

**PRACTICE NOTE  
PROVINCIAL COURT OF ALBERTA  
RED DEER FAMILY COURT  
PRE-TRIAL CONFERENCES**

The Provincial Court Family Division is busy and tries to accommodate trials within a reasonable time frame. We further try to utilize assigned court time to its fullest effect. To that end many Trials are set for Pre-Trial Conferences. These Conferences are designed, amongst other things, to narrow issues, ensure any documentation has been exchanged and to ensure that the parties are prepared to proceed on the Trial date. As a result of the Conferences there are often Orders generated outlining the obligations of the parties.

Recently we have found that parties are not complying with the terms of the Orders and Trial time has been wasted. Court Orders are meant to be obeyed. If for any reason a party cannot comply with the terms set out in the Pre-Trial Conference Order it is their obligation to bring the issue to the attention of the Court and the opposing party, prior to Trial.

Effective immediately, if an Applicant has not complied with the terms of the Pre-Trial Conference Order the court date set will be cancelled and parties will have to rebook the Trial when all of the obligations of the Order have been met. In addition, the Pre-Trial Conference Orders, Rules 10.49 and 10.53 outline the consequences to either or both parties or counsel on non-compliance. The Court will be enforcing these sections.

Dated this 31st day of May, 2019.



James A. Hunter  
Assistant Chief Judge  
Provincial Court of Alberta – Red Deer