



THE PROVINCIAL COURT
OF BRITISH COLUMBIA

Effective Dates: *September 18, 2023* for Northern, Interior, Island and Vancouver Regions
November 16, 2023 for Fraser Region

CRIM 05

PRACTICE DIRECTION

HEARING OF BAIL APPLICATIONS

Background

Since the Spring of 2021, the Court implemented the Northern Bail Pilot Project, a virtual bail initiative comprised of a technology stream (video and telephone enabled appearances) and a process stream (use of a Microsoft Teams channel and dedicated JCMs and sheriffs to canvass the hearing list and facilitate an accused person's access to legal counsel). The goal was to find ways to ensure that the bail system operated as effectively and efficiently as possible to enable timely bail hearings before judges/justices where all accused were represented by legal counsel, if they chose. The Pilot expanded to the Interior Region (in April 2022) and the Island Region (in January 2023) as reflected in the CRIM 14 Practice Direction: Northern, Interior and Island Bail Pilot Project. Under the Pilot, bail hearings during court sitting hours in these Regions are conducted by judges attending remotely in virtual courtrooms using the Microsoft Teams ("Teams") videoconference platform. Counsel and the accused also attend remotely by Teams. Evaluations have demonstrated benefits of centralized virtual bail hearings, including: allowing trials in smaller locations to proceed without being interrupted by bail hearings, reducing trial continuations, reducing displacement of accused people from their own communities and community supports, and increasing access to duty counsel. As such, the directions previously set out in the CRIM 14 Practice Direction will continue.

In examining the goals associated with virtual bail in the Northern, Island and Interior Regions, community displacement in the Lower Mainland is not as significant a concern, as correctional centres are located in the proximity of courthouses and communities and public transportation is available. Duty counsel has always been assigned to most court locations in the Fraser and Vancouver Regions so the need for timely access to duty counsel for all accused is already available. There are also daily bail/mixed remand courts in Vancouver, Richmond, Surrey, Abbotsford, and Port Coquitlam. Therefore, while the bail courtrooms in the Fraser and Vancouver Regions will incorporate many of the virtual bail processes from the Northern, Island and Interior Regions, they will remain hybrid bail courtrooms. This allows for remote and in-person appearances by counsel and the judge, while the accused appears remotely by video in

those bail hearings, with the ability for JCMs to schedule in-custody and out-of-custody dispositions into available court time.

Accordingly, the Court is setting out its directions relating to the hearing of all bail applications in the Province in this single consolidated Practice Direction.

Purpose

The purpose of this practice direction is: (1) to provide directions for the processing and hearing of bail applications throughout the Province; and (2) to rescind and replace CRIM 14 Northern, Interior, and Island Bail Pilot Project (effective September 18, 2023) and NP 26 Chilliwack Provincial Court Bail Pilot Project (effective **November 16, 2023**).

Application

This practice direction applies to bail hearings for all adult and youth criminal files in the Northern, Interior, Island and Vancouver Regions starting September 18, 2023 and in the Fraser Region starting **November 16, 2023**.

Directions

I. Weekday Bail Hearings During Regular Court Sitting Hours

Bail hearings will continue to be heard in virtual bail courtrooms in the Northern, Interior, and Island Regions and in hybrid bail courtrooms in the Vancouver and Fraser Regions. These hearings are assigned to be heard by judges.

In this Practice Direction, Part A applies to the Northern, Interior, and Island Regions; Part B applies to the Vancouver and Fraser Regions; and Part C applies to all Regions, unless otherwise noted.

A. Northern, Interior, and Island Regions (Virtual Bail Courtrooms)

1. Weekday bail hearings during regular court sitting hours regarding adult and youth criminal matters in the Northern, Interior, and Island Regions will be conducted by judges attending remotely by Teams videoconference in virtual courtrooms (“virtual bail hearings”). The accused will also attend remotely by Teams videoconference or audioconference at the virtual bail hearings. Duty or defence counsel and Crown counsel must appear by Teams videoconference or apply to the Court to appear by audioconference only (see [NP 21](#)).

2. The virtual bail hearings are heard in two virtual courtrooms in each of the three Regions:

- VR1 and VR2 for the Northern Region;
- VR3 and VR4 for the Interior Region; and
- VR8 and VR9 for the Island Region.

