

PRACTICE NOTE: 2014 - 4

CALGARY CRIMINAL

COURTROOM 508 (Domestic Violence Court)

(REPLACES PRACTICE NOTE 2010-4)

EFFECTIVE: 6 OCTOBER 2014

Purpose:

Concerns have been expressed that lengthy dispositions and show cause hearings are taking up too much of the time available on docket days in Domestic Violence (DV) Courtroom 508. Wednesdays are not currently a docket day in DV Courtroom 508. Rather, they are used for domestic violence trials. A review of court usage times indicates that this courtroom is currently underutilized on Wednesdays for this purpose.

In order to more effectively distribute the workload in DV Courtroom 508, lengthier DV dispositions and show causes should be moved from 508 on docket days, to a courtroom with more available time to deal with them.

Use of Domestic Violence Courtroom 508:

Accordingly, effective **Monday October 6, 2014**, **Practice Note 2010-4** is revoked and replaced with the following:

1. Domestic Violence (DV) Courtroom 508 will continue to operate as an all-day docket Court commencing at 9:00 AM on **Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday** of each week. There will be no **scheduled** noon break on these docket days. The presiding judge (usually in consultation with counsel and in consideration of the docket length), may decide to take an unscheduled break over the noon hour to allow court personnel a chance for lunch and/or off the record discussions.
2. On these **docket** days the court will hear all Domestic Violence docket matters, as well as unscheduled DV dispositions, peace bonds and bail hearings **NOT EXCEEDING 15 minutes** in length.
3. The Judge's name will continue to be published for all DV **docket** days.
4. All other DV court matters expected to require more than 15 minutes **must** be booked through the Case Management Office (CMO) for hearing.
5. As well, Crown applications to appoint counsel for cross-examination under s.486.3 CC **must** be booked through CMO. These applications will only be heard on Wednesdays.

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6. Such matters (i.e. lengthier dispositions & show causes, lengthy peace bonds, s. 486.3 CC applications or other pre-trial applications) and all Domestic Violence Trial matters will be scheduled by CMO:
- a. into DV Court 508 on **Wednesdays** (this courtroom will open at **9:30 a.m.** and **2:00 p.m.** respectively),
 - b. into courtroom 306 scheduled bail sitting time slots,
 - c. into one of the regularly scheduled disposition courtrooms (307 and 308),
 - d. into a Low Complexity courtroom; or
 - e. into an Assignment courtroom (1005 or 1106),

depending on the nature, length and urgency of the matter **and the availability of counsel.**

7. The Judge's name will not be published for Wednesday sittings in this Court.

Per: Asst. Chief Judge James J Ogle
Calgary Criminal & Regional Divisions
Dated: October 2, 2014