
STATUTORY INSTRUMENTS

1998 No. 3132

The Civil Procedure Rules 1998

PART 33

MISCELLANEOUS RULES ABOUT EVIDENCE

Notice of intention to rely on hearsay evidence

33.2.—(1) Where a party intends to rely on hearsay evidence at trial and either—

- (a) that evidence is to be given by a witness giving oral evidence; or
- (b) that evidence is contained in a witness statement of a person who is not being called to give oral evidence;

that party complies with section 2(1)(a) of the Civil Evidence Act 1995⁽¹⁾ by serving a witness statement on the other parties in accordance with the court's order.

(2) Where paragraph (1)(b) applies, the party intending to rely on the hearsay evidence must, when he serves the witness statement—

- (a) inform the other parties that the witness is not being called to give oral evidence; and
- (b) give the reason why the witness will not be called.

(3) In all other cases where a party intends to rely on hearsay evidence at trial, that party complies with section 2(1)(a) of the Civil Evidence Act 1995 by serving a notice on the other parties which—

- (a) identifies the hearsay evidence;
- (b) states that the party serving the notice proposes to rely on the hearsay evidence at trial; and
- (c) gives the reason why the witness will not be called.

(4) The party proposing to rely on the hearsay evidence must—

- (a) serve the notice no later than the latest date for serving witness statements; and
- (b) if the hearsay evidence is to be in a document, supply a copy to any party who requests him to do so.

(1) 1995 c. 38. Section 2 provides that a party proposing to bring hearsay evidence must notify any other party of that fact and, on request, give particulars of or relating to the evidence.