



Children's Court of Victoria

Practice Direction

No. 1 of 2009

**SEXUAL OFFENCES LIST
MELBOURNE CHILDREN'S COURT**

PRACTICE DIRECTION ISSUED PURSUANT TO
SECTION 592 OF THE
CHILDREN, YOUTH AND FAMILIES ACT 2005

Preamble

This Practice Direction establishes a pilot Sexual Offences List ("SOL") in the Criminal Division of the Melbourne Children's Court.

This Practice Direction applies to the Melbourne Children's Court.

For the purpose of the SOL:

'**Sexual offence**' includes any offence involving a sexual act or an attempt to commit a sexual act or an act alleged to have been committed with the purpose of committing a sexual act.

Directions

1. Subject to paragraph 3, at the first mention all matters that include one or more sexual offences shall be adjourned to the SOL.
2. The SOL will sit on the first Friday of every month.
3. If the defendant's plea of guilty is entered on the first mention date or if the Judicial Officer otherwise orders, the matter shall not be adjourned to the SOL.
4. Unless the Judicial Officer otherwise orders, where a defendant appears before the Court in custody, the first remand hearing will be treated as the first mention and the matter then adjourned for further mention to the SOL.

This Practice Direction commences on 2 February 2009.

**JUDGE PAUL GRANT
PRESIDENT**

29 January 2009