

**Summary Offence  
Offence**

(A less serious charge)

**Indictable**

(A more serious charge)

**Initial Complaint**

(Most often a statement made to the police by a victim or witness)

**Police Investigation**

**Charges Laid – Arrest**

(Accused person is taken to police station and processed)

**Bail Hearing**

(A decision is made as to whether or not accused person should be released – if accused is released then conditions are set on the accused person)

**First Appearance**

(Accused person receives disclosure)

**Set Date Appearance or To Be spoken To**

(There may be more than one court date to enable the accused to receive time to retain counsel [get a lawyer], etc.)

**Pre-Trial**

(The Crown, the Defence Counsel, and a Judge will meet to consider and decide which matters will promote a fair trial)

**Preliminary Hearing**

(Ontario Court of Justice – A hearing where the judge determines whether there is enough evidence to make the accused stand trial)

**Pre-Trial**

(Superior Court of Justice – Decision is made whether or not accused will go to trial)

**Trial**

(Ontario Court of Justice – Hearing that takes place when the accused pleads ‘not guilty’. The Crown attorney must prove the guilt of the accused beyond a reasonable doubt, and the judge makes the decision as to whether the accused is guilty or not guilty)

**Trial**

(Superior Court of Justice – same as above with the exception that an accused person may be tried by a judge or a judge and a jury)