



JURY TRIALS ACROSS NOVA SCOTIA SUSPENDED UNTIL JAN. 17, 2022

Tuesday, Dec. 28, 2021

In light of record-breaking COVID-19 case numbers in Nova Scotia and the threat of the highly transmissible Omicron variant, the Chief Justice of the Supreme Court of Nova Scotia is directing that all jury trials in the province be suspended until Jan. 17, 2022.

This directive is effective immediately and applies to all jury trials in Nova Scotia that have not yet commenced. Any affected jury trials will be rescheduled at the earliest opportunity.

“We know that we are able to hold jury trials in Nova Scotia while still respecting public health restrictions, but the question right now is should we,” said The Hon. Deborah K. Smith, Chief Justice of the Supreme Court. “Cases are surging and it’s unlikely that the situation will be under control in the near future.

“With that in mind, and after careful consideration, our Court has decided that the responsible thing to do is to suspend these matters until we are confident that jury selections can proceed safely in this new stage of the pandemic.”

Members of the public who have received a jury summons requiring them to come to court for jury duty in the first two weeks of January will be deferred to a later date.

Information regarding jury selections can be obtained by calling the contact numbers provided in the jury summons. In the Halifax Regional Municipality, information regarding jury selections is available by calling the Juror Information Line at 902-424-6400. Potential jurors can follow the directions on the voicemail for the appropriate information for their jury panel.

As per the [Dec. 17, 2021 Notice](#), the Supreme Court is currently operating under a modified essential services model. That directive remains in effect until Jan. 4, 2022.

These are temporary measures to help reduce the spread of COVID-19 in Nova Scotia. They will be regularly evaluated, and new directives will be issued as the situation with the pandemic evolves.

For more information on the various Supreme Court COVID-19 directives, please visit https://www.courts.ns.ca/News_of_Courts/COVID19_Preventative_Measures.htm.

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