

1967. No. 105

[C]

INQUESTS AND POST-MORTEM EXAMINATIONS

RULES, DATED 11TH MAY 1967, MADE BY THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS UNDER SECTION 36(1)(b) OF THE CORONERS ACT (NORTHERN IRELAND) 1959.

The Ministry of Home Affairs, in exercise of the powers conferred on it by Section 36(1)(b) of the Coroners Act (Northern Ireland) 1959(a) and after consultation with the Lord Chief Justice of Northern Ireland, hereby makes the following Rules:—

Citation and Commencement

1. These Rules may be cited as the Coroners (Practice and Procedure) Rules (Northern Ireland) 1967, and shall come into force on 1st June 1967.

2. The Coroners (Practice and Procedure) Rules (Northern Ireland) 1963(b) shall have effect as though—

(1) for Rule 26 there was substituted the following Rule:—

“26. If the deceased died in a hospital, the coroner shall not direct or request a pathologist on the staff of, or associated with that hospital to make a post-mortem examination if—

- (i) that pathologist does not desire to make the examination, or
- (ii) the conduct of any member of the hospital staff is likely to be called in question, or
- (iii) any relative of the deceased asks the coroner that the examination be not made by such a pathologist,

unless the obtaining of another pathologist with suitable qualifications and experience would cause the examination to be unduly delayed.”

(2) for Rule 38 there was substituted the following Rule:—

“38.—(1) A coroner may, on application and without charge, permit any person who, in the opinion of the coroner, is a properly interested person to inspect any report of a post-mortem examination, or any notes of evidence, or any document put in evidence at an inquest.

(2) The Ministry may, with the concurrence of the coroner, furnish to any properly interested person a copy of any report of a post-mortem examination, or of any notes of evidence or any document put in evidence at an inquest on payment of the following fees:—

Item	Fees	
	s.	d.
For a copy (including a copy made by photography or other similar process) of all or part of any report, notes of evidence, or any document put in evidence at an inquest—		
for each sheet		
(a) not over foolscap size	2	0
(b) over foolscap size	4	0

(a) 1959. c. 15.

(b) S.R. & O. (N.I.) 1963, No. 199.

(3) in Rule 37 the words "on application and" were deleted.

Sealed with the Official Seal of the Ministry of Home Affairs for Northern Ireland this 11th day of May 1967.

(L.S.)

J. G. Hill,
Assistant Secretary.

EXPLANATORY NOTE

(This note is not part of the Order, but is intended to indicate its general purport.)

These Rules clarify the position of hospital medical staff with regard to making post-mortem examinations, fix new fees for the supply of copies of reports which may be supplied by the Ministry and allow a coroner to supply, without application, an abstract of a post-mortem report to a deceased's regular medical attendant.