CHAPTER 177 MAGISTRATES ACT

• Act • Subsidiary Legislation •

ACT

Amended by

Act No. 10 of 1969 Act No. 11 of 1972 Act No. 32 of 1972 Act No. 33 of 1973 Act No. 6 of 1979 Act No. 27 of 1979 Act No. 21 of 1992 Act No. 21 of 1993 Act No. 28 of 1993 Act No. 12 of 1996

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CHAPTER 177 MAGISTRATES ACT

An Act relating to Magistrates and Justices of the Peace.

[Amended by Act No. 10 of 1969, Act No. 11 of 1972, Act No. 32 of 1972, Act No. 33 of 1973, Act No. 6 of 1979, Act No. 27 of 1979, Act No. 21 of 1992, Act No. 21 of 1993, Act No. 28 of 1993, Act No. 12 of 1996.]

[1st January, 1937.]

PART I

Preliminary

1. Short title

This Act may be cited as the Magistrates Act.

2. Interpretation

In this Act—

"child" means a person who in the opinion of the Magistrate before whom he or she is brought, is under the age of fourteen years and is of seven years of age or more;

"Court" means a Magistrate's Court established in a district by virtue of this Act;

"district" means a Magisterial District constituted under this Act;

"offence" means any contravention of a written law or of the common law which is punishable or enforceable on summary conviction either by fine, penalty or imprisonment; "young person" means a person who in the opinion of the Magistrate before whom he or she is brought, is of the age of fourteen years or more and under the age of sixteen years.

PART II

Constitution of Magisterial Districts

3. Magisterial Districts

- (1) The Governor-General may, from time to time, by Order—
 - (a) divide Grenada into Magisterial Districts for the purposes of this Act;
 - (b) distinguish such districts by such names or numbers as he or she may think proper;
 - (c) vary the limits of any districts; and
 - (d) vary the number of districts.
- (2) Every such Order shall be published in the *Gazette* and shall take effect on the publication thereof or at any other time mentioned therein.

4. District Courts

In each district there shall be and there is hereby established a Court to be called the Magistrates Court with the civil and criminal jurisdiction and other powers hereinafter mentioned.

5. Presiding officer of the Court

Subject to the special provisions hereinafter contained, the Magistrate of each district shall be the sole presiding officer of the Court of the district and shall have and exercise all the jurisdiction and powers thereof.

PART III

Officers of the Court

Magistrates

6. Appointment of Magistrates

The Governor-General shall appoint to be the Magistrate of each district a barrister or solicitor or some other fit and proper person.

7. Place of residence of Magistrate

Every Magistrate shall, unless he or she is specially exempted from so doing, reside in his or her district, and in some convenient place there approved.

8. Magistrate a Justice of the Peace

- (1) Every Magistrate shall ex officio be a Justice of the Peace for Grenada.
- (2) Every Magistrate within the limits of his or her district shall be an *ex officio* Coroner.

9. Appointment of Magistrates for special purposes

- (1) The Governor-General may—
 - (a) appoint any fit and proper person to act as Magistrate of any district or of any part of any district in which from any cause whatsoever the Magistrate of the district is unable to perform his or her duties, or during any period when the office of Magistrate of any district is vacant;
 - (b) appoint any fit and proper person to be an additional Magistrate for a district; any such appointment may be made either permanently or temporarily or for any particular portion of a district or for the purposes of any special business in a district:
 - (c) appoint a Magistrate of any district to exercise in any other district any jurisdiction of that other district;
 - (d) transfer a Magistrate from one district to any other district;
 - (e) where a Magistrate is a party to any cause or matter whether civil or criminal or is unable from personal interest or from any other sufficient reason to adjudicate on any cause or matter whether civil or criminal, appoint some fit and proper person to act instead of such Magistrate for the hearing and determination of such particular cause or matter or may direct that such cause or matter shall be heard and determined in the Court of any district; or
 - (f) direct that a Magistrate shall assist or act instead of any other Magistrate for the purpose of discharging the duties of that other Magistrate.
- (2) Any person appointed to act as Magistrate or as additional Magistrate in a district and any Magistrate appointed, directed or transferred to act or assist in any district other than his or her own shall have the same immunities and protection as, and all the powers and jurisdiction of, the Magistrate of the district to which he or she is transferred or in which he or she is appointed or directed to act or assist.
- (3) All cases arising within a district of a Magistrate shall be heard and determined at any of the offices of the Magistrate within the district irrespective of the parish in which the prosecutor, complainant, plaintiff or defendant may reside or the cause of action may arise:

Provided that a Magistrate may order that a case shall be tried at some other office in his or her district.

9A. Chief Magistrate

- (1) The Governor-General shall designate one of the Magistrates as the Chief Magistrate.
- (2) The Chief Magistrate shall be responsible for administratively co-ordinating the work of the different Magistrates.

Justices of the Peace

10. Appointment and removal of Justices

- (1) The Governor-General may by instrument under his or her hand and the public seal appoint any fit and proper person to be a Justice of the Peace for Grenada, or for any district or portion of a district.
- (2) The Governor-General may in like manner, for cause appearing to be sufficient, remove any Justice of the Peace from office.
 - (3) Every appointment and removal shall be notified in the *Gazette*.

(4) The Governor-General may by instrument under his or her hand and the public seal appoint a public officer resident in a district to be a Justice of the Peace for that district for such period as may be specified in the instrument and may also revoke such appointment.

11. Publication of annual list of Justices

In the month of January in every year there shall be published in the *Gazette* a list of all Justices of the Peace for the time being holding office, and in the list there shall be stated the profession, occupation or calling and the place of residence, of each Justice.

12. Powers and duties of Justices

- (1) Subject to the provisions of this and of any other Act, every Justice of the Peace shall have power to preserve the peace, to suppress riots and affrays, and to disperse all disorderly and tumultuous assemblages, and for any of these purposes to call upon the assistance of the Police Force and members of the public, who shall be bound to obey all lawful commands.
- (2) Subject as aforesaid, every Justice of the Peace shall have the same power as a Magistrate to issue warrants for the apprehension and commitment for safe custody of persons charged with offences; to remand persons charged with offences, to issue search warrants and to take affidavits and administer oaths in cases allowed by law; and to sign summonses to defendants and witnesses in civil cases and to witnesses in criminal cases.

13. Power of apprehension for breach of the peace in view of a Justice

Any Justice of the Peace in whose presence any indictable offence or breach of the peace is committed may either himself or herself apprehend the offender or verbally command any other person to do so; and that person may thereupon follow the offender and if he or she flees, carry into effect and execute the command whether in or out of the view of the Justice by whom it was given.

14. Extent of jurisdiction of a Justice

- (1) The jurisdiction of a Justice of the Peace shall extend throughout Grenada or the district or portion of a district for which he or she may be appointed.
- (2) In the exercise of his or her powers whether civil or criminal, a Justice of the Peace shall be deemed to be a Magistrate within the meaning of the Magistrates Protection Act, Chapter 179.

15. When Justices may adjudicate

Whenever a Magistrate is unable from sickness, absence or any other cause, to be present in Court, any Justice of the Peace, being a barrister or solicitor or two Justices of the Peace (neither being a barrister or solicitor), may at the request of the Magistrate in writing sit in Court in his or her place, and shall while so sitting have and exercise all the powers of a Magistrate:

Provided that such power shall not extend to more than one sitting of the Court or for the completion of the hearing of any matter commenced at such sitting.

Clerks of the Court

16. Appointment of clerks

- (1) The Governor-General may appoint some fit and proper person to be the clerk of each Court who shall receive such salary as the Governor-General may appoint out of monies to be provided by the House of Representatives.
 - (2) The clerk shall be under the immediate direction and control of the Magistrate.

17. Security to be given

Every clerk shall give such security for the faithful performance of his or her duties and for the due accounting for and payment of all monies and stamps received by him or her as the Governor-General shall, from time to time, determine.

18. Duties of clerk

The duties of the clerk shall be to—

- (a) attend at every sitting of the Court;
- (b) prepare and sign summonses;
- (c) prepare warrants, orders, convictions, recognisances, writs of execution and other documents and instruments, and submit them for the signature of the Magistrate;
- (d) take down in writing the evidence given at any trial or inquiry before the Magistrate when so required;
- (e) make copies of proceedings when required to do so by the Magistrate and record the judgements, convictions and orders of the Court;
- (f) receive all fees, fines, penalties and all other monies paid in respect of proceedings in the Court and to keep accounts of the same;
- (g) perform any other duties connected with the Court as may be assigned to him or her by the Magistrate.

19. Clerk to receive monies and stamps

The clerk may demand and receive all fees, fines, stamps and monies payable to the Court, and shall furnish monthly to the Director of Audit a return, certified by the Magistrate, of all monies and stamps received by him or her, and shall account for and pay over all monies and stamps to the Permanent Secretary (Finance).

20. Record to be kept by Magistrate

The Magistrate shall enter or cause to be entered in a book kept for the purpose the names of the plaintiff and defendant, the date of entry of the claim, the date of hearing, the judgement, the costs, the date of judgement, the date of issuing the writ of execution or commitment for such debt or instalment as may be due, and the date when the judgement is wholly satisfied.

21. Responsibility of Magistrate for clerk

The Magistrate shall be responsible for the performance by his or her clerk of all the clerk's duties except that he or she shall not be liable to make good any loss resulting from any criminal act of the clerk. And it shall be the duty of the Magistrate to see that the proper stamps in respect of fees payable in stamps for declarations and affidavits taken and sworn before him or her are attached and cancelled.

22. Appointment of bailiffs

- (1) The Governor-General may appoint in the different districts fit and proper persons to be bailiffs for such districts, who shall, so far as possible, serve all summonses and orders, execute all writs and other process, civil or criminal, issued by any Magistrate or Justice of the Peace requiring to be executed in the district for which they are appointed, and who shall receive such salary as the Governor-General may appoint out of such monies as may be provided by the House of Representatives for the purpose.
- (2) Notwithstanding anything in this section contained it shall be lawful for any police officer to execute any warrant or other process and for any police officer or other person to execute any summons issued by a Magistrate or Justice of the Peace.

23. Accounting by bailiff

Every bailiff who receives monies by virtue of his or her office shall once in every week, and oftener if required by the Magistrate to do so, give to the Magistrate or to the clerk of the Court a full, true, and particular account of all monies received by him or her since the last accounting, and of all monies previously received and accounted for, if any, and of the disposal of the same; and every such account shall be filed and kept by the clerk among the records of the Court.

24. Powers and control of bailiff

Every bailiff, for the performance of the duties of his or her office and whilst engaged in such duties, shall have throughout Grenada all the powers and responsibilities of a police officer, and shall be under the control of the Magistrate of the district for which he or she is appointed.

25. When damages against bailiff may be ordered

If any bailiff employed to levy execution against movable property under the process of the Court by connivance, or wilful omission, loses the opportunity of levying any such execution, then, upon complaint of the party aggrieved by reason of such connivance or omission (and the fact alleged being proved to the satisfaction of the Court, on the oath of any credible witness) the Magistrate may order such bailiff to pay such damages as it may appear that the party complaining has sustained thereby, not exceeding in any case the sum of money for which the said execution issued, and the bailiff shall be liable thereto; and, upon demand made therefor and on his or her refusal so to pay and satisfy the same, payment thereof may be enforced by such ways and means as are provided by the Civil Procedure Act, Chapter 55, for enforcing a judgement under the said Act.

26. Assault on bailiff in the execution of his or her duty

Every person who—

- (a) assaults, obstructs, or resists a bailiff in the execution of his or her duty; or
- (b) makes, or attempts to make, any rescue of any movable property taken in execution under the process of the court,

shall be guilty of an offence and liable to a fine of five hundred dollars and to imprisonment for two months.

PART IV

Jurisdiction of Magistrates and Magistrates Courts

Criminal Jurisdiction

27. Jurisdiction of Magistrate in indictable and other cases

- (1) Every Magistrate has jurisdiction within his or her district to receive and inquire into all charges of indictable offences.
- (2) Notwithstanding any provision of this Act or any other written law to the contrary, each magistrate has jurisdiction to hear and determine a charge alleging an offence involving any act of violence against Government property or essential services, or alleging a breach of any provision of a financial written law:

Provided that in such cases a Magistrate shall not impose on any person convicted a sentence of imprisonment of more than five years.

28. Summary jurisdiction in criminal cases

Each Magistrate shall have jurisdiction within his or her district to hear and determine all charges of summary offences as defined in the Criminal Code Act, Chapter 72A, and all charges of offences in which summary jurisdiction is by any law expressly given to Magistrates or Justices of the Peace, and also all complaints and information for the recovery of fines, penalties, or forfeitures which are not specially assigned by any law to the High Court.

