



Solicitors Act 1974

1974 CHAPTER 47

PART III

REMUNERATION OF SOLICITORS

Contentious business

65 Security for costs and termination of retainer.

- (1) A solicitor may take security from his client for his costs, to be ascertained by [^{F1}assessment] or otherwise, in respect of any contentious business to be done by him.
- (2) If a solicitor who has been retained by a client to conduct contentious business requests the client to make a payment of a sum of money, being a reasonable sum on account of the costs incurred or to be incurred in the conduct of that business and the client refuses or fails within a reasonable time to make that payment, the refusal or failure shall be deemed to be a good cause whereby the solicitor may, upon giving reasonable notice to the client, withdraw from the retainer.

Textual Amendments

- F1** Word in s. 65(1) substituted (1.1.2010) by [Legal Services Act 2007 \(c. 29\)](#), ss. 177, 211, [Sch. 16 para. 61](#) (with ss. 29, 192, 193); [S.I. 2009/3250](#), [art. 2\(f\)\(ii\)](#) (with art. 9)

Modifications etc. (not altering text)

- C1** [S. 65](#) extended (1.1.1992) by [Administration of Justice Act 1985 \(c. 61, SIF 34\)](#), s. 9, [Sch. 2 para. 22\(2\)](#); [S.I. 1991/2683](#), [art. 2](#)
- [S. 65](#) extended (22.5.2000) by [S.I. 2000/1119](#), regs. 1, 37(3), [Sch. 4 para. 7\(2\)](#)
- C2** [Ss. 64-67](#) applied (with modifications) (23.12.2011) by [The Legal Services Act 2007 \(Designation as a Licensing Authority\) \(No. 2\) Order 2011 \(S.I. 2011/2866\)](#), art. 1(2), [Sch. 1 paras. 1, 3, 5](#)

Changes to legislation:

There are currently no known outstanding effects for the Solicitors Act 1974, Section 65.