



**FAMILY COURT PRACTICE NOTE  
RESTRICTIONS ON THE FILING OF CERTAIN DOCUMENTS**

**1 BACKGROUND**

- 1.1 The terms of this practice note were settled by the Principal Family Court Judge, the Ministry of Justice and the Family Law Section of the New Zealand Law Society.
- 1.2 This practice note is issued to avoid unnecessary duplication of material that is already available to the court.

**2 APPLICATION**

- 2.1 This practice note applies to applications made to the Family Court both on notice and without notice.

**3 RESTRICTIONS ON THE FILING OF CERTAIN DOCUMENTS**

- 3.1 It is not necessary for a party or their lawyer to file copies of existing orders, Judges' minutes, or judgments in relation to previous Family Court proceedings. These documents should not be annexed to any submission filed in support.
- 3.2 If a party or their lawyer is of the view that such documents are relevant to the court's consideration of the application, they shall provide a letter in support of an application to file such documents as are specified in that letter, together with a brief explanation as to the potential relevance of each of the documents.
- 3.3 The registrar shall provide the covering letter to the Judge considering the application who may request copies of the documents from the registrar if they are of the view that the documents are necessary for the proper consideration of the application.
- 3.4 This practice note does not preclude a party or their lawyer from filing any other documents not listed in 3.1 that they consider relevant to the application, for example, police reports or medical information.

**4 COMMENCEMENT DATE**

This practice note comes into operation on 24 November 2014.

Laurence Ryan  
**PRINCIPAL FAMILY COURT JUDGE**

Dated 14 November 2014