



DISTRICT COURT SITTINGS OVER CHRISTMAS AND NEW YEAR SHUTDOWN PERIOD

- [1] These directions are issued under r 2.2 of the District Court Rules 2014 following consultation with the Principal Family Court Judge and Principal Youth Court Judge.
- [2] Subject to [3], the following court business may be conducted on court holidays observed by the court over the 2025/2026 Christmas and New Year court holiday period:
- (a) sittings of all arrest courts, including on New Year's Day
 - (b) sittings of the Alcohol and Other Drug Treatment courts
 - (c) applications under the Harmful Digital Communications Act 2015
 - (d) urgent applications to the Family Court, including applications under s 16 of the Mental Health (Compulsory Assessment and Treatment) Act 1992
 - (e) reviews by the Youth Court of orders made under s 238 of the Oranga Tamariki Act 1989 | Children's and Young People's Well-being Act 1989
 - (d) any other matter a Judge considers it desirable to dispose of.
- [3] Only business a Judge considers extremely urgent to dispose of may be conducted on a Sunday, Christmas Day or New Year's Day.

Urgent applications to the Family Court

- [4] Urgent applications to the Family Court will continue to be managed via the eDuty platform. Subject to [5], the cut off time for filing is 2:00 pm in order for the application to be placed on the eDuty platform by 3:00 pm. Applications received by the registry after 2:00 pm will be considered the following court working day.
- [5] The cut off time for filing urgent applications on Wednesday 24 December 2025 is 12:00 pm.

Heemi Taumaunu
Chief District Court Judge

26 September 2025

