



**Magistrates' Court  
of Victoria**

**Practice Direction  
No. 2 of 2015**

**SEXUAL OFFENCES LIST  
SUBURBAN MAGISTRATES' COURTS  
SUMMARY OFFENCES INVOLVING CHILD COMPLAINANTS**

**Preamble**

Section 4R of the *Magistrates' Court Act 1989* provided for the establishment of the Sexual Offences List ("SOL") from 1 December, 2006.

For the purposes of the SOL:

"**Sexual Offence**" includes any offence involving a sexual act or an attempt to commit a sexual act or an act alleged to have been committed for the purpose of committing a sexual act.

**This Practice Direction applies only to suburban venues of the Magistrates' Court of Victoria (the Court) other than the Court at Melbourne, where the complainant in a sexual offence prosecution is a child under the age of 18 years.**

***Summary stream matters only***

In consultation with the SOL Co-ordinator, criminal prosecutions for a sexual offence initiated in a suburban venue of the Court in the summary stream shall be transferred to the Court at Melbourne to be listed in the SOL where the charges:

1. involve one or more child complainants; and
2. do not resolve to a plea of guilty following a summary case conference conducted pursuant to s54 of the *Criminal Procedure Act 2009*; and
3. shall be listed for contest mention on the next available listing in the SOL at the Court at Melbourne.

This Practice Direction revokes Practice Direction No. 4 of 2007.

**This Practice Direction commences 4 February 2015.**

**PETER LAURITSEN  
Chief Magistrate  
Date: 4 February 2015**