

Criminal Rules of the Provincial Court of Saskatchewan

RULE 1 – CASE MANAGEMENT

1.1 In this rule,

"case management conference" means a pre-trial conference or a preliminary inquiry focus hearing;

"in-camera" means with the Court and parties present only and without a verbatim record of the discussion;

"remote attendance" means attendance by audioconference or videoconference.

- 1.2 Pursuant to Section 482.1 of the *Criminal Code*, either before or after a matter has been scheduled for trial or preliminary inquiry, the Court may direct that the parties appear for a case management conference.
- 1.3 The Court may direct a case management conference take place in open court or in-camera either by in-person attendance or by remote attendance.
- 1.4 Where an accused is represented by a lawyer and does not want to be present the Court may waive the attendance of the accused at a case management conference.
- 1.5 All discussions at a case management conference shall be on a without prejudice basis unless counsel otherwise agree.
- 1.6 The Chief Judge may make practice directives governing conduct of case management conferences.

<u>Commentary</u>: Regarding section 1.4, defence counsel is responsible for obtaining the accused person's instructions regarding their attendance. In deciding whether an accused person must attend a case management conference, the Court will be mindful that decisions affecting the vital interests of the accused should be made in the presence of the accused: *R v Walker* 2010 SKCA 84.