tues. – Probation Reviews</b></p>
<b>267</b> (Remote via WebEx)	9:00 2:00	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Docket Court <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>→ All FEDERAL, SPECIAL &amp; REGULATORY docket matters</li> <li>→ Unscheduled Bail Hearings and Dispositions (less than 10 mins.)</li> </ul> </li> <li>• <b>Mon./Tues. – ECR Summary Dispositions</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>→ Provincial and Federal matters</li> <li>→ Scheduled for 15 minutes (unless otherwise specified by Defence or Crown)</li> </ul> </li> <li>• <b>Wed. – Drug Treatment Court (DTC)</b></li> <li>• <b>Fri. – Low Complexity Federal Matters</b></li> </ul>
<b>268*</b> <b>(Family Protection Court)</b> (Remote via WebEx M/W/F)	9:00 9:30	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Mon/Wed/Fri – Family Protection Docket Court</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>→ All Family Protection docket matters and bail hearings.</li> <li>→ Unscheduled Dispositions</li> </ul> </li> <li>• <b>Tues/Thurs. – Low Complexity Domestic Matters - Split Docket:</b> Morning commencing at 9:30 a.m. Afternoon Commencing at 2:00 p.m.</li> <li>• <b>Bail hearings and summary disposition matters over 20 minutes can be booked into Tuesday or Thursday.</b></li> </ul>
<b>357</b> (Remote via WebEx M/W/F)	9:30 9:30	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Mon/Wed/Fri – Mental Health Docket</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>→ All Mental Health Docket matters, Fitness Hearings and Bail Hearings.</li> <li>→ Unscheduled Dispositions</li> </ul> </li> <li>• <b>Tues. - Self Represented Trial Confirmations</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>→ All self-represented trial confirmation hearings</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
<b>266,269,354,355, 359, 445, 448*</b>	9:00	<p><b>Trial Courtrooms – All matters (other than low complexity matters) scheduled for Trial, Preliminary, Continuation, etc.</b></p> <p><b>*Motions Court in 448 at 1:30 p.m. on Tuesdays and Thursdays.</b></p>