



PROVINCIAL COURT
OF SASKATCHEWAN

CRIMINAL PRACTICE DIRECTIVE 14

SAFE HANDLING OF EXHIBITS

Effective: October 1, 2026

Purpose

This Practice Directive sets out the expectations and procedures for the safe handling, admission, and storage of exhibits in criminal proceedings before the Provincial Court of Saskatchewan.

Application

This Practice Directive applies to all Provincial Court locations and to all criminal proceedings, including trials and preliminary inquiries, where exhibits are filed or tendered.

Directives

1. Counsel are encouraged to confer in advance of trial or hearing to reach agreement on the filing and admissibility of exhibits.
2. Whenever practical, bulky exhibits such as large quantities of stolen property or controlled substances should be introduced through photographs rather than physical submission.
3. Firearm exhibits must be trigger-locked and rendered inoperable.
4. Where possible, firearms should be introduced through a witness trained in their handling.
5. Other dangerous exhibits (e.g., biohazards, weapons) should be submitted by photograph and/or through expert reports.
6. Any party seeking to tender exhibits containing or suspected to contain high potency narcotics (e.g., fentanyl, carfentanil) must obtain leave of the Court before bringing such items to the courthouse.
 - 6.1 Applications must be made in writing at least 14 days in advance and copies to all parties and the presiding judge.
 - 6.2 If leave is granted, the Court will issue specific conditions for handling and transport. The court clerk will notify the court manager accordingly.
7. Accused individuals have the right to examine exhibits and evidence during trial proceedings.

8. In proceedings involving property-related or fraud-related offences, photographs may be used as substitutes for physical exhibits, provided notice under s. 491.2(5) of the *Criminal Code* is provided to all parties in advance.