

Ministry of the Attorney General

Modernizing Justice Presentation to the Federation of Law Associations

Alexey Togunov

Manager, Project Management Office



COVID-19 Response and Justice Transformation

- COVID-19 has highlighted that Ontario requires a more accessible, responsive and resilient justice system **to deliver services remotely**, in person and online.
- Ministry is working with justice sector partners to move Ontario's justice system forward through innovation, transformational technology investments, and modernizing court processes and procedures.
- Also working to provide more remote proceedings and **reduce the number of courthouse visits**, making the justice system safer to access during the COVID-19 outbreak and recovery period.
- The government agrees with its justice sector partners that the sector cannot go back to the old way of doing things and is **committed to continuing to move Ontario's justice system forward**.

Digital Solutions

Online Filing	Allows certain documents to be filed and submitted online – 24/7 – without visiting a courthouse
Document Sharing	An online digital document sharing platform to support in-person and virtual court proceedings
Case Lookup	An online court case search tool allowing people to conduct province-wide searches of Superior Court of Justice civil and criminal court case information, with certain exceptions
Virtual Hearings	Allows participants to attend court proceedings remotely by audio or video
Other	Community Legal Education Ontario (CLEO) Guided Pathways to Family Court Forms, and digital dockets to display real-time court docket information in courts

Online Filing

Justice Services Online

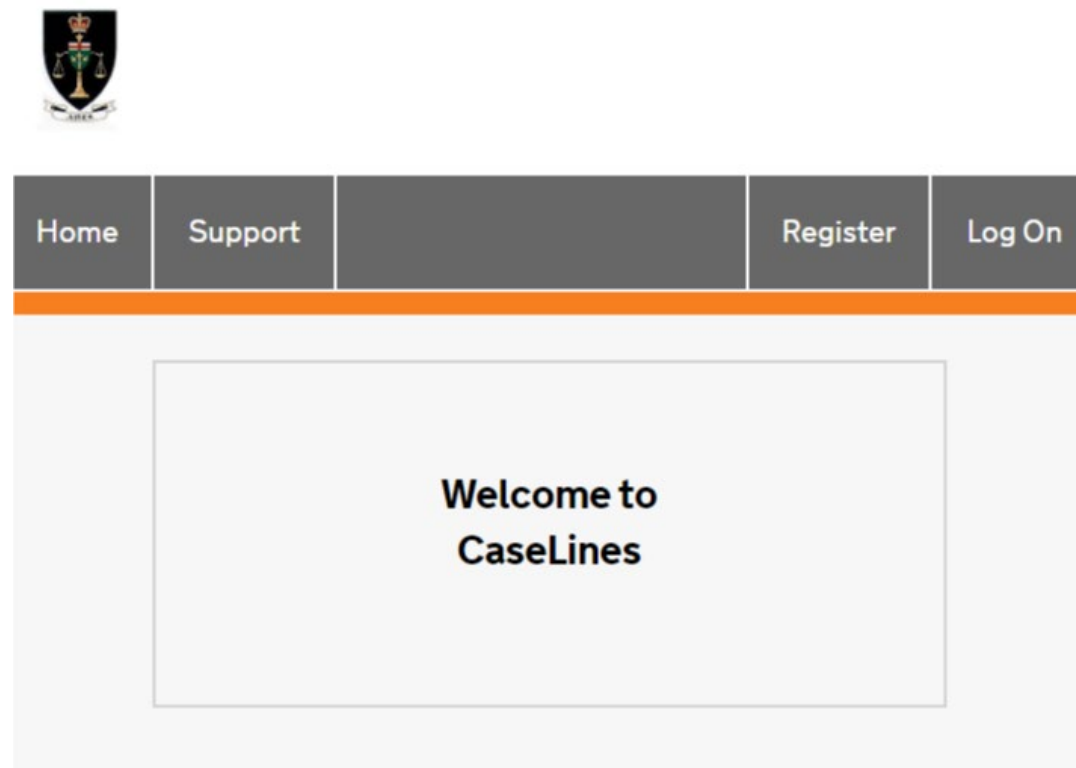
- Introduced a way to e-file more court documents in civil and family court proceedings during COVID-19.
- Expanded in August 2020 to include Civil Submissions Online (CSO) and Family Submissions Online (FSO)
 - Provide a simple and quick way to electronically submit over 400 court documents.
 - A significant expansion, completed in just 6 weeks – more quickly and rapidly than ever before.
- Ministry will continue to enhance Civil and Family Submissions Online based on user feedback.



