



PROVINCIAL COURT
OF SASKATCHEWAN

CRIMINAL PRACTICE DIRECTIVE 3

AUDIOCONFERENCE AND VIDEOCONFERENCE APPEARANCES BY ACCUSED PERSONS AND OFFENDERS

Effective: October 1, 2026

Purpose

This Practice Directive sets out the procedures governing appearances by accused persons and offenders by audioconference or videoconference in the Provincial Court of Saskatchewan.

Counsel and self-represented accused are reminded to comply with the requirements of Part XXII.01 of the *Criminal Code* when seeking leave for remote appearances.

Application

This Practice Directive applies to all criminal proceedings before the Provincial Court of Saskatchewan.

Directives

1. Except for bail hearings and related appearances, an accused person seeking to appear by audioconference or videoconference must file a written request with the Court registry using *Form PD-3-1: Request for Audioconference or Videoconference Appearance by Accused Person or Offender*.
 - 1.1 Applications under this Directive may be determined in Chambers. The Court registry shall notify the parties of the Court's decision;
 - 1.2 Notwithstanding leave for remote appearance is granted, the Court may revoke that leave and require personal attendance where the mode of communication does not permit effective participation in the proceeding.
2. An accused person may appear by audioconference or videoconference for a bail hearing and related appearances if satisfactory arrangements are made with the Court in advance.
 - 2.1 If the Court determines that effective communication cannot occur without the personal attendance of the accused, the Court may require the accused to attend in person;
 - 2.2 If the Court determines that communication by audioconference is inadequate, the Court may require the accused to appear by videoconference or in person.

3. Where the accused seeks to appear by audioconference, the accused must provide a direct landline or cellular telephone number with acceptable sound quality at which they can be reached.

Forms

Form PD-3-1: Request for Audioconference or Videoconference Appearance by Accused Person or Offender