See **Appendix “A”** for the virtual courtroom catchments. Please note the virtual courtrooms and the assigned catchments are subject to change.

B. Vancouver and Fraser Regions (Hybrid Bail Courtrooms)

3. Except for Robson Square, Downtown Community Court, Surrey Intimate Partner Violence Court, and Surrey Youth Court that will continue to operate in the manner they have to date, the bail courtrooms in the Vancouver and Fraser Regions will remain “hybrid bail courtrooms”. In hybrid bail courtrooms, the judge and counsel may attend the bail hearing either remotely or in person (except the 9:00AM and 1:15PM triage sessions which counsel must attend remotely by video), and the new in custody accused attends remotely by video as follows:

Hybrid Bail Courtroom	Catchments Served by Hybrid Bail Courtroom	Location Where New In Custody Accused Attends Applicable Hybrid Bail Courtroom Remotely By Video
VANCOUVER REGION		
222 Main Street (Courtroom 101)	Vancouver	Main Street Courthouse Sheriff Cells
	Burnaby	
North Vancouver (Courtroom 001)	North Vancouver	North Vancouver Courthouse Sheriff Cells
	West Vancouver	
	Sechelt	Sechelt Courthouse Sheriff Cells
	Pemberton	Pemberton Police Cells
	Squamish	Squamish Police Cells
Whistler	Whistler Police Cells	
Richmond (Courtroom 107)	Richmond, including UBC	Richmond Courthouse Sheriff Cells
FRASER REGION		
Abbotsford (Courtroom 204)	Abbotsford	Abbotsford Courthouse Sheriff Cells
	Chilliwack	Chilliwack Courthouse Sheriff Cells
Port Coquitlam (Courtroom 001)	Port Coquitlam	Port Coquitlam Courthouse Sheriff Cells
	New Westminister	New Westminister Courthouse Sheriff Cells
Surrey (Courtroom 108)	Surrey	Surrey Courthouse Sheriff Cells
	Delta	
	Langley	
	White Rock	

C. All Regions

4. The daily bail hearing schedule will be:

<p>9:00AM to 9:30AM¹</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Virtual Bail Judicial Case Managers (“Bail JCM(s)”) attend by Teams videoconference in VR1 for the Northern Region, VR4 for the Interior Region, VR8 for the Island Region, and via the Teams triage meeting links for the Vancouver and Fraser Regions to triage matters to finalize the morning remand hearing list. • All counsel having files on the morning remand list must attend by Teams videoconference at 9:00AM unless they have connected with the Bail JCM, or filed a Consent Remand Form or Consent Requisition Form with the Bail JCM, prior to that time. • Duty counsel are required to attend by Teams videoconference at the 9:00AM triage to see if their assistance is required on any of the files on the morning remand hearing list. • Counsel on matters stood down by the Bail JCM at the 9:00AM triage are to keep the Bail JCM informed of what is happening on their matter and must do so by no later than 10:30AM. • The Bail JCM may schedule other matters besides bail hearings in the mornings provided the parties consent to appearing remotely and the matters can be concluded in the morning without impacting the operation of bail hearings scheduled for that morning. The Bail JCM may also schedule bail hearings to other available courts where necessary and counsel are available.
<p>9:30AM to 12:00PM</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Hearings for accused persons remanded in custody to Correctional Centres in the Province or in custody at police stations and courthouses.
<p>By 12:30PM</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Crown will submit to the applicable court registry a bail package for each new in custody accused person by 12:30 PM, unless on the rare occasions Crown has confirmed otherwise with the applicable court registry in advance. • Upon receipt, the court registry will process the bail package, including signing tele-informations and adding required files. Once a bail package is processed, the court registry will schedule the new in-custody file into JUSTIN, which will update the Court Digital Display System (“CDDS”). The court registry will initially schedule all files for 5:00PM as a holding position.
<p>1:15PM to 1:30PM</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. At 1:15PM, the following individuals must meet by Teams videoconference in each virtual/hybrid bail courtroom to as best as possible finalize the order the afternoon files are to be called in that court (the “afternoon list”): <ol style="list-style-type: none"> A. All Crown with conduct of any of the afternoon files; B. Duty counsel with conduct of the afternoon files; C. Any defence counsel who intend to speak to an afternoon file; D. A Registry Quarterback (may appear in more than one virtual courtroom); and E. A Sheriff Quarterback (may appear in more than one virtual courtroom).