The screenshot shows the Ontario Justice Services Online website. At the top is the Ontario logo. Below it is the text "Justice Services Online". A section titled "My account" contains the instruction: "To view information within a specific section, click on the heading." Below this is a "Services" section with a "Civil" heading. Under "Civil", there is a link for "Civil Claims Online" with a sub-link: "Issue and File a Statement of Claim or Notice of Action". Two URLs are provided at the bottom: <https://www.ontario.ca/page/file-civil-claim-online> and <https://www.ontario.ca/page/file-family-court-documents-online>.

Cloud-based Document Sharing

CaseLines

- Allows documents to be shared for remote and in-person court events.
- Helps reduce the number of in-person attended court events.
- Piloted through selected civil proceedings at the 330 University Avenue courthouse in Toronto.
- Expanding to family proceedings at the 361 University Avenue courthouse.
- As of October 21, 2020:
 - 120,000 pages of court documents were uploaded
 - 2000 individuals registered to use CaseLines



Ontario  

Search and view Superior Court of Justice civil and criminal court case information

The tool and all of its contents are provided "as is" and do not constitute the official court record. There may be a time delay between a change in the case information and the time when the tool is updated.

* Case Type is mandatory.
* Either Surname/Business Name or Case Number field must be entered.

Case Type *

Surname/Business Name *

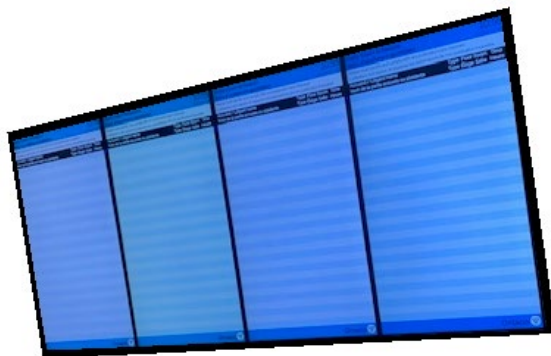
Given Name

Case Number *

Select the court location

[Cancel](#)

<https://www.ontario.ca/page/search-court-cases-online>



Case Lookup and Digital Dockets

Court Case Search

Launched on August 17, 2020 to allow people to conduct remote searches of Superior Court of Justice civil and criminal court case information.

Makes it easier for people to access court case information that would otherwise only be available by visiting or calling the court where the matter is being heard, saving them time and money.

Digital Displays

Developing a software solution that will display in near real-time court docket information from case management and/or scheduling systems on digital displays for the new Toronto courthouse and 361 University Superior Court amalgamation.

In July, 2020, 8 digital displays went live at 361 University Avenue courthouse.

Simplifying Processes

Community Legal Education Ontario (CLEO) Guided Pathways

- Ministry partnered with CLEO to develop Guided Pathways to Family Court Forms.
- Helps Ontarians complete their court forms easily and accurately.
- Will be updated to reflect changes to the Divorce Act (Bill C78) on March 1, 2021.

Family Law Guided Pathways

Fill out the court forms you need for your family law case.

Get started

Modernizing the Court Experience

Virtual Hearings

- Continued shift from entirely in-person court events to court events with some participants in the courtroom and others connecting remotely.
- Over 200 courtrooms have audio/video (A/V) equipment installed.
- Deployment of A/V equipment in a further courtrooms is underway.



Continuous Improvement and User Engagement

The ministry is using a user centric approach to deliver Simpler, Faster, Better Services:

