

THE HIERARCHICAL STRUCTURE OF THE COURTS SYSTEM OF JAMAICA

3. JUDICIAL COMMITTEE OF THE PRIVY COUNCIL
Statute: Judicature (Appellate Jurisdiction Act) Constitution of Jamaica S.110
Jurisdiction:
a. Appeals:
• Section 110 Constitution of Jamaica
• Section 35 Judicature (Appellate Jurisdiction Act)

2. PRIVY COUNCIL OF JAMAICA
Statute: Constitution of Jamaica
Jurisdiction:
a. Prerogative of Mercy
• Section 90 -91 Constitution of Jamaica

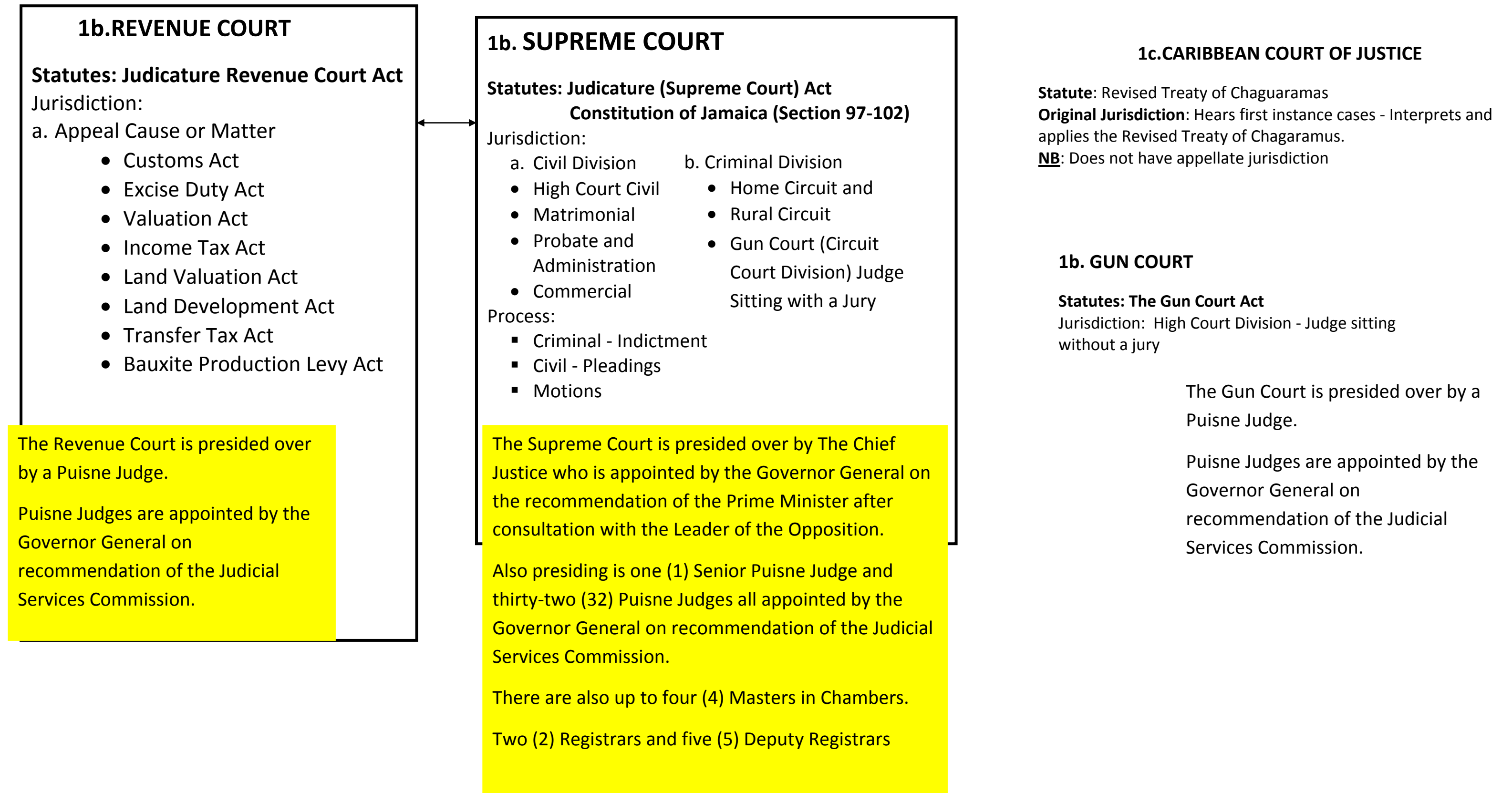
1. COURT OF APPEAL
Statutes: Judicature (Appellate Jurisdiction Act)
Constitution of Jamaica (Section 103-109)
Jurisdiction:
a. Civil and Criminal Appeals from:
• Supreme Court (1b)
• Revenue Court (1b)
• Gun Court (1b)
• Resident Magistrate's Court (1a)
• Family and Children's Court (1a)
• Traffic Court (1a)
• Coroner's Court (1a)
• Office of the Special Coroner's (1a)
• Tribunals and Administrative Bodies