¹ All times referenced in this Practice Direction refer to PST or PDT as applicable.

	<p>2. The Crown will lead the afternoon triage with equal participation from duty/defence counsel to schedule as much of the afternoon list as they are able prior to the start of court. The Registry Quarterback will record from the Crown and duty/defence counsel the afternoon list and they will ensure the Crown and duty/defence counsel are aware of all files on the afternoon list at that time.</p> <p>3. The following principles guide how the afternoon list is set:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">A. All the parties should inform themselves of the time of arrests, to ensure compliance with <i>Criminal Code</i>, sections 493 and 503.B. Counsel must be reasonably accurate in their estimation of the length of time required for contested bail hearings. Failure to complete contested bail hearings in the estimated time may result in the hearing being stood down until the completion of the afternoon list or adjourned to another day.C. Except in cases where compliance with section 503 (24-hour time limit) requires an immediate appearance, the parties must make reasonable efforts to ensure when a matter is called that the appearance will be meaningful and not simply spoken to and stood down. Files that are not ready to be spoken to will remain scheduled at 5:00PM and not called until counsel are ready for something meaningful to happen with them. Once ready for the files to be called, counsel must immediately advise the Sheriff Quarterback on the separate private MS Teams channel (not the live courtroom chat)D. Files approaching the 24-hour time limit will be given scheduling priority provided, after consultation with the judge, they can be completed during the afternoon court sitting bearing in mind all the other files scheduled for court that afternoon. These files may also be called briefly to meet the 24-hour time limit and then stood down until later in the afternoon if time permits, or adjourned to another courtroom where applicable, or to another day.E. Subject to the above, youth files (and women on the Island only) have the highest priority in the afternoon list followed by consent releases. Files simply being adjourned to another day have the third highest priority and thereafter, files should be set in the afternoon list based on time estimates, shortest to longest, but also factoring in any known time or resource issues with police stations. Files adjourned from the morning remand hearing list, files from later time zones, and files with sheriff transportation issues like ferry schedules should also be given some priority in the afternoon list, as should files involving cash bail which must be posted by 4:00PM and files involving counsel who have scheduled matters in other courts at 2:00PM. Files not able to be heard that day will preferably be adjourned to the Bail JCM to be scheduled on another date or adjourned by the judge to a morning court list on another date. Bail hearings with longer time estimates should be adjourned to the Bail JCM Fix Date List to be scheduled.
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	<p>F. Files that are scheduled onto a virtual/hybrid bail courtroom list are not to be adjourned to the Justice Centre but must be adjourned to the JCM Fix Date List or to the 9:30AM list on another virtual/hybrid bail court date.</p> <p>G. If counsel are unable to agree on the afternoon list, direction can be sought from the presiding judge when court starts.</p> <p>4. All efforts will be made to have the afternoon list finalized prior to 1:30PM. Immediately following the afternoon list triage, the Registry Quarterback will email the triaged list to the Sheriff Quarterback, Crown Quarterback or Crown office group proxy, court clerks and Bail JCM, and the Registry Quarterback will ensure JUSTIN is updated, which will update CDDS and PCSS.</p> <p>5. The Sheriff Quarterback will immediately communicate with the police stations and courthouses to let them know when the accused are expected to be contacted for their bail hearing.</p> <p>6. If there are any concerns about being able to complete the list, those concerns should be communicated to the Bail JCM as soon as possible so that they can determine whether another judge is available to hear any of the matters.</p> <p>As close as possible, court will start at 1:30PM and proceed through the afternoon list. Where necessary, adjustments to the afternoon list may be made with the input of counsel and the judge. Adjustments should be communicated to the Sheriff Quarterback as soon as possible. When court commences, Crown counsel should be in a position to let the judge know what the afternoon list is and if the parties foresee any problems completing it. If they do, and the judge agrees, these concerns should be communicated to the Bail JCM through the clerk as soon as possible to determine whether alternative arrangements can be made.</p>
<p>1:30PM to 4:30PM</p>	<p>Hearing of the afternoon list, as well as any files adjourned by the judge or Bail JCM from the morning court list.</p>

