



**Children's Court
Victoria**

PRACTICE DIRECTION

No. 1 of 2017

**FAMILY DIVISION – APPEARANCE OF IN-CUSTODY ADULTS
BY AUDIO VISUAL LINK**

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

Preamble

This Practice Direction is necessitated by the increasing demand on the cell capacity of the Melbourne Children's Court and the need to give priority to the appearance of children held in detention for matters listed in the Criminal Division of the Children's Court at Melbourne.

This Practice Direction applies to Family Division proceedings at the Melbourne Children's Court where an adult party to the proceedings is held in custody.

Directions

1. Unless otherwise directed by the presiding judicial officer, where an adult party to a child protection application is in custody they are to appear by audio visual link for the following proceedings in the Family Division of the Children's Court:
 - (a) Mentions; and
 - (b) Directions Hearings

2. Unless otherwise directed by the presiding judicial officer, where a child protection application is adjourned for a conciliation conference and an adult party is in custody, the adult is to participate in the conference by audio visual link or by telephone, unless such facility is unavailable at the particular prison/remand facility.

This Practice Direction commences on 1 April 2017.

Judge Amanda Chambers
President
Children's Court of Victoria

Dated: 23.3.2017.