



## Alberta Court of Justice

### Calgary Family & Youth Division

#### **Practice Directive #7: Family Law Trials Greater Than 3 Days in Duration**

Effective: March 1, 2020

Effective March 1, 2020, should counsel or self-represented litigants wish to book a trial under the *Family Law Act* that is greater than three (3) days in duration, they shall be required to seek the leave of the Assistant Chief Justice of the Calgary Family & Youth Division, or their designate, prior to booking the trial dates. To seek such leave, they are to provide the Trial Coordinator with the following material at least two (2) weeks in advance of booking the trial date:

1. All parties' Trial Readiness Forms.
2. A letter from each party that sets out, in writing:
  - a. The name of each witnesses and a brief will-say statement of each witness' evidence;
  - b. A time estimate of how long the examination and cross-examination of each witness will be;
  - c. A list of potential exhibits;
  - d. Any evidentiary issues; and
  - e. Any special circumstances that require a longer trial, such as interpreters for witnesses or parties.
3. What efforts have been made to shorten the trial.

Only after the Assistant Chief Justice, or their designate, has granted leave shall a Family Law trial of greater than three days in duration be booked.