



**British Columbia Court of Appeal  
Practice Directive (Civil and Criminal)**

**Title: Style of Proceedings**

**Issued: 12 September 2022**

**Effective: 12 September 2022**

**Cite as: *Style of Proceedings* (Civil and Criminal Practice Directive, 09 September 2022)**

**1. *References to the Sovereign***

Effective immediately references to the Sovereign in the style of proceedings for any civil or criminal matter should use “Rex” or “His Majesty the King” in place of “Regina” or “Her Majesty the Queen”.

**2. *Order of parties in the style of proceedings for civil appeals***

Effective 18 July 2022 the style of proceedings for civil matters on all forms, orders, and reasons for judgment will list appellants first and respondents second.

The roles of the parties to the appeal in the court below should still be identified in brackets (e.g. John Doe, Appellant (Defendant)).

The new format applies to all documents filed in civil matters on or after July 18, 2022 (including Forms, orders, appeal books etc. and amended documents).

Examples of the new format for styles of proceedings in civil matters are attached as an Appendix.

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Chief Justice R.J. Bauman  
Court of Appeal for British Columbia

History:

Replaces the Civil Practice Directive titled *Style of Proceedings*, dated 18 July 2022.

## APPENDIX

### **Guide to formatting styles of proceedings under the new *Court of Appeal Rules***

Beginning on July 18, 2022, when the new *Court of Appeal Act and Rules* come into force, the style of proceedings for civil matters on all Forms, orders, and reasons for judgment will list appellants first and respondents second.

- The roles of the parties to the appeal in the court below should still be identified in brackets (e.g., John Doe, Appellant (Defendant)).
- The new format applies to all documents filed on or after July 18, 2022 (including Forms, orders, appeal books etc. and amended documents).
- Steps taken to change the format of the style of proceedings in four different examples are provided below.
  - Example 1 – one appellant and one respondent
  - Example 2 – more than one appellant or respondent
  - Example 3 – cross appeal and multiple dockets
  - Example 4 – non-adversarial proceeding in the court below

## Example 1: One appellant and one respondent

To set up the new style of proceedings:

1. Reverse the order of the parties so that the appellant is listed first and the respondent is listed second.
2. Ensure that the roles of the parties in the court below are still identified in brackets

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### ***Former style of proceedings***

Between:

**Red Purple**

Respondent  
(Claimant)

And

**Pink Yellow**

Appellant  
(Respondent)

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### ***New style of proceedings***

Between:

**Pink Yellow**

Appellant  
(Respondent)

And

**Red Purple**

Respondent  
(Claimant)

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## Example 2: More than one respondent or appellant

To set up the new style of proceedings:

1. Reverse the order of the parties so that the appellants are listed first and the respondents are listed second.
2. Group multiple appellants and respondents by their role in the court below (e.g. in the example Blue Green and Black Grey are grouped together as appellants who were claimants in the court below, but Pink Yellow is listed separately as an appellant who was a respondent in the court below).
3. Do not change the order of appellants or respondents who had different roles in the court below (e.g. in the example, Pink Yellow is still the first named appellant, followed by Blue Green and Black Grey).
4. Ensure that the roles of the parties in the court below are still identified in brackets (e.g. Pink Yellow, Appellant (**Respondent**)).

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### **Former style of proceedings**

Between:

	<b>Red Purple and Orange Brown</b>	Respondents (Claimants)
And		
	<b>Pink Yellow</b>	Appellant (Respondent)
And		
	<b>Blue Green and Black Grey</b>	Appellants (Claimants)

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### **New style of proceedings**

Between:

	<b>Pink Yellow</b>	Appellant (Respondent)
And		
	<b>Blue Green and Black Grey</b>	Appellants (Claimants)
And		
	<b>Red Purple and Orange Brown</b>	Respondents (Claimants)

### Example 3: Cross appeal and multiple dockets

To set up the new style of proceedings:

1. List the style of proceedings for each docket in order of the appeal docket number (*no change*)
2. For each appeal docket
  - a. List the appellant(s) first and the respondent(s) second.
  - b. Group the appellant(s) and respondent(s) by their role in the court below (e.g. in the example, *Shape* and *Circle* are grouped together as respondents who were plaintiffs in the court below, followed by the HMQ group who were defendants in the court below).
  - c. If there is more than one appellant or more than one respondent grouped together, do not change the order that they are listed (e.g. in the example below, *Shape* and *Circle* are still listed in the same order and are still the first named group of respondents in the new style of proceedings).
3. Identify the roles of the parties on the cross appeal (e.g. Respondents/**Appellants on Cross Appeal** (Plaintiffs)) (*no change*).
4. Identify the roles of the parties in the court below in brackets e.g. Respondents/Appellants on Cross Appeal (**Plaintiffs**)) (*no change*).

