
STATUTORY INSTRUMENTS

2004 No. 1500

The Criminal Justice (Northern Ireland) Order 2004

PART III

LIVE LINKS

Interpretation of Part III

15.—(1) In this Part—

“judge” includes, in relation to a magistrates' court, resident magistrate;

“Order Book” means the Order Book required to be kept under rule 19 of the [Magistrates' Courts Rules \(Northern Ireland\) 1984 \(SR 1984 No. 225\)](#);

“rules of court” means—

- (a) magistrates' court rules;
- (b) county court rules;
- (c) Crown Court rules; and
- (d) rules made under section 55 of the Judicature (Northern Ireland) Act [1978 \(c. 23\)](#);

“witness”, in relation to any criminal proceedings, means a person called or proposed to be called, to give evidence in the proceedings.

(2) In this Part “live link” means a live television link or other arrangement by which a witness, while at a place in the United Kingdom which is outside the building where the proceedings are being held, is able to see and hear a person at the place where the proceedings are being held and to be seen and heard by the following persons.

(3) They are—

- (a) the defendant or defendants;
- (b) the judge and the jury (if there is one);
- (c) legal representatives acting in the proceedings; and
- (d) any interpreter or other person appointed by the court to assist the witness.

(4) The extent (if any) to which a person is unable to see or hear by reason of any impairment of eyesight or hearing is to be disregarded for the purposes of paragraph (2).

(5) Nothing in this Part is to be regarded as affecting any power of a court—

- (a) to make an order, give directions or give leave of any description in relation to any witness (including the defendant or defendants); or
- (b) to exclude evidence at its discretion (whether by preventing questions being put or otherwise).