

UPDATE WITH INSTRUCTION – MAY 20, 2021

LABC continues to monitor issues that challenge Northern Virtual Bail. There has been progress on basic technical processes but work remains to be done to ensure you can do your job in a reliable and timely way.

The way you get the information you need will continue to be in bits and pieces for the next while. We are working on ways to better organize the information you need including:

- who needs your assistance;
- where can they be contacted;
- what are they charged with;
- what is the case they have to meet;
- what is their record; and
- what is the Crown seeking.

We highlight the following key areas:

Prisoner Slate/Bail Coordinator Morning Email

- Before 9:00 am each morning you should receive by email from each originating Crown office **prisoner slates** including the names of detained clients, where they are located, expected charges (prior to charge approval) and their **JUSTIN conviction** list (if applicable). If you receive only partial information you should contact the originating Crown office to get what you are missing.
- Before 9:30 the Crown's regional bail coordinator will supplement the prisoner slates with a '**morning email**' containing a **consolidated bail slate**. You should be familiar with your catchment to ensure that your clients are not missed on the consolidated list.

Warrant/Multi-Jurisdiction Files

- Warrant and multi-jurisdictional files can end up in different catchments. Warrant files are dealt with in the originating jurisdiction no matter where the person was arrested. This may result in some clients identified in your catchment being dealt with in another catchment or jurisdiction. Similarly you may be advised that a client with a file in your catchment has been arrested somewhere else in the province. You are responsible for getting instructions and sorting out what to do with these files. If a client has new charges in your catchment and warrants from another catchment the default is their bail will be dealt with in the location of the new charges, but it is best to confirm with Crown as early as possible. The sooner duty counsel can sort out who should be dealing with these files the better.

Crown bail packages

- As charges are approved you should receive throughout the morning bail packages for each accused confirming what charges are approved and the Crown position on bail. You should also receive the **RTCC synopsis** of the allegations. We are working on procedures that will provide this to you as early as possible. Experience to date is that this information is often not provided until later morning. Where more disclosure is required, you will need to work out with Crown what you can get and how it will be delivered.

Morning Remand List

- Remanded matters continue to challenge. Many clients expect their lawyer to be available without notice. As duty counsel we rely on you to get information when you can from counsel of record so that remands have a chance to be dealt with on their return date. If you cannot get information remands to the next morning may not accomplish much. It is particularly important with these remote processes to pass along client information to Legal Aid when you have any doubt about whether the client is in contact with their lawyer. If you adjourn a matter to the next day we encourage you, if possible, to continue to make yourself available to assist that client. Failing that, please advise the next day's duty counsel so they have some advance notice about the case.