

SUPREME COURT OF YUKON

PRACTICE DIRECTION
CRIMINAL-9

*Media Access to Documents in
Criminal Proceedings*

This Practice Direction sets out a simplified procedure for accredited media representatives to have access to copy public exhibits and documents filed in a criminal proceeding.

Crown and Defence shall have the obligation to advise the court at the time of filing any exhibit or document whether any particular ones should be under a publication ban and sealed. Exhibits and documents not under a publication ban may be obtained at the court registry by accredited media representatives, subject always to the discretion of the trial judge to refuse production.

If either the Crown or Defence object to publication of an exhibit or document, the media representative must make a formal application to the court for production.

There will be a presumptive publication ban on victim photographs, autopsy photographs and medical, psychological, psychiatric and counselling documents as well as reports on children under 18 years, pre-sentence reports and victim impact statements.

All exhibits and documents may be returned to the party that filed them after expiry of the appeal period.

Journalists employed by L'Aurore boréale, APTN, CBC, CHON-FM, CKRW, Whitehorse Star and Yukon News are automatically accredited.

The court may charge an appropriate fee.

Veale J.
August 26, 2016