



Magistrates' Court Victoria

Practice Direction

No. 7 of 2016

Mediation Programme

Background

Practice Direction 6 of 2007 created a mediation pilot programme for certain defended civil proceedings at the Magistrates' Court of Victoria (the Court) at Broadmeadows. Since then the programme has expanded to a number of other venues of the Court. Over the last year, it has become clear that certain types of disputes are less suited to the mediation process: claims for damage to property arising out of motor vehicle accidents where the amount sought is less than \$10,000; and claims for the recovery of hire car costs only, irrespective of the amount sought. The purpose of this Practice Direction is to exclude these claims from the programme.

Directions

1. From 8 July 2016, the following claims are excluded from the programme:
 - a. claims for damage to property arising out of motor vehicle accidents where the amount sought is less than \$10,000; and
 - b. claims for the recovery of hire car costs only, irrespective of the amount sought.
2. This Practice Direction applies to all venues of the Court where the programme is conducted including Dandenong.
3. This Practice Direction only applies to proceedings issued on or after 8 July 2016.
4. This Practice Direction commences on 8 July 2016.

Peter Lauritsen
Chief Magistrate
Date: 1 July 2016