29. Offences in territorial waters

Subject to the express provisions of any other Act, all offences committed in or within the limits of any bay, creek, or inlet of the sea, of or within Grenada, may be heard and determined or investigated by the Magistrate within whose district the bay, creek or inlet may be; and all such offences committed on board any ship, vessel, or boat beyond the limits aforesaid may be heard and determined or investigated by the Magistrate off the shores of whose district the ship, vessel, or boat may be at the time of the commission of the offence, or on or near to the shore of whose district the ship, vessel, or boat, after the commission of the offence, may anchor or touch.

Civil Jurisdiction

30. Civil matters

- (1) Subject as hereinafter provided, all actions—
 - (a) of contract or tort where the amount claimed, or value of the thing claimed whether as a debt, balance of account, or damages or otherwise, is not in the case of actions of contract more than ten thousand dollars, and in the case of actions of tort more than seven thousand five hundred dollars;
 - (b) in all other matters in which jurisdiction is by any law expressly given to Magistrates or Justices of the Peace,

may be commenced in the Court, and all such actions shall be heard and determined in a summary manner according to the provisions of this Act.

- (2) Where in any action the debt or demand claimed consists of a balance not exceeding seven thousand five hundred dollars, after an admitted set-off of any debt or demand claimed or recoverable by the defendant from the plaintiff, the Court shall have jurisdiction to hear and determine such action.
 - (3) The Court shall have jurisdiction in the following cases, that is to say—
 - (a) where the plaintiff or defendant resides in the district;
 - (b) where the cause of action has arisen wholly or in part within the district; or
 - (c) where the chattel or thing which is the subject of the action is in the district.

31. Cases involving title to land

(1) A Magistrate shall not have jurisdiction to try any action mentioned in section 30(1)(a) when any question of title to land arises or in which the title to any corporeal or incorporeal hereditaments is in question:

Provided that a Magistrate shall have jurisdiction to try any such action, and may proceed to judgement—

- (a) if in his or her opinion the issues really in dispute between the parties do not involve such title;
- (b) with the consent of all the parties to the action; or
- (c) without such consent, if in his or her opinion the value of the land in question is not more than seven thousand five hundred dollars.
- (2) The consent of the parties shall, where given, be entered in the record of the proceedings and signed by the parties or their respective solicitors or counsel.
- (3) Whenever an action involving a question of title to land or in which the title to any corporeal or incorporeal hereditaments is in question is tried by a Magistrate, he or she shall give his or her judgement in writing, and within seven days thereafter the Magistrate shall transmit the same duly signed by him or her to the Registrar of the Supreme Court for record in his or her office.

32. Judgement may be removed into High Court if there are no goods to be taken under it

- (1) Where, on the application of a judgement creditor, a Magistrate is satisfied that a party against whom judgement for an amount exceeding seven thousand five hundred dollars, exclusive of costs, has been obtained, has no goods or chattels which can be conveniently taken to satisfy such judgement, he or she shall order that such judgement be removed into the High Court, and when removed, it shall have the same force and effect, and the same proceedings may be taken thereon, as in the case of a judgement of the High Court.
- (2) When any such order has been made the Magistrate shall forthwith transmit to the Registrar of the Supreme Court a certified copy of the order and of the particulars of the judgement.

33. Unlawful detention of goods

(1) On complaint made by any person claiming to be entitled to the property in or possession of any goods which are detained by any other person, the value of the goods not being greater than seven thousand five hundred dollars, and not being deeds, muniments or papers relating to any property of greater value than seven thousand five hundred dollars, it shall be lawful for a Magistrate to inquire into the title thereto or to the right of possession of the same. And if it appears to him or her that, after demand has been made for them by the person by whom the complaint has been made, the goods have been detained without just cause by the person against whom the complaint has been made, or that the person detaining them has a lien upon or a right to detain them by way of security for the payment of monies or the performance of any act by the owner thereof, it shall be lawful for the Magistrate to order the goods to be delivered to the owner or to the person entitled to the possession of them absolutely or upon tender of such amount as may appear to the Magistrate to be due by the owner or the person entitled to the possession of them, or upon the performance, or upon the tender and refusal of the performance, of the act for the performance of which the goods may have been detained as security, or, if such act cannot be performed, then upon tender of amends for nonperformance.

- (2) Every person who refuses or neglects to deliver the goods according to the order shall pay the full value thereof as amends to the person aggrieved.
- (3) No order shall bar any person from recovering the goods so delivered by action from the person to whose possession they shall come by virtue of the order:

Provided the action is commenced within six months next after the order has been made.

34. Liability of infant

No person shall be precluded from suing or exempted from being sued for a claim within the jurisdiction of the Magistrate by reason of his or her being under the age of twenty-one years.

General Powers

35. Magistrates to be Commissioners for Oaths, etc.

Each Magistrate shall be a Commissioner of the Supreme Court for the purpose of taking affidavits and declarations and affirmations, and shall also be a Commissioner for taking acknowledgments by married women of deeds executed by them under any enactment by which any deed executed by married women is required to be acknowledged by her apart from her husband as her act and deed.

36. Process valid throughout Grenada

All summonses, warrants, orders, judgements, writs of execution or other process or proceedings, whether civil or criminal issued or taken by the authority of a Magistrate respecting the matters within his or her jurisdiction shall have full force and effect and may be served or executed anywhere within Grenada by a bailiff of the Court, by a police officer or other person to whom the same are directed or by any other police officer as the case may be.

PART V

Sittings of the Courts

37. Times and places for sittings of Courts

- (1) The Governor-General may, from time to time, by notice published in the *Gazette*, fix the places and the days and hours for holding the sittings of Courts, and the days and hours during which Magistrates offices shall be opened and may in like manner alter any such places or times.
- (2) Every such notice shall take effect on the publication thereof or at such other time as may be mentioned therein.
- (3) Despite any provision contained in this Act or in any notice issued under the provisions of this section, a Magistrate may hold Court upon any day and at any time, including night time, if he or she considers that the interests of justice so require.
- (4) Until a notice is issued under the provisions of this section, the Courts shall be held in such places and at such times as they have been habitually held.

38. Adjournment of Court

(1) The Magistrate may adjourn his or her Court from day-to-day or to any convenient day.

