



THE PROVINCIAL COURT  
OF BRITISH COLUMBIA

Effective Date: 17 May 2021

**FAM 03**

**PRACTICE DIRECTION**  
**SCHEDULING OF CONTINUATIONS**

**Purpose**

To ensure trials or hearings, once commenced, are concluded within a reasonable time.

**Application**

This practice direction applies to family law and child protection matters in all court locations in the Province.

**Directions**

1. When a scheduled trial or hearing has not been completed in the time provided it will be scheduled to conclude within **30 days** unless otherwise approved by the relevant Regional Administrative Judge or Local Liaison Judge (where applicable) on advice of the local Judicial Case Manager.

**History of Practice Direction**

- Original practice direction dated February 09, 2007.
- Amended practice direction dated February 23, 2015 (changes to wording and formatting only).
- January 8, 2020: Housekeeping update to remove “duration” section as contained information duplicated in “History of Practice Direction” section.
- May 17, 2021: Authority statement amended to be consistent with the new *Provincial Court Family Rules* that came into force May 17, 2021.

I make this practice direction pursuant to my authority under the *Provincial Court Act*, R.S.B.C. 1996, c. 379, and the *Provincial Court Family Rules*, B.C. Reg. 120/2020.

Melissa Gillespie  
Chief Judge  
Provincial Court of British Columbia