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STATUTORY RULES OF NORTHERN IRELAND

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**1997 No. 267 (C. 13)**

**CRIMINAL PROCEDURE**

**The Criminal Justice (1996 Order) (Commencement  
No. 1) Order (Northern Ireland) 1997**

*Made* - - - - *2nd June 1997*

In exercise of the powers conferred on me by Article 1(2) of the Criminal Justice (Northern Ireland) Order 1996<sup>(1)</sup>, I hereby make the following Order:—

**Citation**

**1.** This Order may be cited as the Criminal Justice (1996 Order) (Commencement No. 1) Order (Northern Ireland) 1997.

**Appointed day**

**2.** The following provisions of the Criminal Justice (Northern Ireland) Order 1996 shall come into operation on 25th July 1997:

- (a) Articles 1 and 2;
- (b) Article 33;
- (c) Article 35;
- (d) Articles 44, 45, 46 and 47;
- (e) Articles 53, 54, 55 and 56;
- (f) Article 57 to the extent that it relates to Articles 54(3)(c) and 56(3);
- (g) Article 58 to the extent that it activates the amendments, transitional provisions, savings and repeals mentioned in sub-paragraphs (h), (i) and (j);
- (h) In Schedule 5, paragraphs 1 and 18;
- (i) In Schedule 6, paragraph 1 so far as it relates to Article 33;
- (j) In Schedule 7, the repeal of parts of section 2 and section 3 of the Criminal Law Amendment Act 1885<sup>(2)</sup>; the repeal of Article 7 of the Criminal Justice (Northern Ireland)

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(1) S.I.1996/3160 (N.I. 24)  
(2) 1885 c. 69

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**Status:** This is the original version (as it was originally made). This item of legislation is currently only available in its original format.

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Order 1986(3); and the repeal of Articles 3(2)(ii), 4(4)(b), 5(2)(ii) and 6(2)(ii) of the Criminal Evidence (Northern Ireland) Order 1988(4).

Northern Ireland Office  
2nd June 1997

*Marjorie Mowlam*  
One of Her Majesty's Principal Secretaries of  
State

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(3) S.I. 1986/1883 (N.I. 15)  
(4) S.I. 1988/1987 (N.I. 20)

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## EXPLANATORY NOTE

*(This note is not part of the Order.)*

This Order brings into operation on 25th July 1997 the following provisions of the Criminal Justice (Northern Ireland) Order 1996:—

Articles 1 and 2 which introduce the Order;

Article 33 which provides for reduction in sentences for guilty pleas;

Article 35 which amends Article 47 of the Magistrates' Courts (Northern Ireland) Order 1981 (remands);

Article 44 which amends section 1(f) of the Criminal Evidence Act (Northern Ireland) 1923 (imputations on character);

Articles 45 and 46 which abolish corroboration requirements and amend Article 13(2) of the Criminal Justice (Evidence, Etc.) (Northern Ireland) Order 1988 and the Criminal Law Amendment Act 1885;

Article 47 which creates two new offences in relation to the intimidation or harming of witnesses, jurors or other persons assisting in criminal investigations, and reprisals against such persons;

Articles 53 and 54 which make provision in relation to the manufacture and sale of certain knives and other dangerous weapons;

Article 55 which makes arrestable without warrant the offence of having certain weapons on school premises;

Article 56 which makes provision for the Secretary of State to publish information for financial and other purposes.

The Order also brings into operation on that date all relevant transitional provisions, savings and repeals.