- (2) If the Magistrate is not present at the time and place appointed for a sitting the clerk, or in his or her absence, the bailiff, may by public oral notice in Court adjourn the sitting until the time communicated to him or her by the Magistrate, and in the absence of that communication to a convenient time, and all persons bound to be present at the sitting so adjourned shall be equally bound to be present at the time appointed by the notice.
- (3) In the absence of the notice and of any notification to the contrary all such persons shall be bound to be presentat the next succeeding time regularly appointed or otherwise for the sitting of the Court in the same place.

39. Punishment for misconduct before the Court

- (1) Everyone who wilfully insults a Magistrate, or is guilty of any misconduct during the hearing of any cause or matter, whether civil or criminal may, on a verbal order of the Magistrate, be removed from the Court or its precincts or may further be detained in custody till the rising of the Court on the same day.
- (2) The person may further, either alone or in addition to the removal, or removal and detention, as the case may be, on summary conviction before another Magistrate be ordered to pay a fine not exceeding five hundred dollars and in default to undergo a term of imprisonment not exceeding three months.

40. How far the Court open to the public

- (1) In all cases of summary proceedings, the Magistrates Court shall be deemed an open Court to which members of the public generally will have access so far as space permits; but upon any proceedings with regard to a charge of an indictable offence, or in bastardy or in relation to obscene, abusive or insulting language or in any civil proceedings which may in the High Court be heard in chambers, the Magistrate may, in his or her discretion, order that no person except the parties and their counsel or solicitors shall remain in Court except by leave of the Magistrate.
- (2) The Magistrate when hearing charges against children or young persons, or when hearing applications relating to a child or young person at which the attendance of the child or young person is required, shall, unless the child or young person is charged jointly with any other person not being a child or young person, sit either in a different building or room from that in which the ordinary sittings of the Court are held, or in the same building or room but on different days or at different times from those of the ordinary sittings. A Magistrates Court so sitting shall be referred to as a Juvenile and Family Court.
- (2A) The Magistrate when hearing any summary application, proceeding or offence concerning a child or young person arising under any act mentioned in the Second Schedule hereinafter added, shall sit in a Juvenile and Family Court referred to in subsection (2).
- (3) In a Juvenile and Family Court no person other than the Magistrate and officers of the Court and the parties to the case, their solicitors and counsel, *bona fide* representatives of a newspaper and other persons directly concerned in the case shall, except by leave of the Magistrate, be allowed to attend:

Provided that no newspaper report of any proceedings in a Juvenile and Family Court shall reveal the name, address or school, or include any particulars calculated to lead to the identification of any child or young person concerned in those proceedings.

41. Practice in civil jurisdiction

The practice and procedure of the Court in its civil jurisdiction shall be the same as that of the summary jurisdiction of the High Court, except so far as special provision to the contrary is made in the Civil Procedure Act, Chapter 55, or by any other Act relating thereto.

42. Practice in criminal jurisdiction

The practice and procedure of the Court in its criminal jurisdiction shall be regulated by the Criminal Procedure Code, Chapter 72B, or by any other Act relating thereto.

43. Record of evidence

(1) The Magistrate shall, in every case, take notes in writing of the evidence, so far as it is material, and of every order that he or she makes, in a book kept for that purpose, and shall sign the book at the conclusion of each day's proceedings and at the end of each case:

Provided that if the Magistrate is from any cause unable to take notes, they may be taken by a clerk of the Court under his or her direction.

(2) Such record when signed by the Magistrate as aforesaid shall be evidence of the several matters and things therein set forth and contained.

44. Proceedings taken in wrong Court

In any case, civil or criminal, any objection that the proceedings have been commenced in the wrong district, shall be taken at or before the commencement of the hearing and not afterwards. If the Magistrate thinks the objection invalid he or she may so decide, and his or her decision shall not be subject to appeal; but if he or she thinks the objection valid he or she shall by a report in writing refer it to a Judge who shall, upon reading the report, make an order either directing the case to be tried by the Magistrate or transferring it for trial to some other Magistrate, and it shall be so tried accordingly; and the Judge's order shall not be subject to appeal.

45. Completion of process or hearing by different Magistrate

Where a Magistrate has issued any summons or warrant, taken any evidence, commenced any hearing, or otherwise taken or commenced any proceeding or matter, whether civil, criminal or quasi-criminal or any other matter under any authority however conferred, and subsequently ceases to act as such Magistrate, it shall be lawful for the person in whose hands such summons or warrant may be to execute or serve the same in the manner as if the Magistrate who issued such summons or warrant had not ceased to act as such Magistrate; and any successor of such Magistrate or any person acting for or assisting such Magistrate, may hear, determine, execute, enforce, continue and carry to completion any proceeding or matter so commenced as aforesaid.

PART VII

Fees

46. Fees

(1) The fees set forth in the First Schedule may be demanded and received by the Magistrate or by the clerk of the Court for and in respect of the several matters therein mentioned

- (2) All fees payable in respect of written instruments shall be denoted by adhesive stamps affixed and cancelled by writing across them in ink the name or initials of the Magistrate or his or her clerk and the date of payment. When the fees are receivable in respect of some matter other than a document they shall be denoted by adhesive stamps affixed to the document and cancelled in the manner provided for written instruments.
- (3) The Governor-General may by Order delete from, vary or add to the First Schedule of fees and include in the First Schedule a scale of fees payable to barristers or solicitors, and to witnesses.
 - (3A) The Governor-General may by Order amend the Second Schedule to this Act.
- (4) Every such Order shall be published in the *Gazette* and shall take effect on the publication thereof or at any other time mentioned therein.

47. Payment of fees

Save as hereinafter provided all fees payable under or by virtue of this Act shall in the first instance be paid by the party applying for the summons, warrant or other process or document in respect whereof they are payable but they shall be costs in the cause or matter in which they are paid.

