



**CHIEF HIGH COURT JUDGE FOR NEW ZEALAND
TE KAIWHAKAWĀ MATUA O TE KŌTI MATUA
Justice Susan Thomas**

**CHIEF DISTRICT COURT JUDGE FOR NEW ZEALAND
TE KAIWHAKAWĀ MATUA O TE KŌTI-Ā-ROHE O AOTEAROA
Judge Heemi Taumaunu**

Thursday 18 October 2023

Statement to the Profession

Temporary closure of High Court and District Court at Napier

Tēnā koutou e ngā rōia

We write to update you on the current state of the High Court and District Court at Napier.

The Napier Courthouse remains unfit to occupy due to water damage sustained from a fire sprinkler activation on Friday 13 October. The Ministry of Justice advises that the Courthouse will remain closed until Sunday 29 October and will not be fully functional until the week of 6 November 2023. The registry will remain closed until 6 November.

Arrangements for the Courts are as follows:

High Court

No matters are set down for the remainder of this week, or for the week of 23 October. Registry staff will contact counsel directly regarding the Associate Judge List on Thursday 2 November. The list will be heard remotely.

All High Court filings can be made via email to: wellingtonhc@justice.govt.nz. Alternatively, in-person filing can be made at the Hastings Courthouse: 106 Eastbourne Street West, Hastings 4122.

District Court

All scheduled proceedings will be transferred to the Hastings District Court. Registry staff will contact counsel directly with arrangements regarding their cases.

Justice Susan Thomas
Chief High Court Judge

Judge Heemi Taumaunu
Chief District Court Judge