



THE EMPLOYMENT COURT OF NEW ZEALAND
TE KŌTI TAKE MAHI O AOTEAROA
CHIEF JUDGE CHRISTINA INGLIS

27 February 2025

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Tēna koe

Re: Improving access to the Court - Employment Court Introduction Video

The Judges of Te Kōti Take Mahi o Aotearoa/the Employment Court of New Zealand are acutely aware that the courtroom environment is an unfamiliar and daunting place for many of our Court users. We have been working to improve access to the Court, including through the provision of on-line resources.

As you may be aware, the Court's website currently contains a range of useful material, including the supports available for physical access and for those who are hearing impaired, how to obtain translation services, where to find various documents and forms, and what steps to take to progress or respond to a claim. There are also photographs of a typical courtroom layout: [What happens during a hearing | Employment Court of New Zealand](#); maps of our court premises and information on nearby parking options and public transport: [Our Courthouses - practical guidance | Employment Court of New Zealand](#).

We have now added a video to our website - "Employment Court Introduction". It shows a mock Court hearing, explaining the role of the Employment Court, the participants in a hearing and demonstrating some of the processes that often occur, e.g. the swearing in of a witness. This video, which includes captions, can be found [\[here\]](#) on the Information & Guidance/What Happens During a Hearing page on the Employment Court website. It was put together by former Judge Bruce Corkill with the assistance of practitioners Karen Radich and Paul McBride, and Court staff Patrick Davidson, Holly Kerr and Suzanne Innes-Kent. Their contribution is greatly appreciated.

I invite you to promote this video widely to those who you consider may benefit from a greater understanding of our courtroom environment. I also take this opportunity to encourage feedback on our website resources and on broader accessibility issues, to inform our ongoing work in this important area. Finally, a reminder that our registry staff are happy to provide assistance and guidance on navigating our court processes.

Nāku noa, nā

Christina Inglis
Chief Judge | Kaiwhakawā Matua