## Local Memorandum

## Ontario Court of Justice, Durham Region

Effective January 3, 2017, the following measures will take effect:

1. The speedy drinking/driving judicial pre-trials will cease. All impaired/over 80/refuse cases will presumptively require a two day trial. Counsel may request accommodation for a shorter or longer trial estimate at a regular judicial pretrial. Dates for judicial pre-trial will be obtained from the office of the trial coordinator only.
2. A confirmation hearing (“2nd event”) will be required for all matters set for trial following a judicial pre-trial. The dates for the confirmation hearings will be obtained from the trial coordinator at the time the trial dates are obtained. These confirmation hearings will be heard in courtroom 106 on regular pre-trial days. The confirmation hearings will be held 13 weeks prior to a trial set on an out-of-custody basis. Confirmation hearings for custody matters will be set at least one month prior to trial.

1. It is expected that crown and defence counsel, or designates authorized to make significant, binding decisions attend the confirmation hearings. Counsel will be expected to meaningfully report on issues including but not limited to: reasonable prospect of conviction, possible resolution, anticipated Charter applications, third party records application, the availability of witnesses including expert witnesses, any additional issues which may affect the JPT trial estimate.
2. Matters already set for trial prior to the date of this memorandum may be brought forward for confirmation hearings at the discretion of the trial coordinator.
3. All Judicial pre-trials will be assigned a fixed 20 minute slot at the time they are set in the office of the trial coordinator. It is of utmost importance that counsel attend the assigned slots on time, otherwise it may not be possible to conduct their judicial pre-trial on the scheduled date.

Michael Block

Local Administrative Justice

December 15, 2016