



THE LAW COURTS
800 SMITHE STREET
VANCOUVER, B.C.
V6Z 2E1

Notice Regarding Criminal Proceedings

COVID-19: COVID PRE-TRIAL CONFERENCES (CV PTC)

COVID-19 Notice No. 29

Date: June 30, 2020

This notice replaces COVID-19 Notice No. 16 – COVID Pre-trial Conferences (CV PTC)

Highlighted change:

- Counsel are no longer required to complete and submit a CV PTC form

What is a CV PTC and when is one required?

CV PTCs, which were introduced on May 4, 2020, will continue until further notice for all criminal cases where the trial was adjourned or is at risk of being adjourned because of direct or indirect effects of the public health emergency.

CV PTCs have the specific purpose of advancing or resolving adjourned and at-risk cases as much as possible and appropriate. They will be held by telephone, are in addition to regularly scheduled pre-trial conferences, and are not required for cases that have been determined to be subject to *Criminal Practice Direction 3: Complex Criminal Cases* (CPD-3). The judge conducting the CV PTC may be different than the assigned trial or case management judge.

Counsel are no longer required to complete and submit a form in advance of the CV PTC, but, as for any PTC, should appear at the CV PTC informed and instructed about the case.

Booking a CV PTC

1. Online process

Counsel are encouraged to book a CV PTC online by clicking [here](#) or visiting the Scheduling page of the Supreme Court website. Either Crown or defence counsel may book the CV PTC. Before booking online, the requesting party must make efforts to contact the opposing party to determine a mutually agreeable date for the CV PTC.

The requesting party will receive an acknowledgment email confirming the booking. Upon receipt of the email confirmation of the booking, the requesting party must forward a copy to opposing counsel. The requesting party must also file a Requisition confirming the date, time and court location.

2. Booking at a fix-date appearance

If counsel do not schedule a CV PTC, one may be set at the next fix date appearance for the matter.

Appearance by Telephone

If the accused is represented by counsel, the accused does not need to attend the CV PTC unless they wish to do so. Counsel and self-represented accused persons who are not in custody must provide Supreme Court Scheduling with the telephone number at which they can be reached for the CV PTC. If a self-represented accused person is in custody, Crown counsel should arrange for the accused to appear by video.

THE FOREGOING IS SUBJECT TO CHANGE. ANY UPDATED DIRECTIONS WILL BE POSTED ON THE COURT'S WEBSITE.

Dated 30 June 2020, at Vancouver, British Columbia

By Direction of Associate Chief Justice Heather J. Holmes
Supreme Court of British Columbia