

Family Law Section Bulletin 420 - 25 March 2020

We have just received a communication from Principal Family Court Judge Jackie Moran regarding the filing of applications relating to parenting orders in the current circumstances. Judges on the e-duty platform have encountered a lack of specificity in some affidavits filed in support of without notice applications seeking orders for day-to-day care and/or the enforcement of day-to-day care orders due to covid-19.

It is imperative that affidavits contain all relevant information including, but not exclusive to, the following:

- the terms of the parenting order;
- the occupants of the property/properties;
- whether any occupants are engaged in an essential service;
- steps taken to ensure compliance with the lock down;
- · comprehensive details of any health issues;
- the mode of travel between the respective homes and who will undertake that travel: and
- the distance between the homes.

Those filing without notice applications should ensure the relevant information is contained in the affidavit accompanying the application in order for these to be dealt with in a timely way.

Kirsty Swadling Chair