5. The Court does not endorse any cut-off times for the processing of files as part of the bail process. However, the Court recognizes that stakeholders may establish cut-off times as part of their bail processes, but the stakeholders accept that in doing so there is a need for flexibility with enforcing cut-off times. The guiding principle is that bail hearings, including consent releases on new arrest files, are to be conducted at the earliest reasonable opportunity.
6. Consistent with that principle, bail hearings for new arrests are to be heard on the day they are scheduled into Court unless, pursuant to section 516 of the *Criminal Code*, the accused consents to having the matter heard on another day, or it is adjourned by the court. Bail hearings for new arrests are not to be adjourned simply because the estimated time to complete it is beyond a certain time length. The presiding judge or

the Bail JCM will decide if a bail hearing needs to be adjourned due to a lack of court time to complete it. The Bail JCM may also schedule bail hearings to other available courts where necessary and counsel are available.

7. Unless released, new in custodies remanded to another day will continue to appear remotely into the virtual/hybrid bail courtroom from which they were remanded, but from a Correctional Centre, unless a judge orders otherwise. Remanded accused are to be adjourned to either the Bail JCM Fix Date List or to a morning court list.
8. Files do not return to their home court location until: (a) the bail hearing is completed, (b) a judge or JCM has directed the bail hearing be scheduled in another court location, (c) trial dates are scheduled, or (d) a judge or JCM directs otherwise.
9. If the matter is scheduled for a virtual/hybrid bail courtroom, it cannot be adjourned to the Justice Centre for evening bail.
10. If the accused is self-represented, the matter cannot be adjourned to initial appearance court: either the accused must exercise their right to have a bail hearing, or all initial appearance issues must be addressed before a judge in a virtual/hybrid bail courtroom or adjourned to a judge court in the home court location to conduct the arraignment before fixing a date for a trial or sentencing in the home court location, unless the sentencing can proceed in a virtual/hybrid bail courtroom.
11. Despite the virtual nature of the bail hearings, all the same evidentiary and procedural rules that apply to in-person proceedings should apply, like marking exhibits.
12. The Court expects counsel will use the [Consent Requisition Form](#) and the [Consent Remand Form](#) (“Consent Forms”) whenever possible to cancel a scheduled virtual/hybrid bail hearing/appearance that will not be proceeding (so the Bail JCM can remove the matter from the hearing list) as follows:
 - a. With the exception of the direction regarding Consent Form submission set out in paras. b and c below, all the other directions and procedures set out in [2013 CPD-1 CCFM Practice Direction](#) and [CRIM 08 Criminal Caseflow Management Rules Forms and Procedure](#) regarding the use of the [Consent Requisition Form](#) and the [Consent Remand Form](#) apply.

b. The Consent Forms are to be emailed by counsel to the applicable Virtual Bail JCM:

Virtual Bail JCM	Email Address
Northern	Northern.VirtualBail@provincialcourt.bc.ca
Interior	Interior.VirtualBail@provincialcourt.bc.ca
Island	Island.VirtualBail@provincialcourt.bc.ca
222 Main Street	Van.Scheduling@provincialcourt.bc.ca
North Vancouver	NVan.Scheduling@provincialcourt.bc.ca
Richmond	Richmond.Scheduling@provincialcourt.bc.ca
Abbotsford	Abbotsford.CriminalScheduling@provincialcourt.bc.ca
Port Coquitlam	PoCo.CriminalScheduling@provincialcourt.bc.ca
Surrey	Surrey.CriminalScheduling@provincialcourt.bc.ca

c. The following summary chart has been included for counsel’s quick reference only:

	Consent Remand Form	Consent Requisition Form
Form use	To adjourn a scheduled bail hearing/appearance date by Defence to another date without the accused or counsel having to appear in court (only used for in custody bail appearances)	To adjourn a scheduled non-trial out of custody or in custody appearances (including bail hearing/appearance) by Defence to another date without the accused or counsel having to appear in court Can also change the next appearance reason (i.e. from Bail Hearing to Sentencing), call-ahead a scheduled appearance date, and add files by Defence
When to submit the Consent Form by email to the applicable Virtual Bail JCM	1. 12:00PM-4:30PM the business day before for processing at 9:00AM the day of the scheduled appearance date; or 2. Any time on the day of the scheduled appearance date	Anytime up until noon the business day before the scheduled appearance date
Defence counsel as agent or designated counsel	Yes	Yes

Consent required	Yes	Yes
Counsel signature required	No	No
Court appearance required	No	No
Self-represented accused	No	No

13. Crown and defence counsel shall submit any documents they wish the Court to consider for a bail hearing by following the process set out in [CRIM 18](#).
14. For registry arrests that may or may not be added to a bail court list, see [NP 31](#) for the process to be followed.
15. The following directions aim to reduce the need for frequent court appearances while ensuring that the Court can effectively exercise its supervisory authority and uphold the accused's right to a timely bail hearing and trial:
 - a. If the accused has retained defence counsel but cannot proceed with a bail hearing, the accused should be remanded to a fix date on the Bail JCM Fix Date List.
 - b. If defence counsel is reasonably certain of being ready on the next appearance, the accused can be remanded to a morning court list for a bail hearing.
 - c. If the accused has not retained defence counsel, they must be remanded to a morning court list and not adjourned to the Bail JCM Fix Date List.
 - d. A day before the scheduled appearance, defence/duty counsel and the Crown should communicate about files on the Bail JCM Fix Date List and morning court list, and inform the Bail JCM which files will remain on the Bail JCM Fix Date List or be transferred to the morning court list for a bail hearing. Defence/duty counsel are encouraged whenever possible to contact accused in remand facilities on a date prior to the scheduled remand appearance. Due to call volume at those remand facilities, Corrections/Sheriffs may not be able to accommodate calls to remanded accused in the morning before court.
 - e. On the fix date, the Bail JCM may move a file from the Bail JCM Fix Date List to the morning court list for a bail hearing. The Crown should be given reasonable notice by defence/duty counsel of the intention to change the fix date into a hearing. If proper notice is not given, pursuant to s. 516 of the *Criminal Code*, a judge may decide to adjourn the hearing.

- f. Counsel should use the Consent Forms for appearance changes on the Bail JCM Fix Date List or morning court list so that as much as possible court appearances are reserved for matters where something substantive will occur.
- g. If the accused has been in custody for over 45 days without a bail hearing, counsel must appear before a judge to explain the delay. If no bail hearing occurs at this appearance, the Court may arraign the case and set a pre-trial conference (if the [CRIM 12 Practice Direction](#) is applicable), a trial/preliminary inquiry, or issue other instructions. The judge may also return the matter to the home court location for further scheduling. The responsibility of monitoring the 45-day timeframe lies with counsel.

II. Bail Hearings on Weekday Evenings, Weekends, and Statutory Holidays

- 16. Files requiring bail hearings on weekdays that are not scheduled onto a daytime court list are spoken to by Crown counsel in the evening at the Justice Centre.
- 17. Bail hearings will be heard primarily by Judicial Justices at the Justice Centre on weekday evenings from 4:30PM until 11:00PM and on weekends and statutory holidays as set out in the table below. Bail hearings after 11:00PM cannot ordinarily be accommodated.

WEEKDAY EVENINGS (FROM 4:30PM UNTIL 11:00PM)			
<i>* 7:00PM scheduled start time for all Regions</i>			
Room 310	Room 311	Room 312	
Northern Region	Island Region	Fraser Region	
Vancouver Region	Interior Region		
WEEKENDS AND STATUTORY HOLIDAYS			
<i>* scheduled start times noted in red text</i>			
Room 305	Room 306	Room 310	Room 311
Fraser Region (except Surrey) and PPSC Files 12:30PM	Island Region 12:30PM	Northern Region 11:15AM	Interior Region 11:15AM
		Vancouver Region 1:00PM	Surrey 1:00PM

- 18. The scheduled start times noted above are targeted start times only. Bail hearings may commence earlier. Public Prosecution Service of Canada (PPSC) files are often scheduled to start earlier.
- 19. Bail hearings at the Justice Centre are conducted virtually where all participants attend by videoconference, unless the accused is only able to attend by audioconference.
- 20. Despite the virtual nature of the bail hearings, all the same evidentiary and procedural rules that apply to in-person proceedings should apply, like marking exhibits.