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#### **Former Style of Proceedings**

Docket: CA47123

Between:

**Purple Shape and Magenta Circle**

Respondents/  
Appellants on Cross Appeal  
(Plaintiffs)

And

**Workers' Compensation Board**

Appellant/  
Respondent on Cross Appeal  
(Defendant)

And

**Her Majesty the Queen in Right of the Province of British Columbia  
(Ministry of Children and Family Development), Her Majesty the  
Queen in Right of the Province of British Columbia  
(Ministry of Justice), and the Public Guardian and Trustee**

Respondents  
(Defendants)

- and -

Docket: CA47124

Between:

**Purple Shape and Magenta Circle**

Respondents/  
Appellants on Cross Appeal  
(Plaintiffs)

And

**Public Guardian and Trustee**

And  
Appellant/  
Respondent on Cross Appeal  
(Defendant)

**Her Majesty the Queen in Right of the Province of British Columbia  
(Ministry of Children and Family Development), Her Majesty the  
Queen in Right of the Province of British Columbia  
(Ministry of Justice), and the Workers' Compensation Board**

Respondents  
(Defendants)

- and -

Between:

Docket: CA47125

**Purple Shape and Magenta Circle**

Respondents  
(Plaintiffs)

And

**Public Guardian and Trustee**

Respondent  
(Defendant)

And

**Workers' Compensation Board**

Respondent  
(Defendant)

And

**Her Majesty the Queen in Right of the Province of British Columbia  
(Ministry of Children and Family Development) and Her Majesty the Queen  
in Right of the Province of British Columbia (Ministry of Justice)**

Appellants  
(Defendants)

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***New Style of Proceedings***

Docket: CA47123

Between:

**Workers' Compensation Board**

Appellant/  
Respondent on Cross Appeal  
(Defendant)

And

**Purple Shape and Magenta Circle**

Respondents/  
Appellants on Cross Appeal  
(Plaintiffs)

And

**His Majesty the King in Right of the Province of British Columbia  
(Ministry of Children and Family Development), His Majesty the  
King in Right of the Province of British Columbia  
(Ministry of Justice), and the Public Guardian and Trustee**

Respondents

(Defendants)

- and -

Docket: CA47124

Between:

**Public Guardian and Trustee**

Appellant/  
Respondent on Cross Appeal  
(Defendant)

And

**Purple Shape and Magenta Circle**

Respondents/  
Appellants on Cross Appeal  
(Plaintiffs)

And

**His Majesty the King in Right of the Province of British Columbia  
(Ministry of Children and Family Development), His Majesty the  
King in Right of the Province of British Columbia  
(Ministry of Justice), and the Workers' Compensation Board**

Respondents  
(Defendants)

- and -

Docket: CA47125

Between:

**His Majesty the King in Right of the Province of British Columbia  
(Ministry of Children and Family Development) and His Majesty the King  
in Right of the Province of British Columbia (Ministry of Justice)**

Appellants/  
Respondents on Cross Appeal  
(Defendants)

And

**Public Guardian and Trustee**

Respondent  
(Defendant)

And

**Workers' Compensation Board**

Respondent  
(Defendant)

And

**Purple Shape and Magenta Circle**

Respondents/  
Appellants on Cross Appeal  
(Plaintiffs)

## Example 4: Non-adversarial proceedings in the court below (most often arises in bankruptcy, estate and adoption proceedings)

To set up the new style of proceedings:

- Where the proceedings in the court below are non-adversarial and include preliminary text (e.g. “In the Matter of the Estate of X” or “In the Matter of the Bankruptcy of Y”), preserve the preliminary text, but format the style of proceedings to list the appellant(s) first and respondent(s) second.
- Follow the principles in the above examples as applicable.

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### Former Style of Proceedings

Docket: CA47123

**In the Matter of Teal Triangle and  
the [Patients Property Act, R.S.B.C. 1996, c. 349](#),  
and amendments thereto**

Between: **Blue Buttons** Respondent  
(Petitioner)

And **Green Rectangle** Appellant  
(Respondent)

And **Teal Triangle and  
the Orange Square** Respondents  
(Respondents)

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### New style of proceedings

Docket: CA47123

**In the Matter of Teal Triangle and  
the [Patients Property Act, R.S.B.C. 1996, c. 349](#),  
and amendments thereto**

Between: **Green Rectangle** Appellant  
(Respondent)

And **Blue Buttons** Respondent  
(Petitioner)

And **Teal Triangle and  
the Orange Square** Respondents  
(Respondents)