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**Contact:**  
Legal Officer

## Policy History:

Approved by: Governance Committee

History of Revisions:

- January 29, 2014: Reformats but does not change content of Section 3 of “Policies Regarding Public and Media Access in the Provincial Court of British Columbia” February 2011, updated October 2011, and November 2012
- February 21, 2014: Inserted ‘record suspensions’ to reference of ‘pardoned’ files on offenders as a result of changes to the *Criminal Records Act* which changed the term ‘pardon’ to ‘record suspension’ (applications processed and approved prior to March 12, 2012 are still referred to as ‘pardons’)
- May 2014: Changed “Administrative Judge” to “Regional Administrative Judge” and “Judicial Justice of the Peace” to “Judicial Justice”
- November 2015: Changed “registry file” to “court file”, “*Family Relations Act*” to “*Family Law Act*”, “agreement filed under section 11.1 of that Act” to “filed agreement”, and “party’s lawyer” to “a lawyer (whether or not a lawyer of a party)”, and added a person authorized in writing by a party or a party’s lawyer” in section 3.1; changed “FRA” to “FLA” in section 6.4
- January 2016: Changed section 1(12) to reflect no access to judges’ bench books and section 6 to reflect the updated DARS Access Order and Counsel Undertaking
- June 18, 2018: Added second paragraph under “Purpose of Policy” following comments in *R. v. Backer*, 2018 BCSC 72, paragraph 15.
- June 28, 2019: Deleted words “is not a court registry and” in section 5.2.
- December 10, 2019: Section 1.3 Chapter updated as follows: #5 - section 276.3(1) repealed and replaced 278.95; #10 - to provide that when counsel files a Notice of Appeal they will have the same access rights to exhibit as counsel of record in the Provincial Court; #14 - to clarify that section is about a medical report relating to an accused; #17 – to add a section regarding production order to third parties (sexual offences); and, #20 - to include cases where solicitor-client privilege is granted as an example of when a sealing order may be in force. Sections 3.3 (access to family court file number and location) and 5 (sealed files) added.
- September 25, 2020: Sections 1 (#20) and 6 updated to include reference to File Transfer Protocol (FTP) for accredited journalists.
- December 4, 2020: Section 1 updated to add #17b regarding production orders under ss. 487.014-487.01 of the *Criminal Code*.
- May 17, 2021: Rule reference in section 3.1 amended and in section 6.4 “lawyer for child” added to be consistent with the new *Provincial Court Family Rules* that came into force May 17, 2021.