

YOUR COURT APPEARANCE

How to plan and prepare for your day in court.

Garde Wilson Lawyers is committed to getting you the best possible outcome for your case. While we are here to fight for you in court, there are things you can do to make sure everything runs smoothly.

1. **Be at court early**

Being late for your court appearance will be viewed in a very negative light by your judge. It can result in a warrant being issued for your arrest. Don't plan to be on time. Plan on being early.

2. **Dress appropriately**

How you dress displays to the judge how seriously take your court appearance and your respect for the court's authority. Wear what you would to an important job interview. Do not wear a hat or sunglasses in the court building.

3. **Turn off your mobile**

Don't leave it on silent. Turn it off. You will not have access to phone or internet services as they will be blocked by courtroom technology. It is not the time to be using your favourite app or playing Candy Crush.

4. **Show respect**

Courtroom etiquette is important. Be silent and if the judge is present, make a small bow when entering the courtroom. When the judge enters and leaves the court, the bailiff will order those present to stand. Do not fail to follow their instruction.

5. **Let us do our job**

Don't interrupt your lawyer while your case is being heard. Remain silent unless either your lawyer or the judge asks you to speak. Follow your lawyer's instructions and do anything asked of you by the judge promptly and respectfully.

Don't wait until the last minute to plan and prepare for your court appearance. Make sure you have your transport organised, someone to take care of family members if needed, and be well-rested. Leave the rest to us - you're in the best hands.