



**Children's Court
Victoria**

PRACTICE DIRECTION

No. 2 of 2015

APPEARANCES

This Practice Direction is issued pursuant to Section 592 of the *Children, Youth and Families Act 2005*.

Preamble

The purpose of this Practice Direction is to address difficulties the Melbourne and Moorabbin Children's Courts are frequently experiencing in obtaining appearances from legal practitioners prior to listing dates of matters.

This Practice Direction applies to all Criminal Division and Family Division matters listed at the Melbourne and Moorabbin Children's Courts.

Directions

1. All legal practitioners involved in matters, other than emergency care applications, must notify the court of their appearance by 3pm on the day prior to the listing. Appearances must be filed in the attached form either in person or via email to coordinator@childrenscourt.vic.gov.au for Melbourne appearances or moorabbinregistry@childrenscourt.vic.gov.au for Moorabbin appearances.
2. Legal practitioners should utilise staggered listings to ensure they do not have matters listed in more than one courtroom at any time.
3. It is expected that all matters will be ready to proceed at the time listed.

This Practice Direction commences on 23 March 2015.

Judge Peter Couzens
President
Children's Court of Victoria

20 March 2015