48. Cases in which Magistrate may forego fees

- (1) No fees shall be payable in the following cases, namely—
 - (a) on any complaint or other process or proceeding, civil or criminal, brought by the police or by any public officer in his or her official capacity, but in criminal proceedings fees shall, where they would ordinarily be payable, be taken as paid for the purpose of assessing any costs which the Court directs to be paid;
 - (b) in any proceedings civil or criminal under any Act in which it is expressly stated that fees shall not in the first instance be collected;
 - (c) in any proceedings on a charge for an indictable offence.
- (2) The Magistrate may in his or her discretion take no fees in the following cases—
 - (a) on any complaint or other process or proceeding taken by any Justice of the Peace in the performance of his or her duties;
 - (b) where in his or her opinion a party is unable to pay fees;
 - (c) in criminal proceedings.
- (3) In all cases where fees have not been taken by the Magistrate under the provisions of this section, the Magistrate may nevertheless direct the recovery from the defendant if the decision is given against him or her of the fees which would have been taken but for such provisions.
- (4) If on the hearing of any case in which the Magistrate has under the provisions of this section not taken fees, he or she is of the opinion that the proceedings were vexatious or frivolous, or that there was no just and sufficient ground for the same, he or she may order the person taking such proceedings to pay the fees that would have been taken but for the provisions of this section, and may enforce payment in the same manner as costs generally are enforced.

49. Power to order return of fees in certain cases

Where fees are received by a Magistrate from a complainant in respect of a complaint, process or proceeding regarding a summary offence, and the defendant is convicted and ordered to be imprisoned, or to be caned, or to repay such fees to the complainant as part of the costs and is imprisoned in default of payment thereof, the Magistrate may, in his or her

discretion, direct a return to be made from the Treasury to the complainant of the amount of the fees paid by him or her.

50. Counterclaims

- (1) The Court shall have power in any action or proceeding to grant to any defendant in respect of any estate, right or title asserted or claimed by him or her by way of counterclaim all such relief against any plaintiff as the Court might have granted in any action instituted for that purpose by him or her against the same plaintiff.
- (2) If in any proceeding before a Court any defence or counterclaim of the defendant involves matter beyond the jurisdiction of the Court the defence or counterclaim shall not affect the competence or the duty of the Court to dispose of the whole matter in controversy so far as relates to the demand of the plaintiff and the defence thereto, but no relief exceeding that which the Court has jurisdiction to administer shall be given to the defendant upon any such counterclaim.

PART VIII

Rectification of Magistrate's Judgement in Criminal Cases

51. Returns of criminal cases decided by Magistrate to be furnished to Chief Justice

(1) Every Magistrate shall forward half-monthly to the Chief Justice, on such form or in such book as the Chief Justice may from time to time direct, a complete list of all criminal cases decided by the Magistrate during the half month, setting out the name of the defendant, the date of the issue of process or of arrest, the offence with which he or she was charged and the law constituting the offence, and, if convicted, the date of the conviction and the amount of any fine or other penalty or term of imprisonment imposed:

Provided that the Chief Justice may in the exercise of his or her discretion, direct that the Magistrate shall furnish the lists at intervals of up to one month.

- (2) Every list transmitted to the Chief Justice in pursuance of this section shall operate as an appeal on behalf of every convicted person whose name is included there; and the Chief Justice may, without hearing any argument—
 - (a) reverse or amend or modify any judgement or order which shall have been given contrary to law;
 - (b) set aside any judgement or order an entry to be made in the notes of the Magistrate's Court that, in his or her judgement, the person convicted ought not to have been convicted;
 - (c) order further particulars to be given by the Magistrate, and, pending the delivery of the particulars, order any person who has been convicted and imprisoned to be liberated on bail or on his or her own recognisances, or make such other order as justice may require; and give all necessary and proper consequential directions; or
 - (d) order a new trial before the Court which passed sentence or before any other Magistrates Court:

Provided that where a person convicted has appealed the Chief Justice shall not exercise the powers by this section conferred upon him or her.

(3) The Chief Justice may instead of deciding upon any case included in the lists, order a Magistrate to state a case for the consideration of the High Court, and thereupon the High Court shall have power to decide the case in all respects as though an appeal had been entered by the person convicted.

(4) Pending the decision of the High Court upon a case ordered to be stated for its opinion, under the provisions of the last preceding subsection, the Chief Justice may order a person who has been convicted and imprisoned by a Magistrate to be released on bail or on his or her own recognisances.

PART IX

Miscellaneous

52. Appeals from judgements of Magistrates

Subject to the conditions and limitations set forth in this Act, and in any other Act, an appeal shall lie to the High Court from the judgements, decisions, and orders of a Magistrate's Court in the exercise of its civil and criminal jurisdiction.

53. Power to make rules

The Chief Justice may, with the approval of the Governor-General, make rules regulating the practice and procedure of Magistrates Courts in matters not provided by this or any other Act relating thereto, and the costs to be taken or allowed to barristers or solicitors.

54. Saving of existing districts

The Magisterial Districts in existence on the 1st January, 1937, shall continue in force until altered under the provisions of this Act.

First Schedule

MAGISTRATES ACT

Fees
[Section 46(1).]

I—FEES TO BE TAKEN BY, AND PAYABLE TO, MAGISTRATES AND JUSTICES OF THE PEACE IN ALL PROCEEDINGS, OTHER THAN THOSE BY OR AGAINST THE GOVERNMENT

	In Civil Jurisdiction	In Criminal Jurisdiction
	\$ c	\$ c
Summons to a defendant (not being a Judgement Debtor Summons) where debt or demand does not exceed \$100	0.75	
Summons to a defendant (not being a Judgement Debtor Summons) where debt or demand exceeds \$100 but does not exceed \$250	1.50	_
Summons to a defendant (not being a Judgement Debtor Summons) where debt or demand exceeds \$250 but does not exceed \$500	2.00	_
Summons to a defendant (not being a Judgement Debtor Summons) where debt or demand exceeds \$500 but does not exceed \$2,500	5.00	_
Summons to a defendant		1.00
Summons to each defendant after the first	0.25	0.25

