



Magistrates' Court of Victoria

Practice Direction

No. 9 of 2015

Capping of Family Violence Intervention Order lists at the Magistrates' Court of Victoria sitting at Broadmeadows

Background

In recent years, the number of applications for Intervention Orders under the Family Violence Protection Act 2008 has grown significantly. The ability of the Court, lawyers, police, support workers and others to perform their respective roles has been compromised. Effective family violence outcomes require sufficient time for the Court to address the requirements of the Act and for lawyers, police, support workers and other professionals to conduct themselves in accordance with relevant standards.

The purpose of this Practice Direction is to implement an effective system for listing Family Violence Intervention Orders by setting a limit on the number of matters in a Family Violence application list at Broadmeadows Magistrates' Court.

The introduction of this process at Broadmeadows is the first stage. The impact of capped lists will be monitored and will inform the expansion of capping to the other regions of the Court.

Direction

1. As and from 26th October 2015, the number of applications for family violence intervention orders under the Family Violence Protection Act 2008 will not exceed forty (40) per list. The applications include applications to revoke, vary or extend existing orders. This 'cap' excludes urgent applications for interim family violence intervention orders which will proceed by allocation to another Courtroom.
2. This Practice Direction starts on the 26th October 2015.

Peter Lauritsen
Chief Magistrate

Date: 22 October 2015