

Rules of the Supreme Court of Newfoundland, 1986

PRACTICE NOTE

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The following Practice Note was filed with the Registrar, as Secretary of the Rules Committee of the Trial Division and of the Unified Family Court, and is published pursuant to rule 4.04 of the *Rules of the Supreme Court, 1986*:

STYLE OF ADDRESS OF JUSTICES OF THE SUPREME COURT OF NEWFOUNDLAND, TRIAL DIVISION AND UNIFIED FAMILY COURT

Background

1. As has been the case with federally appointed judges in many of the courts of the country, the justices of the Supreme Court of Newfoundland, Trial Division, and Unified Family Court, have been considering the desirability of providing for a change in the style of address of justices.
2. While acknowledging the historical basis for the current practice of using “My Lord” and “My Lady” or “Your Lordship” and “Your Ladyship”, and its value in maintaining appropriate decorum in court, the majority of justices would, nevertheless, prefer to be addressed as “Justice” or “Mr. Justice” or “Madam Justice” or “Chief Justice”, as the particular circumstance may require.

Practice Note

- 3. Justices of the Supreme Court of Newfoundland, Trial Division, and Unified Family Court, may, in the future, be addressed as “Justice” or “Mr. Justice” or “Madam Justice” or “Chief Justice” as the case may be.**
- 4. The former practice of using “My Lord” and “My Lady” or “Your Lordship” and “Your Ladyship” may still be followed by those counsel, parties or witnesses who prefer to do so. However, the former practice ought not to be used in circumstances where the Justice is not acting in an official capacity.**

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