



FOLA'S WEEKLY COURTS UPDATE

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March 22, 2023

SUPERIOR COURT OF JUSTICE UPDATES

No updates this week

ONTARIO COURT OF JUSTICE UPDATES:

No updates this week

COURT OF APPEAL FOR ONTARIO UPDATES:

No updates this week

MINISTRY OF THE ATTORNEY GENERAL

JUSTICE SERVICES ONLINE - LIVE (VIRTUAL) FEEDBACK SESSIONS

FOLA and MAG are co-hosting a series of regional live virtual one-hour feedback sessions for Ontario lawyers and legal support staff who have used the JSO and have questions, suggestions, or other feedback about the portals. Below are the registration links for each Regional Session.

Note - in order to attend, you MUST pre-register.

Zoom Registration Links for JSO User Feedback Sessions:

- **East Region (March 27, 2023 at 1:00-2:00 PM EST):**
https://ca01web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_EaNd66tgSfuWHg37-uMpMA
- **Central West Region (March 28, 2023 at 1:00-2:00 PM EST):**
https://ca01web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_7LdwGdfNTv6S5bhO5dq0Og
- **Central East Region (March 31, 2023 at 8:30-9:30 AM EST):**
https://ca01web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_PzsAE30TQ0yOO4Dv0Q_t3A
- **Central South & Southwest Region (April 3, 2023 at 1:00-2:00 PM EST):**
https://ca01web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_R3fWupZRMa3KX7JLHm5mg
- **Northeast and Northwest Regions (April 4, 2023 at 1:00-2:00 PM EST):**
https://ca01web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_NQA1W4gdSuKrDpIIrRerRBQ
- **Toronto Region (April 6, 2023 at 1:00-2:00 PM EST):**
https://ca01web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_X26fIz6RT3aFSr2pp2GDsA

Email any questions about the JSO in advance to: csd.operationalsupportbranch@ontario.ca (Please use the subject line "JSO User Feedback Session" and include your name and, if applicable, the law association you are a member of in your email.) If you encounter any issues on the day of your session with logging in, please email Vaia Pappas at Vaia.Pappas@ontario.ca

REMINDER - JSO UPDATES

MAG will be releasing these additional enhancements to its JSO platform on April 3, 2023:

- An informational document that will be attached to all acceptance emails for documents filed through Family Submissions Online (FSO), Civil Submissions Online (CSO), and Bankruptcy Submissions Online (BSO) to provide information about CaseLines, each party's responsibilities to upload documents, and available resources.
- Filers will be able to identify in the CSO, BSO, FSO and Small Claims Court Submissions Online portals if they are resubmitting previously rejected documents. These resubmissions will be flagged as a priority in the court case tracking system for court staff review.
- A new family portal will enable users to request a list of all documents previously filed in a family case. The list will be automatically generated and emailed to the requestor with no action required by court staff.
- Additional document types will be eligible for submission through the FSO portal, including:
 - *Form 8: Application (General) or Form 10: Answer for claims of wrongful removal to or retention of child(ren) in Ontario involving a country outside Canada
 - *Form 12: Notice of Withdrawal
 - *Form 36: Affidavit for Divorce (fee already paid).
- The automatic FSO acceptance and rejection email sent to filers once submissions have been reviewed and processed by court staff have been redesigned to ensure clear and concise messaging in both English and French.

JUDICIAL VACANCIES: The Judicial Appointments Advisory Committee is currently seeking applications for two OCJ judicial positions in Brampton. **Deadline is April 4th.** [Learn more here.](#)

OTHER ONTARIO GOVERNMENT NEWS

REMINDER: ONTARIO'S NOT-FOR-PROFIT ACT: Ontario's Not-for-Profit Corporations Act (ONCA) took effect on October 19, 2021. Existing non-profits have 3 years from that date to bring their governing documents into compliance with the new law. Learn more on our [ONCA Resource Page](#).

