



**BELIZE**  
**GAZETTE EXTRAORDINARY**  
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No. 28

*Registrar, Court of Appeal  
Belize City,  
May 24, 2022*

**NOTICE OF REMOTE HEARING (IN LIEU OF SESSION)  
OF THE COURT OF APPEAL**

NOTICE is hereby given that the Honourable President of the Court of Appeal in exercise of the power vested in her by Order 1, Rule 4(1) of the Court of Appeal Rules, has directed that the Second Series of Remote Hearings of the Court shall be as follows:-

<b>REMOTE HEARING</b>	<b>DURATION</b>
Second Series	6 June- 24 June

  
**MELISSA M. ROWLEY (MISS)**  
*Registrar, Court of Appeal*

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No. 29

**PRACTICE DIRECTIONS NO 1 OF 2022  
COURT OF APPEAL OF BELIZE  
APPEARANCES AND FORMS OF ADDRESS  
(MAY 2022)**

These Practice Directions hereunder are issued pursuant to Section 11 (1) of the Court of Appeal Act, Chapter 90 of the Substantive Laws of Belize Revised Edition 2020 and are applicable to the Court of Appeal of Belize. These Practice Directions shall be cited as “**The Appearances and Forms of Address Directions (May 2022).**”

These Practice Directions deal with appearances before the Court of Appeal and addressing a Justice of the Court of Appeal and the Registrar/Deputy Registrar.

### **THE PRACTICE BEFORE THE COURT OF APPEAL**

1. Counsel are required to gown for all open and in-person court hearings before the Court of Appeal. Counsel who are pregnant, or have a disability, or any other reason affecting the ability to fully gown, may appear in alternate attire as appropriate to their circumstances. Prior to their appearance, counsel shall indicate the circumstances which explain why they are not robing for in-person Court.

When gowned, male counsel should wear dark-coloured suits (blue, black or grey) with bands (tabs), and female counsel should wear dark suits or dresses (blue, black or grey) along with a like colour jacket, or blouses and slacks (blue, black or grey) along with a like colour jacket.

2. Counsel are not required to gown for:

- (i) Virtual hearings before the Court of Appeal;
- (ii) Applications, including applications made before a single judge and
- (iii) Case Management Conferences.

On such occasions, male counsel should wear dark-coloured suits, with ties or bands (tabs), and female counsel should wear dark suits, or dresses along with a jacket, or blouses and slacks along with a jacket.

3. (1) In Civil matters, Counsel for the appellant (s) or applicant(s) must sit on the left side of the courtroom (facing the bench), and counsel for the respondent(s) must sit on the right (facing the bench).  
  
(2) In Criminal matters, Counsel or the prosecution must sit on the left side of the courtroom (facing the bench), and counsel for the appellant must sit on the right (facing the bench). Where there is more than one bar table in the courtroom, the prosecution sits at the front row.
4. Parties must stand when the Court is called to order and the judges enter, and when the judges leave the courtroom. Parties bow when the judges bow and then resume sitting after the judges have sat.
5. After a case is called, counsel for appellant(s)/applicant(s)/crown/prosecution stand and make introductions, indicating for whom they act and then resume sitting.
6. If the appellant(s)/applicant(s) crown/prosecution are represented by more than one counsel, senior/lead counsel introduces themselves and then introduces other counsel, who stand while being introduced; senior/lead counsel resume sitting after introductions have been completed.
7. If the appellant(s)/applicants/crown/prosecution are represented separately, then the introductions of counsel for each appellant/applicant/crown/prosecution should, in turn, follow in accordance with the practice set out above.
8. The introductions of counsel for the respondent(s) follow those of the appellant(s)/applicant(s)/crown/prosecution, in accordance with the above practice.
9. On applications before the Court, or case management conferences, the foregoing should be read with “applicant” replacing “appellant” “crown” and “prosecution”, and respondent” being the respondent on the application.

10. Only one person should be standing and addressing the Court at any given time. Whilst counsel is standing addressing the Court, and opposing counsel rises to take an objection or to address the court, counsel shall sit to enable opposing counsel to be heard. Counsel should also stand when the judge is addressing him/her. If the judge addresses another counsel while you are standing, you are to sit until it is your turn again to address or be addressed.
11. Justices of the Court of Appeal are to be referred to as “President”, “Justice of Appeal”, “Madam Justice”, “Mister Justice” or, “Your Honour”.
12. In a Registrar/Deputy Registrar’s hearing, the Registrar/Deputy Registrar is to be addressed as “Your Honour” or “Mister” or “Madam Registrar”.
13. Counsel and parties are to refrain from addressing justices as “My Lady”, “My Lord”, “Your Ladyship” or “Your Lordship”.
14. Counsel referring to another Counsel is to be referred to as “my friend” or “my learned friend”.

These Practice Directions comes into effect immediately.



**Honourable Minnet Hafiz-Bertram**  
*President of the Court of Appeal (Ag)*  
*Belize*