



I have a family law issue and I want to "go straight to court" for relief. Can I do that?





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The answer is "maybe". Normally, after a family law application is commenced, the first substantive appearance in court (in the Superior Court) is for a Case Conference. Generally, you cannot bring a motion before a case conference. It can take many months to get before a judge for a Case Conference. In order to get before the court for relief before a Case Conference you have to show urgency or emergency. The court has set a relatively high threshold in terms of what is "urgent" or an "emergency". Although an issue may be very important and pressing, it may not necessarily be truly urgent or an emergency. Even if your matter does not pass the threshold, it may still be possible to get the matter before the court on an expedited basis by scheduling an Early Case Conference. In any event, unless the circumstances dictate otherwise, the court will expect that parties have tried to resolve matter in some manner before coming to court. We do a lot of family/divorce law, with offices in Georgetown, Brampton and Caledon East. For now, we are continuing to do most everything virtually. So we are happy to have an initial brief Zoom meeting or a telephone call with you without charge to you to see if we can assist you. Be safe and healthy.

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