



Policy:

Perjury

Policy Code:

PER 1

Effective Date:

February 25, 2026

Cross-references:

[CHA 1](#)

Perjury arising in a prosecution

If, during the course of a BC Prosecution Service prosecution, a judge raises, or Crown Counsel becomes aware, that a witness may have committed perjury (section 131), Crown Counsel should consult a Regional Crown Counsel, Director, or their respective deputy about referring the matter to the police to consider whether to investigate.

Charge assessment

Administrative Crown Counsel or their designate should conduct the charge assessment of any Report to Crown Counsel that contains an allegation of perjury, and consult with a Regional Crown Counsel, Director, or their respective deputy, before concluding the charge assessment.

At charge assessment, Crown Counsel should consider these additional factors in deciding if the public interest requires a prosecution for perjury (*Charge Assessment Guidelines* ([CHA 1](#))):

- the outcome of the proceeding was materially affected by the alleged perjury
- the proceeding has completed
- avenues which would allow the allegation of perjury to be addressed within the confines of that litigation have been explored