



The Court of Appeal for Bermuda

Ref. A/50

Monday, 16th January 2017

CIRCULAR NO: 1 of 2017

TO ALL COUNSEL

COURT OF APPEAL CALENDAR: 6th March 2017 to 24th March 2017 SESSION

I enclose herewith a Draft Cause List for the forthcoming session. The Honorable President, Sir Scott Baker, has directed that Appellants and Respondents should be prepared to proceed with their appeals on very short notice at any time during the appeal period, and not only on the listed date. This also applies to any appeal on the "Reserve List" as other appeals may collapse. Kindly note Item 8 as it refers to reducing needless duplication of authorities.

REMINDER: The last day in the March Session (24th March) will be reserved for directions on Criminal appeals and any outstanding Civil appeals. Mark your calendars now.

1. The Draft Cause List constitutes a 'Notice of Hearing' of the upcoming dates to all involved in the appeals.
2. The session will begin on **Monday, 6th March 2017** and will probably end on or about **Friday, 24th March 2017**. The President of the Court of Appeal has directed me to say that if there are changes to the list, they will be made for the convenience of the Court and not at the convenience of Counsel.
3. Appellants (including anyone acting "In Person") are reminded that they are to observe the *Rules of the Court of Appeal* as well as what is set out in this Circular, when submitting further applications or documentation.
4. **CIVIL APPEALS:** Counsels are reminded to provide their Submissions and Authorities in accordance with the dates ordered by the Registrar at the Settling of the Record hearing. As the Court of Appeal Judges are travelling from overseas, it is necessary to have all Submissions received in a timely manner. This allows all appeals to proceed expeditiously. Counsels are reminded of **Circular No. 1 of 2007**, wherein only Core Bundles are to be submitted for "big" Civil Appeals.
5. **CRIMINAL APPEALS:** Ensure that you have filed your Legal Aid Certificate with us. Please adhere to all orders of the Court at the Directions hearing in November 2016.
6. **IF A DATE HAS NOT BE GIVEN TO FILE SUBMISSIONS BY EITHER THE COURT OR THE REGISTRAR: Appellants' Submissions and Authorities must be submitted to the Registry on or before **Wednesday, 15th February 2017**; the Respondents' Submissions and Authorities are to be submitted by close of business on **Friday, 24th February 2017**. This supersedes any and all prior Circulars. The fact that there are negotiations ongoing between the parties is not a good reason for refraining from submitting the Submissions.**
7. Kindly notify the Court of Appeal Officer when you are ready to file your submissions. This will ensure acknowledgement of their receipt, appropriate filing and direction thereafter.

8. The Justices have requested that the Authorities provided in the bundles only contain the head note and the relevant pages/passages that are being cited. More than that will be extraneous. *With consideration now being given to the UK Practice Direction 52C Section 29, counsel are advised to consult with each other and exchange authorities. These authorities (no more than 10 each) shall be combined in one binder, preferably the Appellant's, for the Court to have at their disposal during the hearing. This will reduce duplicated authorities.*

9. If there are to be any changes to the filed Submissions, the onus is on the Appellant/Respondent to update their filed documents **at the convenience** of the Court Officer.

10. If an adjournment of an appeal must be sought, the Appellant must notify the Registrar and the Respondent of this intension **prior to filing the documents**. In no less than **four days** prior to the start of the session and after the first Draft Calendar has been issued, the Appellant must file a Notice of Motion with Affidavit in Support to request the adjournment of the appeal and appear before the Court when duly summoned. This does not guarantee that the request will be granted.

11. Once an appeal is listed, please rectify your calendars of any conflicting cases in any and all of the Courts below.

12. Finally, because of the schedule and the pressure of work that will be on the Court of Appeal Judges while they are here, Appellant(s) are asked to notify the Registrar of the Court and the Respondent(s) as soon as possible if they intend to abandon an appeal. The Notice of Abandonment should be filed shortly after said notification.

Copy: Attorney General's Chambers
Department of Corrections
Director of Public Prosecutions
Legal Aid
Bermuda Bar Association
Senior Magistrate

Registrar of the Court