

LEGAL NOTICE NO. 481

REPUBLIC OF TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO

THE SUPREME COURT OF JUDICATURE ACT, CHAP. 4:01  
THE FAMILY AND CHILDREN DIVISION ACT, 2016

RULES

MADE BY THE RULES COMMITTEE UNDER SECTION 78 OF THE SUPREME COURT OF JUDICATURE ACT AND SECTION 60(1) OF THE FAMILY AND CHILDREN DIVISION ACT, 2016 AND SUBJECT TO NEGATIVE RESOLUTION OF PARLIAMENT

THE CHILDREN COURT (AMENDMENT) RULES, 2026

1. These Rules may be cited as the Children Court (Amendment) Citation Rules, 2026.

2. In these Rules, “the Rules” means the Children Court Rules, Interpretation 2018.

3. Part 24 of the Rules is amended—

Part 24  
amended

(a) in sub-rule 24.1(1)(c) by deleting the words “16th September” and substituting the words “1st September”;

(b) in sub-rule 24.1(2)(a) by deleting the words “15th September” and substituting the words “31st August”; and

(c) by revoking sub-rule 24.2 and substituting the following sub-rule:

“24.2 (1) During vacations, the court shall hear and determine only such matters which it deems urgent and fit for hearing during vacations.

(2) The following matters are hereby deemed fit for hearing in any event during the vacations:

(a) an application to which Part 19 of these Rules refers;

(b) an application under the Domestic Violence Act, Chapter 45:56;

(c) a matter for which consideration of bail is required;

(d) charge matters; and

(e) any other matter as the Chief Justice may direct.

(3) In the case of any other application—

(a) a party may apply to the Court for a matter to be heard or dealt with during vacation; and

(b) a matter shall not be deemed urgent and fit for hearing during vacations, unless it is accompanied by a Certificate of Urgency.

(4) Notwithstanding the above, no matter shall be heard or dealt with outside of the regular days and office hours of the Court set out at rule 24.3, whether during vacations or otherwise, unless—

(a) it is an application under section 19A of the Domestic Violence Act, Chap. 45:56; or

(b) in the case of any other application, it is accompanied by a Certificate of Urgency and is deemed urgent and fit for hearing by a Judge.

(5) Notwithstanding the above Masters of the High Court shall continue to sit and determine matters during vacations.”.

Commencement

4. These Rules shall come into effect on 1st July, 2026.

Dated this 8th day of June, 2026.

R. BOODOOSINGH  
*Chief Justice*

JUSTICE C. BROWN-ANTOINE  
*Justice of Appeal*

JUSTICE M. MOHAMMED  
*Puisne Judge*

J. JEREMIE s.c.  
*Attorney General*

L. LUCKY-SAMAROO s.c.  
*Attorney-at-law*

R. BISSESSAR s.c.  
*Attorney-at-law*

K. PRESCOTT  
*Registrar (Ag.)*