FOLA

❖ LOBBY DAY 2023

FOLA's 2023 Lobby Day Recap is now available! If you weren't able to attend and want to see what you missed - you definitely need to take a look. And if you were able to attend, and want a quick refresher of what we heard, [click here](#).

❖ **FEATURED MEMBER REWARD #1:** Bell Mobility has a special offer for the rest of March and early April. [Learn more and shop now!](#)

❖ **FEATURED MEMBER REWARD #2:** Hilton Hotels is offering Double Points on every stay (plus 1,000 Bonus Points) each time you stay with a different brand within the Hilton portfolio. Offer available through April 30, 2023. [Learn more and book your stay today!](#)

❖ **FEATURED MEMBER REWARD #3:** Destination CPD is back Destination CPD is thrilled to invite FOLA members to their annual criminal law conference in Las Vegas from May 3-5, 2023. All Law Association members get 20% off! [Learn more & book your trip!](#)

- ❖ **FOLA AWARDS 2023:** FOLA'S 2023 Awards have changed a bit. We have changed (slightly) the eligibility requirements for the Presidents' Award and the Luminary Award (for library staff and association staff) and have replaced the Distinguished Service Award with the Emerging Leader Award. Nominations are now open and full eligibility requirements and nomination forms can be found [here](#).
- ❖ **ELDER ABUSE PREVENTION ONTARIO (EAPO) - FREE PROGRAMMING OFFER:** The EAPO is offering Law Associations customized education programs free of charge! They will work with your Association to organize in-house training initiatives or community knowledge sharing sessions. If you are interested, visit [here](#) to learn more. If you have any questions, you can contact Sheila Schuehlein at SSchuehlein@eapon.ca

BENCHER ELECTIONS

- ❖ **BENCHER ELECTIONS:** The race is on! Candidates have begun campaigning and we encourage all Law Associations to host an event with their local Candidates. To help Law Association members identify "FOLA Friendly" candidates, FOLA has created a survey that we have currently circulated to all Candidates. The deadline for responses is today and partial responses are already available on our website from those who have already completed it. You can find all Candidates listed alphabetically by Regions (also sorted alphabetically) [here](#) starting with those in Central East. In early April, FOLA will post all responses in full so you can learn as much as possible about each Candidate and FOLA will identify those we consider to be "FOLA Friendly". To learn more about the voting process and our survey, please visit [FOLA's Bencher Elections webpage](#).
- ❖ **BENCHER ELECTIONS & FOLA - IN THE NEWS:** On March 15th, FOLA issued a [Statement](#) clarifying FullStop Campaign Statements on Courthouse Libraries. You can read that Statement [here](#). As a result of that Statement, Law 360 wrote an article about it which you can read [here](#).

LAW SOCIETY OF ONTARIO

- ❖ **NEXT LSO CONVOCATION:** The next Convocation will be held on April 27, 2023. Information will be posted on their website closer to the event.
- ❖ **LSO AGM:** The Law Society's AGM will take place virtually on May 10 at 5:15pm.

LAW FOUNDATION OF ONTARIO

- ❖ **GRANTS:** The Law Foundation of Ontario is currently inviting applications for its 2023 Responsive program. Responsive grants fund community-led initiatives that improve access to justice. Responsive grants aim to encourage new projects that fill existing legal gaps, supplement existing services, or otherwise help address emerging needs by connecting more people to legal information and support, especially people who are not currently being reached. [Learn more & apply here](#). **Deadline is April 11th**.
- ❖ **AWARDS:** The Law Foundation of Ontario is currently seeking nominations for the Guthrie Award. [Learn more here](#). **Deadline is March 24th**.

ASSOCIATION EVENTS & COURSES

THE OSGOODE CERTIFICATE IN MOTOR VEHICLE ACCIDENT LAW AND PRACTICE (TORT AND ACCIDENT BENEFITS)

Dates: Apr 12, 17, 24 & May 1 & 8, 2023 (5 Modules) - online (live)

Once seen as an acceptable area for 'dabblers', injury law is shaping up as a practice area in which only those with a pronounced edge in practical expertise will prevail. This unique, intensive Certificate program will give you the edge you need to handle injury files effectively as well as efficiently, on both the tort and AB sides, and from plaintiffs' and defendants'/insurer's perspectives.

