# Northern Metropolitan Region Courts that hear family violence matters

## Broadmeadows Magistrate's Court

Family Violence Intervention Orders can be made at Broadmeadows Magistrate's Court.

#### Address:

Broadmeadows Magistrates' Court Corner Pearcedale Parade & Dimboola Road Broadmeadows Victoria 3047 Australia PO BOX: 3235

PO BOX. 3233

**T**: (03) 9221 8900 **F**: (03) 9221 8901

E: <u>broadmeadowsinterventionorders@magistratescourt.vic.gov.au</u> (intervention order coordinator)

**Opening hours:** Monday to Friday, 9am to 4.30pm.

## Heidelberg Magistrate's Court Family Violence Court Division

The Family Violence Court Division of the Magistrates' Court of Victoria specialises in hearing family violence cases. It is a division of the Magistrates' Court of Victoria—it commenced sitting at the Magistrates' Court in Heidelberg in 2005.

At the Family Violence Court Division, there are specially-assigned Magistrates, trained applicant and respondent support workers, family violence outreach workers, additional legal services from Victoria Legal Aid and Community Legal Centres, dedicated prosecutors and additional security officers. A dedicated Family Violence Court Registrar coordinates these services at the Court.

There is an increased focus on recognising and responding to the needs of applicants from culturally and linguistically diverse (CALD) communities, Indigenous applicants and applicants with a disability, as well as children affected by family violence.

The Magistrate can hear other related matters at the same time as hearing intervention order cases. These include bail applications and pleas in criminal cases, family law parenting orders matters and Victims of Crime applications that are related to family violence.

In some cases, the Magistrate can order respondents who use violence against their partners or former partners to attend a men's behaviour change program. Heidelberg Magistrate's Court Family Violence Court Division is the only court in the Northern Metropolitan Region with the power to order men into men's behaviour change.

#### Address:

Jika Street Heidelberg Victoria 3084 Australia PO BOX: 105

T: (03)8488 6700 (Switchboard)

**F**: (03) 8458 2001

E: <a href="mailto:heidelbergcoordinator@magistratescourt.vic.gov.au">heidelbergcoordinator@magistratescourt.vic.gov.au</a> (court coordinator)

**Opening hours:** Monday to Friday, 9am to 4.30pm.

## Melbourne Magistrate's Court Specialist Family Violence Service

The Specialist Family Violence Service commenced at the Melbourne Magistrate's Court in 2005. Unlike the Family Violence Court Division at Heidelberg, it is not a new division of the court.

In the Northern Metropolitan Region, the Melbourne Magistrate's Court is the only court where the Specialist Family Violence Service operates. The Melbourne Magistrate's Court serves the northern metropolitan region suburbs of:

- Brunswick
- Brunswick East
- Brunswick West
- Fairfield
- Northcote
- Thornbury

The Specialist Family Violence Service specialises in hearing applications for family violence intervention orders.

At the Specialist Family Violence Service, there are specially-assigned Magistrates, trained applicant support workers, family violence outreach workers, additional legal services from Victoria Legal Aid and Community Legal Centres, dedicated prosecutors and additional security officers. A dedicated Family Violence Court Registrar coordinates these services at the Court.

There is an increased focus on recognising and responding to the needs of applicants from culturally and linguistically diverse (CALD) communities, Indigenous applicants and applicants with a disability, as well as children affected by family violence.

Unlike at the Heidelberg Magistrate's Court Family Violence Court Division, the Specialist Family Violence Service does not have the power to order respondents into a men's behaviour change program.

### Address:

233 William Street Melbourne VIC 3000 Australia

PO BOX: GPO Box 882, Melbourne 3001

T: (03) 9628 7777

**Opening hours:** Monday to Friday, 9am to 4.30pm.

# Neighbourhood Justice Centre

The Neighbourhood Justice Centre (NJC) works in partnership with local organisations and community members to tackle local justice, crime and safety issues, and come up with lasting, local solutions. It also supports programs that tackle disadvantage, to provide real and practical benefit to the community.

A unique facet of the NJC's community justice model is how it brings together a range of locally-based service providers who are integral to the operation of the NJC and the NJC Court. These onsite services help individuals in the City of Yarra to solve justice problems at an early stage and include:

- family violence support, including a specialist family violence practitioner who can provide support, safety in and around the court/centre, information and appropriate referrals, along with assistance in completing IVO applications and explaining the likely court process with guided support
- victims' support
- mediation
- specialised mental health, drug and alcohol treatment
- counselling
- housing support
- employment and training support
- Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander support services
- legal advice.

At the centre's Court, the Magistrate hears a variety of civil and criminal cases—all resolved in the one courtroom.

## Address:

241 Wellington Street Collingwood Victoria 3066 Australia PO BOX: 1142

**T:** (03) 9948 8600 **F:** (03) 9948 8699

E: njc@justice.vic.gov.au

Opening hours: Monday to Friday, 9am to 5pm.