21. All reasonable efforts must be made for new in-custodies not scheduled onto a weekday daytime court list (during regular court sitting hours) to be scheduled onto a weekday evening court list.
22. Where an accused appearing at the Justice Centre is to be remanded to the next scheduled weekday, the accused will be scheduled to the afternoon court list in the applicable virtual or hybrid Bail Courtroom, unless a Judicial Justice or Judge orders otherwise following a request by counsel. Accused being remanded beyond the next scheduled weekday can be scheduled on a morning court list.
23. Crown and defence counsel shall submit any documents they wish the Court to consider for a bail hearing by following the process set out in [CRIM 18](#).

Appendix “A”

Regional Catchments, Location Codes, and Court Registry Email Addresses

I. Weekday Bail Hearings During Regular Court Sitting Hours

NORTHERN REGION CATCHMENTS			
VR1	PRINCE GEORGE CATCHMENT	Code	Court Registry Email Addresses²
	Prince George Provincial Court	PG	csbpg.criminalregistry@gov.bc.ca
	CARIBOO CATCHMENT		
	Anahim Lake Provincial Court	AL	Office15231@gov.bc.ca
	100 Mile House Law Courts	OMH	Office15231@gov.bc.ca
	Fort St James Provincial Court	FSJ	csbpg.criminalregistry@gov.bc.ca
	Fraser Lake Provincial Court	FL	csbpg.criminalregistry@gov.bc.ca
	Kwadacha Provincial Court	KWA	Office15216@gov.bc.ca
	Mackenzie Provincial Court	MAC	Office15216@gov.bc.ca
	McBride Provincial Court	MCB	Office15215@gov.bc.ca
	Quesnel Law Courts	QUE	Office15230@gov.bc.ca
	Tsay Keh Dene Provincial Court	TKD	csbpg.criminalregistry@gov.bc.ca
	Valemount Provincial Court	VAL	Office15215@gov.bc.ca
	Vanderhoof Law Courts	VHF	csbpg.criminalregistry@gov.bc.ca
Williams Lake Law Courts	WL	Office15231@gov.bc.ca	
VR2	NORTHWEST CATCHMENT		
	Atlin Provincial Court	ATL	Office15228@gov.bc.ca
	Burns Lake Provincial Court	BL	Office15219@gov.bc.ca
	Dease Lake Provincial Court	DL	Office15222@gov.bc.ca
	Good Hope Lake Provincial Court	GHL	Office15228@gov.bc.ca
	Hazelton Provincial Court	HAZ	Office15224@gov.bc.ca
	Houston Provincial Court	HOU	Office15224@gov.bc.ca
	Kitimat Law Courts	KIT	Office15222@gov.bc.ca
	Lower Post Provincial Court	LP	Office15228@gov.bc.ca
	Masset Provincial Court	MAS	Office15220@gov.bc.ca
	New Aiyansh Provincial Court	NEA	Office15222@gov.bc.ca
	Prince Rupert Law Courts	PR	Office15220@gov.bc.ca
	Queen Charlotte Provincial Court	QCC	Office15220@gov.bc.ca
	Smithers Law Courts	SMI	Office15224@gov.bc.ca
	Stewart Law Courts	STE	Office15222@gov.bc.ca
	Terrace Law Courts	TER	Office15222@gov.bc.ca
	PEACE CATCHMENT		
	Chetwynd Provincial Court	CHE	Office15226@gov.bc.ca
	Dawson Creek Law Courts	DC	Office15226@gov.bc.ca
Fort Nelson Law Courts	FN	Office15229@gov.bc.ca	

² The Court Registry email addresses have been copied from the BC Government webpage [here](#).

