



NOVA SCOTIA
PUBLIC PROSECUTION SERVICE

DOCUMENT TITLE:

**YOUTH CRIMINAL JUSTICE ACT - SECTION 36
(Finding of guilt)**

NATURE OF DOCUMENT:

PRACTICE NOTE

FIRST ISSUED:

JANUARY 20, 2006

EDITED / DISTRIBUTED:

JANUARY 20, 2006

NOTE:

THIS POLICY DOCUMENT IS TO BE READ IN THE CONTEXT PROVIDED BY THE **PREFACE** TO THIS PART OF THE MANUAL.

CERTAIN WORDS AND PHRASES HAVE THE MEANINGS ESTABLISHED IN THE "**WORDS & PHRASES**" SECTION OF THIS PART OF THE MANUAL.

YOUTH CRIMINAL JUSTICE ACT - SECTION 36 (Finding of guilt)

In cases where a young person pleads guilty, the Crown Attorney in court at the time of the guilty plea(s) should request the court to conduct the Section 36 (finding of guilt) hearing at that time rather than having this determination adjourned to a later date. This will assist in establishing at the earliest time a pattern of findings of guilt. This can become significant in the case of a young person who is offending repeatedly, as it directly impacts on a court's ability to consider detention before sentencing for such an individual.