	0.25	
Summons to a witness	0.15	0.25 0.15
Judgement Debtor Summons where debt does not exceed	0.13	0.13
\$500	0.75	0.75
Judgement Debtor Summons where debt exceeds \$500 but does not exceed \$2,500	1.50	_
Service of Summons or other process for each person served	0.25	0.25
Ditto where bailiff has to travel more than 2 miles from the Court House, for each mile or part of a mile after the first two	0.10	0.10
Service of Summons or other process in Petit Martinique when issued from any Court other than Carriacou district		
	0.75	0.75
Ditto ditto every service after the first in same case and at same time	0.35	0.35
Hearing fee in a civil case where evidence is merely taken to enable judgement to go by default	0.75	_
Hearing fee in a criminal case	_	1.00
Hearing fee on Judgement Debtor Summons where evidence is taken (e.g. not to apply to a case where the debtor makes an offer which is accepted and an order is made accordingly)		
	0.50	_
Hearing fee in all other cases	1.00	1.00
Filing complaint, plaint note, etc.	0.25	0.25
Issuing writ of execution or distress	1.25	1.25
Issuing warrant to arrest or to search	1.25	1.25
Issuing warrant of ejectment under Chapter 307	0.75	_
Issuing any other warrant	1.00	1.00
Execution of any writ or warrant	0.50	0.50
Taking bail bond or recognisance	1.00	1.00
Filing any paper in Court	0.25	0.25
Application for sale of land (this fee to cover the filing of the application and any order thereon)	2.00	_
Search in records	0.25	0.25
Copy of any proceedings of which a copy may be taken, for every 100 words or part of 100 words (every figure	0.23	0.23
counting as a word)	0.15	0.15
Taking an acknowledgment of execution of a deed	1.00	_
Taking an acknowledgment of execution of a deed by a married woman	1.25	_
Swearing affidavit or taking declaration	0.75	_
And for each exhibit thereto	0.25	_
On each payment of monies into and out of Court except—		
(a) under Ord. 29 r. 6 of the Rules of the Supreme Court (Revision);		
(b) where such payment is specially directed by order of the Court; or		
(c) where the payment is made by debtor under a Deferred Payment Ticket. (This fee does not apply to proceeds of execution)	0.50	_
Issuing warrant to appraise under the Stock Trespass Act (Chapter 312)	1.00	_

Executing ditto ditto	1.00	_
Summons to a defendant, including filing and service where debt does not exceed \$100	0.75	_
Summons to a defendant, including filing and service where debt exceeds \$100 but does not exceed \$250	1.25	_
Summons to a defendant where debt or demand exceeds \$250 but does not exceed \$500	1.50	_
Summons to a defendant where debt or demand exceeds \$500 but does not exceed \$2,500	1.80	_
Judgement Debtor Summons where debt does not exceed \$500	0.75	_
Judgement Debtor Summons where debt exceeds \$500 but does not exceed \$2,500	1.25	_
And for each defendant after the first, including service	0.25	_
Hearing or re-hearing each case	1.00	_
Writ of execution (including execution of same)	1.25	_
Application for sale of land	0.75	_
Final notice of non-compliance with order to pay	0.50	_
Order to commit	0.50	_

Second Schedule

MAGISTRATES ACT

[Section 40(2A).]

- 1. Employment of Women, Young Persons and Children Act, Chapter 90;
- 2. Education (Compulsory at Primary Schools) Act, Chapter No. 85 of the 1958 Revision;
- 3. Maintenance Act, Chapter 180.

CHAPTER 177 MAGISTRATES ACT

SUBSIDIARY LEGISLATION

List of Subsidiary Legislation

- 1. Magistrates (Courts Sittings) Notice
- 2. Magistrates (Division of Districts) Order
- 3. Magistrates (Southern District) (Sitting) Court Notice
- 4. Magistrates (Allowances to Witnesses) Order
- 5. Magistrate (Lions' Community Centre) (Court Sitting) Notice
- 6. Magistrates (Court Sittings) (Places) Notice
- 7. Magistrate (Southern Magisterial District) (Court Sitting) Notice (*Revoked*)
- 8. Magistrate (YWCA Building Grenville) (Court Sitting) Notice (*Revoked*)

- 9. Magistrates (Sittings and Offices) Notice
- 10. Magistrate (Court Sitting) Notice
- 11. Magistrate (Court Sitting) Notice (No. 2)
- 12. Magistrate (Court Sitting) Notice (No. 3)
- 13. Magistrate (Court Sitting) Notice
- 14. Magistrate (Court Sitting) Notice
- 15. Magistrate (Court Sitting) Notice

Magistrates (Courts Sittings) Notice

ARRANGEMENT OF NOTICES

- 1. Citation.
- 2. Times and places for sittings of Courts.

MAGISTRATES (COURTS SITTINGS) NOTICE

[Section 37.]

[18th October, 1952.]

1. Citation

This Notice may be cited as the Magistrates (Courts Sittings) Notice.

2. Times and places for sittings of Courts

The Magistrates shall attend at the Court Houses of their respective districts at 9 o'clock in the forenoon on the days in each week set forth below for the sittings of the Courts thereat—

At St. George's: on Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday and Friday, except the Friday following the third Monday in each month.

At Grenville: on Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday and Friday, except the Tuesday and Wednesday following the third Monday in each month.

At St. David's: every Monday.

At Sauteurs: on Tuesday and Wednesday.

At Victoria: on Thursday, except the Thursday following the third Monday in each month.

At Gouyave: on Monday and Friday, except the third Monday in each month.

At Hillsborough: on the third Monday in each month.

Magistrates (Division of Districts) Order

ARRANGEMENT OF ORDERS

- 1. Citation.
- 2. Division of Districts.

MAGISTRATES (DIVISION OF DISTRICTS) ORDER

[Section 3.]

[9th August, 1952.]

1. Citation

This Order may be cited as the Magistrates (Division of Districts) Order.

2. Division of Districts

The State is hereby divided into four magisterial districts as follows—

- (a) The Southern District comprising the parish of Saint George and the islets adjacent to the coasts thereof.
- (b) The Eastern District comprising the parish of Saint Andrew, the parish of Saint David and the islets adjacent to the coasts of the said parishes.
- (c) The Western District comprising the parish of Saint Patrick, the parish of Saint Mark, the parish of Saint John, the islands of Islet Ronde, Isle de Caille, Les Tantes, Green Island and all other islets adjacent to the coasts of the said parishes.
- (d) The Northern District comprising the islands of Carriacou and Petit Martinique and the neighbouring islet lying to the North of the parallel of twelve degrees and twenty minutes of north latitude and included within the State.

Magistrates (Southern District) (Sitting) Court Notice

SRO 21 of 1959

ARRANGEMENT OF NOTICES

- 1. Citation.
- 2. Place and time of sitting of Court.

MAGISTRATES (SOUTHERN DISTRICT) (SITTING) COURT NOTICE

[SRO 21 of 1959. Section 37.]

[1st August, 1959.]

1. Citation

This Notice may be cited as the Magistrates (Southern District) (Sitting) Court Notice.

