



# Criminal Procedure (Scotland) Act 1995

## 1995 CHAPTER 46

### PART XII

#### EVIDENCE

##### *Sufficient evidence*

#### **284 Evidence in relation to fingerprints.**

- (1) For the purpose of any criminal proceedings, a certificate purporting to be signed by [<sup>F1</sup>a person authorised in that behalf by a chief constable] and certifying that [<sup>F1</sup>relevant physical data (within the meaning of section 18(7A) of this Act) was taken from or provided by] a person designated in the certificate at a time, date and place specified therein shall, subject to subsection (2) below, be sufficient evidence of the facts contained in the certificate.
- [<sup>F2</sup>(2) A party proposing to rely on subsection (1) above (“the first party”) shall, not less than 14 days before the [<sup>F3</sup>relevant] diet, serve on any other party to the proceedings a copy of the certificate, and [<sup>F4</sup>, if that other party serves on the first party, not more than seven days after the date of service of the copy on him, a notice that he does not accept the evidence contained in the certificate, subsection (1) above shall not apply in relation to that evidence.]
- (2A) Where the first party does not serve a copy of the certificate on any other party as mentioned in subsection (2) above, he shall not be entitled to rely on subsection (1) above as respects that party.]
- [<sup>F5</sup>(2B) In subsection (2) above, “the relevant diet” means—
- (a) in the case of proceedings in the High Court, the preliminary hearing;
  - (b) in any other case, the trial diet.]

(3) A copy certificate or notice served in accordance with subsection (2) above shall be served in such manner as may be prescribed by Act of Adjournal; and a written execution purporting to be signed by the person who served the copy or notice together

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*Changes to legislation: Criminal Procedure (Scotland) Act 1995, Section 284 is up to date with all changes known to be in force on or before 21 April 2024. There are changes that may be brought into force at a future date. Changes that have been made appear in the content and are referenced with annotations. (See end of Document for details) View outstanding changes*

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with, where appropriate, the relevant post office receipt shall be sufficient evidence of such service.

#### Textual Amendments

- F1** Words in s. 284(1) substituted (1.8.1997) by 1997 c. 48, **s. 47(4)(a)(i)(ii)**; S.I. 1997/1712, art. 3, **Sch.** (subject to **arts. 4, 5**)
- F2** S. 284(2)(2A) substituted (1.8.1997) for s. 284(2) by 1997 c. 48, **s. 47(4)(b)**; S.I. 1997/1712, art. 3, **Sch.** (subject to **arts. 4, 5**)
- F3** Word in s. 284(2) substituted (1.2.2005) by Criminal Procedure (Amendment) (Scotland) Act 2004 (asp 5), **ss. 25, 27(1), Sch. para. 53(a)**; S.S.I. 2004/405, **art. 2(1)**, Sch. 1 (with savings in arts. 3-5)
- F4** Words in s. 284(2) substituted (27.6.2003) by Criminal Justice (Scotland) Act 2003 (asp 7), **ss. 54, 89** (with savings in S.S.I. 2003/287, art. 3); S.S.I. 2003/288, **art. 2**, Sch.
- F5** S. 284(2B) inserted (1.2.2005) by Criminal Procedure (Amendment) (Scotland) Act 2004 (asp 5), **ss. 25, 27(1), Sch. para. 53(b)**; S.S.I. 2004/405, **art. 2(1)**, Sch. 1 (with savings in arts. 3-5)

**Changes to legislation:**

Criminal Procedure (Scotland) Act 1995, Section 284 is up to date with all changes known to be in force on or before 21 April 2024. There are changes that may be brought into force at a future date. Changes that have been made appear in the content and are referenced with annotations.

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**Changes and effects yet to be applied to the whole Act associated Parts and Chapters:**

Whole provisions yet to be inserted into this Act (including any effects on those provisions):

- s. 5A inserted by [2010 asp 13 Sch. 7 para. 26](#)
- s. 13(1B)(1C) inserted by [2006 asp 10 s. 82\(2\)](#)
- s. 13(2)(aa) inserted by [2006 asp 10 s. 82\(3\)\(b\)](#)
- s. 13(3A) inserted by [2006 asp 10 s. 82\(4\)](#)
- s. 13(5)(ba) inserted by [2006 asp 10 s. 82\(5\)\(a\)](#)
- s. 13(6)(a)(iii) and word inserted by [2006 asp 10 s. 82\(6\)\(b\)](#)
- s. 13(8) inserted by [2006 asp 10 s. 82\(7\)](#)
- s. 22(5A) inserted by [2007 asp 6 s. 7\(2\)\(g\)](#)
- s. 22A(1A) inserted by [2023 asp 4 s. 1\(2\)](#)
- s. 23B(1)(1A) substituted for s. 23B(1) by [2023 asp 4 s. 2\(2\)\(a\)](#)
- s. 23B(6A) inserted by [2023 asp 4 s. 1\(3\)\(c\)](#)
- s. 23B(8)-(10) inserted by [2023 asp 4 s. 2\(2\)\(c\)](#)
- s. 23C(1A) inserted by [2023 asp 4 s. 2\(3\)\(b\)](#)
- s. 23C(3) inserted by [2023 asp 4 s. 2\(3\)\(c\)](#)
- s. 24(2C) inserted by [2023 asp 4 s. 4\(4\)](#)
- s. 24(2AA) inserted by [2023 asp 4 s. 4\(2\)](#)
- s. 73A inserted by [2004 asp 3 s. 2\(3\)](#)
- s. 167(7D)(7E) inserted by [2007 asp 17 sch. 4 para. 1\(3\)](#)
- s. 167(7D) words substituted by [2010 asp 13 Sch. 3 para. 16\(2\)](#)
- s. 167(7E) words substituted by [2010 asp 13 Sch. 3 para. 16\(3\)](#)
- s. 194ZA repealed by [2014 asp 18 sch. 3 para. 25](#)
- s. 200A inserted by [2016 asp 1 s. 85](#)
- s. 205A added by [1997 c. 48 s. 1\(1\)](#) (This amendment not applied to legislation.gov.uk. 1997 c. 48, s. 1 repealed (27.6.2003) without ever being in force by [2003 asp 7, s. 19\(3\)](#); S.S.I. 2003/288, art. 2, Sch.)
- s. 210ZA inserted by [2023 asp 4 s. 5](#)
- s. 249(4A)-(4D) inserted by [2014 asp 1 s. 24](#)
- s. 271D(4A) inserted by [2019 asp 8 s. 6\(4\)](#)
- s. 271F(2)(aa) inserted by [2019 asp 8 s. 10\(4\)](#)
- s. 271AA inserted by [2019 asp 8 s. 6\(2\)](#)
- s. 271BZD inserted by [2019 asp 8 s. 3\(2\)](#)
- s. 288AB288AC inserted by [2024 asp 1 s. 32\(3\)](#)
- Sch. 5A added by [1997 c. 48 s. 1\(2\)](#) (This amendment not applied to legislation.gov.uk. 1997 c. 48, s. 1 repealed (27.6.2003) without ever being in force by [2003 asp 7, s. 19\(3\)](#); S.S.I. 2003/288, art. 2, Sch.)