



## TIPS AND HELPFUL ADVICE WHEN ATTENDING AT COURT

1. Do not bring your children to court. Having children attend at a family law proceeding is not appropriate and will in all likelihood only upset the judge.
2. Your court attendance may take longer than you think. Although court hearings are usually scheduled for a specific time there are often delays. For example, cases before yours may take longer to be heard than expected. Make sure you have scheduled enough time for your day at court.
3. Try to be early for your court appearance. If necessary, this will give you time for some last minute discussions with your lawyer.
4. Make sure you turn off your cell phone and do not send texts or check your email while in the courtroom.
5. Do not chew gum or bring food or water into the courtroom.
6. If the judge speaks directly to you or you are asked to speak to the judge, unless advised otherwise by your lawyer, you should stand. Only one person should speak at a time so do not interrupt when it is not your turn.
7. It is usually okay to enter or leave the courtroom when it is in session. You should try to do so quickly and quietly.
8. You do not have to dress formally for court but you should dress conservatively and respectfully. A suggestion would be to dress as if you were going to a job interview.
9. Taking audio or video recordings or photographs is not allowed in the courtrooms.
10. Be polite and courteous to the judge, court officials and other court users.