2. Place and time of sitting of Court

From and after Wednesday the 5th day of August, 1959, the Magistrate's Court of the Southern Magisterial District shall sit in the new building erected for the purpose on Crown Lands called or known as "Bakers' Bush Lot", adjacent to York House in the city of Saint George's. The offices of the said Court shall be open to the public between the

hours of 9 a.m. and 12 noon and 1 p.m. and 4 p.m. from Mondays to Fridays and between the hours of 9 a.m. and 12 noon on Saturdays.

Magistrates (Allowances to Witnesses) Order

SRO 45 of 1960

ARRANGEMENT OF ORDERS

- 1. Citation.
- 2. Allowances to witnesses.

MAGISTRATES (ALLOWANCES TO WITNESSES) ORDER

[SRO 45 of 1960. Section 53.]

[24th December, 1960.]

1. Citation

This Order may be cited as the Magistrates (Allowances to Witnesses) Order.

2. Allowances to witnesses

The following allowances shall be paid in respect of witnesses in the Magistrates Courts—

Witnesses		Rates of Allowances per day
(i) Domestic Servants, Labourers, Messengers, and Porters		\$1.00 - \$2.00
(ii) Small Farmers and Small Shopkeepers		\$1.25 - \$2.50
(iii)	Chauffeurs, Journeymen, Mechanics	\$2.00 - \$3.00
(iv)	Tradesmen, Clerks	\$2.50 - \$4.00
(v) Housekeepers, Overseers, Peasant Proprietors, Shopkeepers, Artisans		\$2.50 - \$4.00
(vi) Notaries, Bankers, Merchants, Planters, Estate Managers, Auctioneers		\$4.00 – \$5.00
(vii) Professional Persons— (a)not giving professional evidence		\$5.00
(b) giving professional evidence		\$7.50
(viii) Witnesses not included in the above classification		50 cents – \$3.00
	Note.— 1. Allowances to be paid in both civil and criminal cases in the Magistrate's Court, in addition to reasonable and necessary expenses.	
	Government Officers giving evidence in criminal cases to be allowed only their reasonable and necessary expenses.	

Magistrate (Lions' Community Centre) (Court Sitting) Notice

SRO 4 of 1984

ARRANGEMENT OF NOTICES

- 1. Citation.
- 2. Former Lions' Community Centre a Court.
- 3. Time of sittings of Court.

MAGISTRATE (LIONS' COMMUNITY CENTRE) (COURT SITTING) NOTICE

[SRO 4 of 1984. Section 37.]

[29th March, 1984.]

1. Citation

This Notice may be cited as the Magistrate (Lions' Community Centre) (Court Sitting) Notice.

2. Former Lions' Community Centre a Court

The building at Richmond Hill in the parish of St. George within the Southern Magisterial District which was formerly known as the Lions' Community Centre is declared to be a Magistrate's Court until further notice.

3. Time of sittings of Court

The Magistrate for the Southern Magisterial District, or such other Magistrate as may be assigned shall attend the said Court at 9 o'clock in the forenoon on the days of each week when sittings of the Court are held thereat.

Magistrates (Court Sittings) (Places) Notice

SRO 6 of 1990

Amended by

SRO 13 of 1990 SRO 14 of 1990 SRO 3 of 1991 SRO 40 of 1991

ARRANGEMENT OF NOTICES

- 1. Citation.
- 2. Times and places for sittings of Courts.

MAGISTRATES (COURT SITTINGS) (PLACES) NOTICE

[SRO 6 of 1990 amended by SRO 13 of 1990, SRO 14 of 1990, SRO 3 of 1991, SRO 40 of 1991. Section 37.]

1. Citation

This Notice may be cited as the Magistrates (Court Sittings) (Places) Notice.

2. Times and places for sittings of Courts

The Magistrates of their respective districts shall attend the places named hereunder, which are hereby declared to be Magistrates Courts, at 9 o'clock in the forenoon on the days in each week when sittings of the Court are to be held thereat.

A. WESTERN DISTRICT:

- St. Patrick's: The upper storey of the Police Station situate in Main Street in the town of Sauteurs.
- *St. Mark's*: The upper storey of the Post Office and the Police Station situate in Main Street in the Town of Victoria.
- St. John's: The upper storey of the Post Office in the town of Gouyave.

B. EASTERN DISTRICT:

- *St. Andrew's*: The upper storey of the former District Board Office situate in Albert Street in the town of Grenville.
- St. David's: Downstairs the Police Station, the Post Office and the Revenue Office situate at Petit Esperance in the parish of St. David.

Magistrate (Southern Magisterial District) (Court Sitting) Notice

SRO 33 of 1991

Revoked by

SRO 19 of 2001

Magistrate (Ywca Building Grenville) (Court Sitting) Notice

SRO 23 of 1997

Revoked by

SRO 19 of 2001

Magistrates (Sittings and Offices) Notice

SRO 19 of 2001

Amended by

SRO 27 of 2001 SRO 8 of 2009

ARRANGEMENT OF NOTICES

1. Citation.

- 2. Sittings.
- 3. Office hours.
- 4. Revocation.

Schedule

MAGISTRATES (SITTINGS AND OFFICES) NOTICE

[SRO 19 of 2001 amended by SRO 27 of 2001, SRO 8 of 2009.]

[27th April, 2001.]

1. Citation

This Notice may be cited as the Magistrates (Sittings and Offices) Notice.

2. Sittings

The places, days and hours for holding sittings of the Magistrates Courts are as set out in the 3rd, 4th and 5th columns of the Schedule to this Notice.

3. Office hours

The days and hours during which magistrates offices are to be open are as set out in the 6th column of the Schedule to this Notice.

4. Revocation

The following notices are revoked—

- (a) the notices published at pages 2, 5, 6 and 8 under Chapter 177 in Volume IX of the Laws of Grenada, 1990;
- (b) SROs 3, 33 and 40 of 1991;
- (c) SRO 23 of 1997;
- (d) any other previous notice made under section 37 of the Magistrates Act.

Schedule

MAGISTRATES ACT

MAGISTRATES (SITTING AND OFFICES) NOTICE

[Orders 2 and 3.]

District

Courts

Place

Sitting Days

Sitting Hours

Office Hours

Southern

St. George's No. 1

The building on the Western side of No. 2 High Court

Every weekday (all courts)

9.00 a.m. (all courts)

9.00 a.m. to 12.00 noon 1.00 p.m. to 4.00 p.m. Monday to Friday (all courts)

St. George's No. 2

Adjacent to No. 2 High Court

St. George's No. 3

Downstairs in the Ministry of Legal Affairs Building

Western

St. Patrick's

The upper storey of The Police Station on Main Street, Sauteurs

Every Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday

9.00 a.m.