Court of Appeal is constituted of a President and six (6) Judges of Appeal

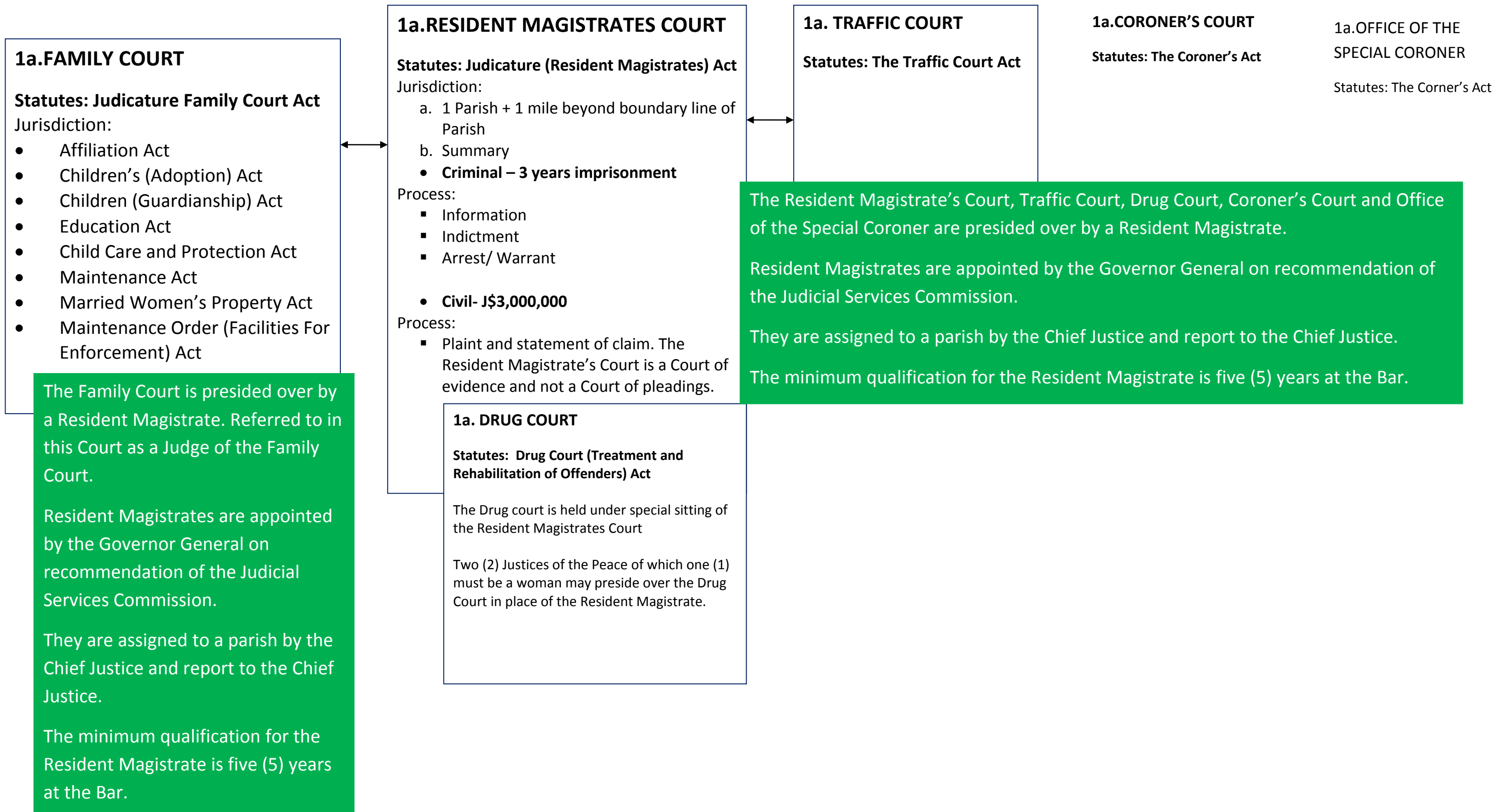
- One (1) President appointed by Governor General on the recommendation of the Judicial Services Commission.
- The Chief Justice – as head of the Judiciary sits but only when there are at least four (4) other Judges and on the invitation of the President.
- Six (6) Judges of Appeal appointed by the Governor General on the recommendation of the Judicial Services Commission.

Qualification required for Judges of Appeal is a minimum of ten (10) years at the Bar or one who has held office as a Judge of unlimited Jurisdiction in the Commonwealth.

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PETTY SESSIONS OR LAY MAGISTRATES COURT

Statutes: Justices of the Peace Jurisdiction Act

Jurisdiction:

- a. Parish in which the Court sits
- b. Summary Criminal or Minor Offences
 - Maximum Term- 3 months
 - Maximum fine - J\$2000.00
 - Penalty determined by statute creating offence

Process:

- Summons on information

1. The Petty Sessions Court is Presided Over by Two (2) or three (3) Justices of the Peace. One (1) Resident Magistrate sitting exercises the power of two (2) Justices.
2. Justices of the Peace are appointed by the Governor General on the recommendation of the Minister of Justice.
3. They are appointed by commission and appointed to the Petty Sessions panel by the Custos of the Parish.
4. They report to the Custos in relation to conduct. The tenure of their office depends on good behaviour.
5. The functions of the Justice of the Peace include:
 - Petty Sessions Duty
 - Attest Legal Documents
 - Witness making of statements under caution
 - Attend Identification Parades
 - Attend Spirit Licence Sessions
 - Consider applications for bail