

LEGAL NOTICE NO. 482

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 FAMILY PROCEEDINGS (AMENDMENT) RULES, 2026

1. These Rules may be cited as the Family Proceedings Citation (Amendment) Rules, 2026.

2. In these Rules, “the Rules” means the Family Proceedings Interpretation Rules, 1998.

3. Part 40 of the Rules is amended—

Part 40
amended

(a) in sub-rule 40.1(1)(c) by deleting the words “16th September” and substituting the words “1st September”;

(b) in sub-rule 40.1(2)(a) by deleting the words “15th September” and substituting the words “31st August”; and

(c) by revoking sub-rule 40.2 and substituting the following sub-rule:

“40.2 (1) During vacations, the court shall hear and determine only such matters as 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 under the Domestic Violence Act, Chap. 45:56;

(b) the hearing of an executed warrant; and

(c) 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 40.3, 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, during vacations, Masters of the High Court shall continue to sit and determine matters.”.

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.)