

SUPREME COURT OF TASMANIA
CIRCULAR TO PRACTITIONERS

No. 14 of 2021

11 October 2021

SITTINGS IN HOBART 2022

With effect from 31 January 2022, three judges will sit in crime in Hobart for the duration of each sittings. The criminal business of the Court in Hobart will be arranged as follows:

- Two judges will conduct criminal trials for the duration of each sittings. Jury panels will be summoned to attend on the first day of each sittings (not the second day any longer) and at the beginning of the third week of each sittings.
- The third judge will deal with all criminal business other than trials. This includes all pleas of guilty, bail matters, and miscellaneous applications. If and when time permits, some short trials could be listed before the third judge, at his or her discretion.
- So long as the current social distancing requirements remain in place, criminal trials will ordinarily be conducted in Courts 1 and 7, and the third judge will ordinarily sit in Court 8.
- A callover of forthcoming trials will be conducted a week before each sittings by the senior judge in crime for that sittings. All counsel with carriage of forthcoming trials will be expected to attend in person unless other arrangements are made in advance.

As from 31 January 2022, two judges will ordinarily be allocated to sit in the civil jurisdiction during each sittings. The arrangements for those judges will be as follows:

- Ordinarily civil matters will be listed for hearing in Court 2 and sometimes Court 3.
- Judges allocated to sit in the civil jurisdiction in Hobart will sometimes go to Launceston to hear civil cases in Court 2 there. Short Launceston matters may be dealt with by video-link from Hobart.
- Special arrangements will be made for civil jury trials and other civil matters requiring a large courtroom.

Jim Connolly
REGISTRAR