

**YOUTH COURT OF SOUTH AUSTRALIA**  
**PRACTICE DIRECTION No. 1 of 2009**  
**CARE AND PROTECTION TELEPHONE LINKUPS**

We, Stephen McEwen, Kelvyn Prescott, Penny Eldridge and Kym Boxall the Judiciary of the Youth Court of the South Australia, ("the Court") pursuant to Rule 4.01 of the Youth Court Rules issue this practice direction in relation to Care and Protection cases under the Children's Protection Act 1993 ("the Act") where a telephone/video link is required to a Regional Court.

1. That the Crown/Families SA (FSA) file a notice identifying whether a phone/video link is required at time of filing any application for investigation and assessment or care and protection. FSA at the time of lodgement must advise the Court of any security concerns.
2. Upon receipt of notice and application from the Crown/FSA, the listings Manager immediately advise the Regional Court of the listings date and requirement for a telephone/video link and any possible security concerns.
3. That all care and protection applications via telephone/video link be held within a Court, and supervised by a Registrar or their delegate. If a security concern has been identified, and a Sheriff's Officer cannot be present a telephone link may occur at the Regional FSA office. However, if a FSA office cannot be utilised, due to security concerns, a telephone link may occur with either or both of the parents or guardians provided that :
  - (a) approval is obtained from the presiding judicial officer; and
  - (b) the relevant contact telephone numbers are provided to the Court at least 24 hours prior to the hearing.
4. That a Sheriffs Officer be present at all care and protection hearings on telephone/video link where possible.
5. The Court may depart from this practice direction to achieve the objects and policies of the Act, or if it is otherwise necessary to do so, in the interests of the administration of justice but in doing so the Court shall make orders designed to preserve the spirit and intention of the practice direction.

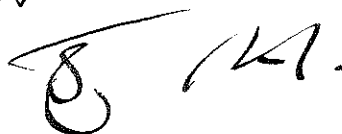
6. This practice direction will come into operation on 1<sup>st</sup> July 2009.

DATED the 22nd day of June 2009.

**Stephen McEwen**  
Senior Judge



**Kelvyn Prescott**  
Judge



**Penny Eldridge**  
Magistrate



**Kym Boxall**  
Magistrate