	Fort St John Law Courts	FOS	Office15228@gov.bc.ca
	Tumbler Ridge Provincial Court	TR	Office15226@gov.bc.ca
INTERIOR REGION CATCHMENTS			
VR3	KELOWNA CATCHMENT		
	Kelowna Law Courts	KEL	CSB.KelownaCriminal@gov.bc.ca
	Penticton	PEN	PentictonCourtRegistry@gov.bc.ca
	Princeton	PRI	PentictonCourtRegistry@gov.bc.ca
	Nelson	NEL	NelsonCourtRegistry@gov.bc.ca
	Nakusp	NAK	NelsonCourtRegistry@gov.bc.ca
	Castlegar	CAS	NelsonCourtRegistry@gov.bc.ca
	Grand Forks	GRF	VCRosslandCrt@gov.bc.ca
	Rossland	ROS	VCRosslandCrt@gov.bc.ca
	Cranbrook	CLB	cranbrookcourtregistry@gov.bc.ca
	Creston	CRE	cranbrookcourtregistry@gov.bc.ca
	Invermere	INV	cranbrookcourtregistry@gov.bc.ca
	Fernie	FER	cranbrookcourtregistry@gov.bc.ca
	Sparwood	SPA	cranbrookcourtregistry@gov.bc.ca
Golden	GOL	GoldenCourtRegistry@gov.bc.ca	
VR4	KAMLOOPS CATCHMENT		
	Kamloops	KAM	JAGCSBKamloopsScheduling@gov.bc.ca
	Merritt	MER	JAGCSBKamloopsScheduling@gov.bc.ca
	Lillooet	LIL	JAGCSBKamloopsScheduling@gov.bc.ca
	Clearwater	CLW	JAGCSBKamloopsScheduling@gov.bc.ca
	Vernon	VER	JAGCSBVernonScheduling@gov.bc.ca
	Salmon Arm	SAA	JAGCSBSalmonArmScheduling@gov.bc.ca
Revelstoke	REV	JAGCSBSalmonArmScheduling@gov.bc.ca	
ISLAND REGION CATCHMENTS			
VR8	SOUTH ISLAND CATCHMENT		
	Duncan	DUN	DuncanCrimreg@gov.bc.ca
	Ganges	GAN	DuncanCrimreg@gov.bc.ca
	Sidney	SID	VicProvincialReg@gov.bc.ca
	Victoria	VIC	VicProvincialReg@gov.bc.ca
Western Communities	WCO	wccregistry@gov.bc.ca	
VR9	NORTH ISLAND CATCHMENT		
	Campbell River	CAR	CampbellRiverRegistry@gov.bc.ca
	Courtenay	COU	CourtenayRegistry@gov.bc.ca
	Nanaimo	NAN	crimreg.nanaimo@gov.bc.ca
	Gold River (including Tahsis)	GOR	CampbellRiverRegistry@gov.bc.ca
	Port Alberni	POA	PortAlberniRegistry@gov.bc.ca
	Port Hardy	POH	porthardycourtregistry@gov.bc.ca
	Powell River	POR	powellriverregistry@gov.bc.ca
Tofino	TOF	PortAlberniRegistry@gov.bc.ca	
Ucluelet	UCL	PortAlberniRegistry@gov.bc.ca	

FRASER REGION CATCHMENTS			
CR 001	PORT COQUITLAM HYBRID BAIL COURTROOM CATCHMENT		
	Port Coquitlam Law Courts	COQ	csb.portcoquitlamprovcriminal@gov.bc.ca
	New Westminster Law Courts	NEW	JAGCSBNWestminsterCourtScheduling@gov.bc.ca
CR 204	ABBOTSFORD HYBRID BAIL COURTROOM CATCHMENT		
	Abbotsford Law Courts	ABB	abbotsfordcriminalregistry@gov.bc.ca
	Chilliwack Law Courts	CHI	CSBChilliwackCriminalRegistry@gov.bc.ca
CR 108	SURREY HYBRID BAIL COURTROOM CATCHMENT		
	Surrey Provincial Court	SUR	CSBSurreyProvincialCourt.CriminalRegistry@gov.bc.ca
VANCOUVER REGION CATCHMENTS			
CR 001	NORTH VANCOUVER HYBRID BAIL COURTROOM CATCHMENT		
	North Vancouver Provincial Court	NVA	NorthVancouverRegistry@gov.bc.ca
	Pemberton Provincial Court	PEM	NorthVancouverRegistry@gov.bc.ca
	Sechelt Provincial Court	SEP	SecheltRegistry@gov.bc.ca
CR 107	RICHMOND HYBRID BAIL COURTROOM CATCHMENT		
	Richmond Provincial Court	RMD	RichmondCourtRegistry@gov.bc.ca
CR 101	VANCOUVER HYBRID BAIL COURTROOM CATCHMENT		
	Bella Bella Provincial Court	BEB	CSBMainRecordRequests@gov.bc.ca
	Bella Coola Provincial Court	BEC	CSBMainRecordRequests@gov.bc.ca
	Klemtu Provincial Court	KLE	CSBMainRecordRequests@gov.bc.ca
	Vancouver Provincial Court (222 Main Street)	VAN	CSBMainRecordRequests@gov.bc.ca

