

*These notes refer to the Civil Partnership Act 2004 (c.33)
which received Royal Assent on 18th November 2004*

CIVIL PARTNERSHIP ACT 2004

EXPLANATORY NOTES

COMMENTARY ON SECTIONS

Part 4 – Civil Partnership: Northern Ireland

Introduction

Chapter 6 – Miscellaneous

Section 208: Evidence

405. *Subsection (1)* of this section contains a provision that enactments or rules of law applying to the giving of evidence by a spouse will apply also to the giving of evidence by a civil partner.
406. However, *subsection (2)* sets out that the general provision in *subsection (1)* is subject to any specific amendment made by or under the Civil Partnership Act which relates to the giving of evidence by a civil partner. This takes account of the fact that in some instances it is more appropriate to amend specific provisions in other enactments or rules.
407. *Subsection (5)* provides that any rule of law which makes evidence of family tradition admissible to prove or disprove the existence of a marriage is to apply in a similar way in order to prove or disprove the existence of a civil partnership.