



Provincial Court of British Columbia

In less serious criminal matters, after charges have been laid, Crown counsel may agree to proceed by alternative measures under section 717 of the *Criminal Code*. This means that the charges are dealt with outside the court process so there is no criminal trial.

An accused person must accept responsibility and be approved to participate in this program. If they fulfill all the terms of an alternative measures agreement, which often includes performance of community work service, the Crown counsel will direct a stay of proceedings (not proceed with) the charges in court.

Alternative measures involve an agreement between an accused person and Crown counsel. A judge is not involved.

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