



Law Reform (Year and a Day Rule) Act 1996

1996 CHAPTER 19

2 Restriction on institution of proceedings for a fatal offence

- (1) Proceedings to which this section applies may only be instituted by or with the consent of the Attorney General.
- (2) This section applies to proceedings against a person for a fatal offence if—
 - (a) the injury alleged to have caused the death was sustained more than three years before the death occurred, or
 - (b) the person has previously been convicted of an offence committed in circumstances alleged to be connected with the death.
- (3) In subsection (2) “fatal offence” means—
 - (a) murder, manslaughter, infanticide or any other offence of which one of the elements is causing a person’s death, or
 - (b) the offence of aiding, abetting, counselling or procuring a person’s suicide.
- (4) No provision that proceedings may be instituted only by or with the consent of the Director of Public Prosecutions shall apply to proceedings to which this section applies.
- (5) In the application of this section to Northern Ireland—
 - (a) the reference in subsection (1) to the Attorney General is to the Attorney General for Northern Ireland, and
 - (b) the reference in subsection (4) to the Director of Public Prosecutions is to the Director of Public Prosecutions for Northern Ireland.