

Criminal Court

This handout directs you to helpful info on the Criminal Court process in Provincial Court.

Note: Over 95% of all criminal cases in BC are heard in Provincial Court. If the offence is a serious or "indictable" offence, you may have a choice to hold your trial in Provincial or Supreme Court.

An Overview



BC's Criminal Justice System | *general info for everyone*

Information and services for victims of crime, witnesses and the public. Explains the criminal justice system, BC Corrections, bail, parole, record suspension, etc.



Criminal Cases | *hear from the Provincial Court*

What criminal matters do Provincial Court Judges deal with?

Factsheets on: Basic Criminal Procedure, Sentencing, Sentencing Indigenous peoples, and more.

Criminal Case Flowchart | *stages in a criminal case*

Information on the procedures set out in the Criminal Code of Canada to be followed in criminal cases.

Criminal Court Trial



Representing Yourself in a Criminal Trial | *basic criminal court process steps*

For the accused person who wants to plead not guilty for a summary offence. Includes a sample letter to get a copy of the Information (document listing your offence) from Crown Counsel (prosecutor) and a basic glossary of terms.

...more Criminal Law Resources from LSS

(Aboriginal Rights, How to Appeal, No Contact Orders, Speaking to the Judge before Sentencing, Defending Yourself, etc.)



How a Criminal Trial Works | *goes a little further than first steps*

What Crown Counsel (prosecutor) has to do in a trial, how you can defend yourself, cross-examining witnesses, evidence you can use, final arguments, and the verdict.

...more Criminal Law Resources from JES

(Dealing with the Police, Charged with a Crime, Young Offenders, etc.)

More Information



Defending Yourself Against a Criminal Charge | *more on the trial process*

More information on the criminal trial process in Provincial Court. Links to other criminal law-related information.



LSLAP Manual: Criminal Law | *advanced reading*

This chapter on criminal law focuses on criminal procedure and how to manage cases. It covers Charter rights in the criminal context, sentencing, and criminal records.

Clicklaw HelpMap: Find legal help near you. 30+ services can help with criminal law matters.

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