II. Bail Hearings on Weekday Evenings, Weekends, and Statutory Holidays

JUSTICE CENTRE		
Please use the email address related to the Region/type of the file being heard		
Federal Files	JC	JusticeCentreBail.Federal@gov.bc.ca
Island Region		JusticeCentreBail.IslandRegion@gov.bc.ca
Vancouver Region		JusticeCentreBail.VancouverCoastalRegion@gov.bc.ca
Fraser Region (excluding Surrey)		JusticeCentreBail.FraserRegion@gov.bc.ca
Surrey Files		JusticeCentreBail.Surrey@gov.bc.ca
Interior Region		JusticeCentreBail.InteriorRegion@gov.bc.ca
Northern Region		JusticeCentreBail.NorthernRegion@gov.bc.ca

Cross-Reference

- The Policy on Use of Electronic Devices in Courtrooms and Access to Court Proceedings Policy, including the general prohibition on the recording or broadcasting of court proceedings unless authorized by the Court
- Notice to the Profession and Public 21 for etiquette and directions on connecting by remotely. (**Anyone** appearing in Provincial Court by Teams can email the CBABC at members@cbabc.org for technical support.)
- Law Society of BC Member Portal: [BC Courtrooms Live Links](#)
- The MS Teams Virtual Bail Team Communications Protocol located on the Virtual Bail Team in the Files section of each regional Channel

History of Practice Direction

- Original practice direction dated February 09, 2009 replacing the practice direction titled *Hearing of Bail Applications by the Justice Centre* dated March 04, 2005.
- Amended practice direction dated February 23, 2015 (changes to wording and formatting only).
- Amended practice direction dated September 18, 2019 (consequential amendment to para. 4 further to Bill C-75 amendments regarding audioconference and videoconference).
- Amended practice direction dated November 26, 2019 (amendment to para. 2 clarifying current process regarding access to the Justice Centre).
- January 8, 2020: Housekeeping update to remove “duration” section as contained information duplicated in “History of Practice Direction” section.
- April 19, 2021: amended “Application” section - consequential reference to CRIM 14 Northern Bail Pilot Project for bail hearings for all adult and youth criminal files in the Northern Region.
- July 18, 2022: amended “Application” section consequential to CRIM 14 Northern and Interior Bail Pilot Project and housekeeping update to para. 1.
- January 9, 2023: amended “Application” section consequential to Revised CRIM 14 Practice Direction: Northern, Interior, and Island Bail Pilot Project.
- September 18, 2023 for Northern, Interior, Island and Vancouver Regions and October 16, 2023 for Fraser Region: adds “Background”; updating “Purpose”; incorporates and updates processes from rescinded CRIM 14 Northern, Interior, and Island Bail Pilot Project and NP 26 Chilliwack Provincial Court Bail Pilot Project.
- September 29, 2023: effective date for Fraser Region changed to November 16, 2023.
- October 24, 2023: revised Appendix “A”, Part I to add Pemberton, Bella Bella, Bella Coola and Klemtu to Vancouver Region and update email addresses for Sidney and Victoria.

I make this practice direction pursuant to my authority under the *Provincial Court Act*, R.S.B.C. 1996, c. 379, and Rule 3 of the *Criminal Caseflow Management Rules*.

Melissa Gillespie
Chief Judge
Provincial Court of British Columbia