



FAMILY COURT OF WESTERN AUSTRALIA

PRACTICE DIRECTION

(No. 1 of 2016)

INSPECTION OF DOCUMENTS PRODUCED PURSUANT TO SUBPOENA

Preamble

Amendments to the Family Law Rules 2004 pursuant to the Family Law Amendment (Arbitration and Other Measures) Rules 2015 came into effect on 1 January 2016.

Those amendments include the repeal and substitution of rule 15.30 to provide for an extension of circumstances under which an automatic right to inspect documents produced pursuant to subpoena exists.

The Family Court of Western Australia is currently developing its own comprehensive set of Rules to govern practice and procedure throughout Western Australia in the family law jurisdiction.

In addition, the Court is currently conducting a formal review of some administrative processes, including the handling of subpoenaed documents.

Consideration will be given to extending the right to inspect documents produced pursuant to subpoena after commencement of those Rules.

Practice Direction

1. The amendments effected by the Family Law Amendment (Arbitration and Other Measures) Rules 2015 to rule 15.30 of the Family Law Rules 2004 are not to be adopted into practice in Western Australia.
2. The procedure for inspection of documents produced pursuant to subpoena is to be the same as if that amendment had not been effected.

**STEPHEN THACKRAY
CHIEF JUDGE
FAMILY COURT OF WESTERN AUSTRALIA
26 February 2016**