



CASE/SETTLEMENT CONFERENCE INFORMATION

1. Parties and their lawyers must attend the case/settlement conference on the date indicated in the Notice of Case/Settlement Conference
2. A case/settlement conference is an informal, confidential meeting between the parties in the presence of a Judge. The Judge at your case/settlement conference will not be your Judge at trial.
3. At a case/settlement conference, you usually do not need to stand up when you address the Judge; you need only do so in court. You should address a Judge as "Your Honour."
4. The purpose of your case/settlement conference is to:
 - a. Resolve some or all of the issues.
 - b. Encourage settlement.
 - c. Help you get ready for trial.
 - d. Provide full disclosure among the parties of all the relevant facts and evidence.
5. You may feel free to discuss your case openly at your case/settlement conference. What you say cannot be repeated at trial. Your discussions at a case/settlement conference are strictly confidential, and will remain so. Unless you consent, the matters discussed at the case/settlement conference, and during any negotiations, shall not be disclosed to anyone. You must never mention the case/settlement conference during the actual trial.
6. The role of the Judge at a case/settlement conference is to listen to your story, to deal with any procedural problems, and to give you his or her opinion of how your case will likely be decided if it does to trial. That opinion will be based on their experience as a Judge. You have the right to know what that opinion is, and you also have the right to ignore that opinion. However, you should carefully consider what they say because their opinion is based upon years of experience.

7. There are many good reasons why parties should try to settle their dispute before going to trial:
 - a. It saves time and money.
 - b. It avoids the stress of a trial.
 - c. It gives you the power to resolve your dispute on your own, rather than having a stranger resolve it for you.

8. There is no obligation to settle. However, you owe it to yourself to think about it. A good settlement is one where both parties have engaged in a fair compromise.