



From Monday, 18 October 2021 the Supreme Court of New South Wales will recommence a limited number of live hearings. The proposed arrangements are as follows:

From Monday, 11 October – no change.

From Monday, 18 October

- one live hearing per floor
- civil matters only, including appeals
- no motions
- multiple parties allowed
- each party will be allowed
 - three legal representatives
 - a client representative
 - witnesses
- no in-person media or members of the public. AVL/telephone access only.

From Monday, 25 October

- two live hearings per floor
- civil matters only, including appeals
- criminal appeals
- motions can be conducted in person with 20 min gaps between each matter
- multiple parties allowed
- each party will be allowed
 - three legal representatives
 - a client representative
 - witnesses
- no in-person media or members of the public. AVL/telephone access only.

From early December (subject to review)

- three live hearings per floor
- civil matters only, including appeals
- criminal appeals
- motions can be conducted in person with 20 min gaps between each matter
- multiple parties allowed
- no limit to the number of legal representatives allowed to attend, subject to courtroom capacity limits. Double vaccination applies to all those attending
- no in-person media or members of the public. AVL/telephone access only.

Vaccination Status

All persons appearing in person to be double vaccinated. The onus will be on the solicitors for the parties to make enquiries of all their participants and confirm their vaccination status to the court.

Masks

Masks to be worn by everyone in the courtroom with the exception of the judge and those speaking. This will be reviewed at the end of October.

The Court will review these changes in November with a view to introducing further changes in December.

Criminal jury trials will recommence at the end of October. The Court is working closely with the District Court and the Office of the Sheriff regarding arrangements for jurors and jury trials. It is expected that all persons connected with a criminal jury trial, including jurors, will be fully vaccinated. The Court is also discussing the role of rapid antigen screening to ensure the health and wellbeing of jurors and court users.

The Court will have a more detailed statement on criminal jury trials shortly.

The registry public counter remains closed. Details regarding online filing and online registry services can be found on the Supreme Court website.



The Hon T F Bathurst AC
Chief Justice

8 October 2021