9.00 a.m. to 12.00 noon 1.00 p.m. to 4.00 p.m. Monday to Friday (all courts)

St. Mark's

The upper storey of the Post Office and Police Station in Main Street, Victoria

The last Wednesday of each month and every Thursday, except the 3rd Thursday of each month 9.00 a.m.

St. John's

The upper storey of the Post Office in Gouyave

Every Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday and Friday except the 3rd Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday and Friday and the last Wednesday of each month

9.00 a.m.

Eastern

St. Andrew's

The upper storey of the former District Board office on Albert Street, Grenville

Every weekday

9.00 a.m.

9.00 a.m. to 12.00 noon 1.00 p.m. to 4.00 p.m. Monday to Friday (all courts)

St. David's

Downstairs of the Police Station Post Office and the Revenue Office at Petit Esperance

Every Monday and Friday

9.00 a.m.

Northern

Carriacou

Upstairs of the Hillsborough Police Station

The 3rd Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday of every month

9.00 a.m.

9.00 a.m. to 12.00 noon 1.00 p.m. to 4.00 p.m. Monday to Friday

Magistrate (Court Sitting) Notice

SRO 14 of 2005

ARRANGEMENT OF NOTICES

- 1. Citation.
- 2. Sitting of the Court.

3. Time of sittings of the Court.

MAGISTRATE (COURT SITTING) NOTICE

[SRO 14 of 2005.]

[24th June, 2005.]

1. Citation

This Notice may be cited as the Magistrate (Court Sitting) Notice.

2. Sitting of the Court

The old Medical Centre located at the back of the St. David's Police Station at Petite Esperance, in the parish of Saint David within the Eastern Magisterial District is hereby fixed to be a place when the Magistrate's Court shall sit until further notice.

3. Time of sittings of the Court

The Magistrate for the Eastern District or such other Magistrate as may be assigned shall attend the said Court at 9.00 o'clock in the forenoon on the days of each week when sittings of the Court are held thereat.

Magistrate (Court Sitting) Notice (No. 2)

SRO 23 of 2005

ARRANGEMENT OF NOTICES

- 1. Citation.
- 2. Sitting of the Court.
- 3. Time of sittings of the Court.

MAGISTRATE (COURT SITTING) NOTICE (NO. 2)

[SRO 23 of 2005.]

[9th September, 2005.]

1. Citation

This Notice may be cited as the Magistrate (Court Sitting) Notice (No. 2).

2. Sitting of the Court

The Robert Stonebanks Building located at Main Street, Sauteurs, in the parish of St. Patrick's within the Western Magisterial District is hereby fixed to be a place where the Magistrate's Court shall sit until further notice.

3. Time of sittings of the Court

The Magistrate for the Western District or such other Magistrate as may be assigned shall attend the said Court at 9 o'clock in the forenoon on the days of each week when sittings of the Court are held thereat.

Magistrate (Court Sitting) Notice (No. 3)

SRO 24 of 2005

ARRANGEMENT OF NOTICES

- 1. Citation.
- 2. Sitting of the Court.
- 3. Time of sittings of the Court.

MAGISTRATE (COURT SITTING) NOTICE (NO. 3)

[SRO 24 of 2005.]

[9th September, 2005.]

1. Citation

This Notice may be cited as the Magistrate (Court Sitting) Notice (No. 3).

2. Sitting of the Court

The YWCA Building located at Victoria Street, Grenville, in the parish of St. Andrew's within the Eastern Magisterial District is hereby fixed to be a place where the Magistrate's Court shall sit until further notice.

3. Time of sittings of the Court

The Magistrate for the Eastern District or such other Magistrate as may be assigned shall attend the said Court at 9 o'clock in the forenoon on the days of each week when sittings of the Court are held thereat.

Magistrate (Court Sitting) Notice

SRO 14 of 2006

ARRANGEMENT OF NOTICES

- 1. Citation.
- 2. Sitting of the Court.
- 3. Time of sittings of the Court.

MAGISTRATE (COURT SITTING) NOTICE

[SRO 14 of 2006.]

1. Citation

This Notice may be cited as the Magistrate (Court Sitting) Notice.

2. Sitting of the Court

The Grenada Industrial Development Corporation (GIDC) building located at Main Street (Low Town) Sauteurs, in the parish of St. Patrick's within the Western Magisterial District is hereby fixed to be a place where the Magistrate's Court shall sit until further notice.

3. Time of sittings of the Court

The Magistrate for the Western District or such other Magistrate as may be assigned shall attend the said Court at 9 o'clock in the forenoon on the days of each week when sitting of the Court are held thereat.

Magistrate (Court Sitting) Notice

SRO 3 of 2007

ARRANGEMENT OF NOTICES

- 1. Citation.
- 2. Sitting of the Court.
- 3. Time of sitting of the Court.

MAGISTRATE (COURT SITTING) NOTICE

[SRO 3 of 2007.]

[2nd February, 2007.]

1. Citation

This Notice may be cited as the Magistrate (Court Sitting) Notice.

2. Sitting of the Court

The Ground Floor of the Revenue Office located at Petite Esperance, in the Parish of St. David within the Eastern Magisterial District is hereby fixed to be the place where the Magistrate's Court shall sit.

3. Time of sitting of the Court

The Magistrate for the Eastern District or such other Magistrate as may be assigned shall attend the said Court at 9 o'clock in the forenoon on the days of each week when sittings of the Court are held.

Magistrate (Court Sitting) Notice

SRO 2 of 2008

ARRANGEMENT OF NOTICES

- 1. Citation.
- 2. Sitting of the Court.
- 3. Time of sittings of the Court.

MAGISTRATE (COURT SITTING) NOTICE

[SRO 2 of 2008.]

[18th January, 2008.]

1. Citation

This Notice may be cited as the Magistrate (Court Sitting) Notice.

2. Sitting of the Court

The building owned by Mr. Sydney C. Jacobs on Paterson Street in the Town of Hillsborough on the Island of Carriacou is hereby affixed to be a place where the Magistrate Court shall sit until further notice.

3. Time of sittings of the Court

The Magistrate for the Western District or such other Magistrate as may be assigned shall attend the said Court at 9 o'clock in the forenoon on the days of each week when sitting of the Court are held thereat.