**A. CASE MANAGEMENT**

1. Discretion of the Court

In an effort to maximize judicial resources, promote access to justice, and assist parties in moving matters along, the court engages in active and robust case management. However, case management is not a replacement for timely, robust and fulsome communication between the parties.  There is a demand for judicial resources in a multitude of areas, only one of which is case management.  The court has the discretion to decline requests for case management, for example where the parties have not sufficiently communicated in an effort to resolve issues; where a party is seeking a “pre-determination” of a contested issue; or, for any other reason as determined by the court.

1. Procedure
2. In the court’s discretion, case management may occur in any matter, including family, criminal, civil, small claims and estates matters. Case management may be held for matters that are on track for a motion, application or trial.
3. Most case management occurs by telephone but, depending on the circumstances and the direction of the court, may proceed in other forums, including virtually or in person.
4. Depending on the circumstances, case management may be facilitated by the case management coordinator or other such designated person, or by a judge.
5. Discussion points are wide-ranging but often include the parties articulating the issues for determination; outstanding steps required, including estimated timeline for completion; disclosure issues; procedural issues; and whether examinations on affidavits will be proceeding outside of court, or whether a party will be seeking leave to examine within the hearing.
6. The court may establish a timeline for the parties or direct the parties to participate in further case management. The court may also authorize a motion, application, settlement conference, trial readiness pre-trial conference or trial. The expectation is that the timetable and action items established in case management will be adhered to and complied with. Achieving the benefits of case management requires commitment to the process, including in particular to the timetable set out.