

9. Practice Direction No 2 of 2000 - Criminal trials as backups to civil trials in Alice Springs

With a view to ensuring the orderly and expeditious discharge of the business of the court and in an attempt to make use of court time which might otherwise be lost when civil trials in Alice Springs do not proceed, and there being no other civil trial to fill the time made available, the following procedure has been agreed upon by interested parties and is directed to be implemented as from 1 May 2000.

- . a callover of all civil and criminal matters in the list for hearing at Alice Springs will take place at or near the end of each criminal sittings in Alice Springs by the Judge then present;
- . before the callover the Director of Public Prosecutions and representatives of the Central Australian Aboriginal Legal Aid Service and the Northern Territory Legal Aid Commission will seek to identify criminal trials suitable to be listed as backups for the civil sittings to commence not less than seven weeks from the date;
- . the presiding Judge will list any suitable criminal trial as a backup to a civil trial.
- . approximately one week before the commencement of the civil sittings the Judge who is to preside will conduct a conference by video link in which the calendar for the sittings will be reviewed and backups confirmed or vacated as appropriate.

20 April 2000