Over five non-consecutive one-day modules–via Zoom from the convenience of your office or home– you will:

- acquire essential knowledge as distilled by experts,
- learn where the pitfalls are and how to avoid or surmount them
- build your practice skills and have your most pressing questions answered.

[Learn more & register here](#)

OSGOODE PD: 12TH ANNUAL RECENT DEVELOPMENTS IN ADVANCED AND COMPLEX ISSUES IN PROPERTY AND EQUALIZATION

Dates: Apr 13, 2023 In-Person Online (Live) // May 10, 2023 Online (Replay)

Property and equalization issues just keep getting more complex. Which means you need to more ready than ever. This annual OsgoodePD program - designed and delivered by the leading family law experts - focuses on the more complex and challenging current and emerging issues in property and equalization. This is not a quick summary of the year in review. Rather, it is an in-depth analysis of the critical issues confronting the family law bar. Invest a day acquiring the key knowledge, practical strategies and contacts you need to manage these challenges - and your clients - with confidence.

[Learn more & register here](#)

MIDDLESEX LAW ASSOCIATION'S BENCHER ELECTION FORUM - SOUTHWEST REGION 2023

April 13, 2023, 4:30 PM / Online via Zoom / Free

The MLA Board of Trustees is hosting a Bencher Forum for LSO Bencher candidates running in the Southwest region. A tightly moderated session with candidate platforms and a Q&A session are planned.

Confirmed candidates include:

Lisa D.S. Bilty, Rod Catford, Jacqueline Horvat, Karen Hulan, Jasminka Kalajdzic, Kevin L. Ross, , Matthew Wilson

Registration required.

[Register here](#)

LAW SOCIETY OF ONTARIO: HOLOCAUST REMEMBRANCE DAY PROGRAM

April 18, 2023, 5:30 PM to 7:15 PM (virtual event)

Save the date. More information coming soon

[Learn more here](#)

TLA EVENT: ESCAPING THE PRISON OF BELLIGERENCE: MENTAL WELLNESS FOR LAWYERS

Thursday, April 20, 2022 (Free virtual event)

Incivility in the practice of law is reaching epic levels. The business of law has transformed the art of argument as a form of discourse into a war of words. Hyper-aggressiveness is becoming synonymous with good advocacy. This has a significantly negative impact on our mental health, and ultimately on the credibility of our justice system. In this session, the TLA panel will explore the toxic effect of high-conflict behaviour on our mental health, our relationships with others, and discuss the importance of self-accountability.

[Learn more and register here](#)

SAVE THE DATE: DURHAM REGION LAW ASSOCIATION 2nd ANNUAL FALL CONFERENCE

DATE: Thursday, September 28 & Friday September 29, 2023

Ajax Convention Centre - Information and registration coming soon

QUESTIONS/CONCERNS?

COURT WORKING GROUPS

SCJ FAMILY LAW & IN-PERSON vs. ONLINE MATTERS

If you have ongoing concerns regarding in-person vs online appearances at the SCJ, please direct your concerns to Katie at katie.robinette@fola.ca and she will relay them to our Family Law Working Group.

SCJ SMALL CLAIMS COURT WORKING GROUP: FOLA is requesting that practitioners (as well as Deputy Judges) take a moment to consider and comment on what works well and what could use improvement in our Small Claims Court so that constructive feedback can continue to flow to the Small Claims Court Working Group. Please send comments to Katie at katie.robinette@fola.ca.

EVERYTHING ELSE

Law Association members are welcome to send any issues/concerns related to the above Updates by FOLA by emailing Katie at katie.robinette@fola.ca. We will address them in as timely a manner as possible. Please also note that FOLA cannot assist in issues related to a specific case and the Courts will NOT provide clarification on any Notice to the Profession.