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STATUTORY INSTRUMENTS

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**2003 No. 421**

**The Crown Court (Confiscation,  
Restraint and Receivership) Rules 2003**

**PART III**

RESTRAINT PROCEEDINGS

**Application for restraint order**

**16.**—(1) This rule applies where the prosecutor, the Director or an accredited financial investigator makes an application for a restraint order under section 42 of the Act.

- (2) The application may be made without notice.
- (3) The application must be in writing and supported by a witness statement which must—
  - (a) give the grounds for the application;
  - (b) to the best of the witness's ability, give full details of the realisable property in respect of which the applicant is seeking the order and specify the person holding that realisable property;
  - (c) give the grounds for, and full details of, any application for an ancillary order under section 41(7) of the Act for the purposes of ensuring that the restraint order is effective; and
  - (d) where the application is made by an accredited financial investigator, include a statement that he has been authorised to make the application under section 68 of the Act.

**Restraint orders**

**17.**—(1) The Crown Court may make a restraint order subject to exceptions, including, but not limited to, exceptions for reasonable living expenses and reasonable legal expenses, and for the purpose of enabling any person to carry on any trade, business or occupation.

(2) But the Crown Court must not make an exception for legal expenses where this is prohibited by section 41(4) of the Act.

(3) An exception to a restraint order may be made subject to conditions.

(4) The Crown Court must not require the applicant for a restraint order to give any undertaking relating to damages sustained as a result of the restraint order by a person who is prohibited from dealing with realisable property by the restraint order.

(5) The Crown Court may require the applicant for a restraint order to give an undertaking to pay the reasonable expenses of any person, other than a person who is prohibited from dealing with realisable property by the restraint order, which are incurred in complying with the restraint order.

(6) A restraint order must include a statement that disobedience of the order, either by a person to whom the order is addressed, or by another person, may be contempt of court and the order must include details of the possible consequences of being held in contempt of court.

(7) Unless the Crown Court directs otherwise, a restraint order made without notice has effect until the court makes an order varying or discharging the restraint order.

(8) The applicant for a restraint order must—

- (a) serve copies of the restraint order and of the witness statement made in support of the application on the defendant and any person who is prohibited from dealing with realisable property by the restraint order; and
- (b) notify any person whom the applicant knows to be affected by the restraint order of the terms of the restraint order.

#### **Application for discharge or variation of restraint order by person affected by order**

**18.**—(1) This rule applies where a person affected by a restraint order makes an application to the Crown Court under section 42(3) of the Act to discharge or vary the restraint order or any ancillary order made under section 41(7) of the Act.

(2) The application must be in writing and may be supported by a witness statement.

(3) The application and any witness statement must be lodged with the Crown Court.

(4) The application and any witness statement must be served on the person who applied for the restraint order and any person who is prohibited from dealing with realisable property by the restraint order (if he is not the person making the application) at least 2 days before the date fixed by the court for hearing the application, unless the Crown Court specifies a shorter period.

#### **Application for variation of restraint order by the person who applied for the order**

**19.**—(1) This rule applies where the applicant for a restraint order makes an application under section 42(3) of the Act to the Crown Court to vary the restraint order or any ancillary order made under section 41(7) of the Act (including where the court has already made a restraint order and the applicant is seeking to vary the order in order to restrain further realisable property).

(2) The application may be made without notice if the application is urgent or if there are reasonable grounds for believing that giving notice would cause the dissipation of realisable property which is the subject of the application.

(3) The application must be in writing and must be supported by a witness statement which must—

- (a) give the grounds for the application;
- (b) where the application is for the inclusion of further realisable property in the order give full details, to the best of the witness's ability, of the realisable property in respect of which the applicant is seeking the order and specify the person holding that realisable property; and
- (c) where the application is made by an accredited financial investigator, include a statement that he has been authorised to make the application under section 68 of the Act.

(4) The application and witness statement must be lodged with the Crown Court.

(5) Except where, under paragraph (2), notice of the application is not required to be served, the application and witness statement must be served on any person who is prohibited from dealing with realisable property by the restraint order at least 2 days before the date fixed by the court for hearing the application, unless the Crown Court specifies a shorter period.

(6) If the court makes an order for the variation of a restraint order, the applicant must serve copies of the order and of the witness statement made in support of the application on—

- (a) the defendant;
- (b) any person who is prohibited from dealing with realisable property by the restraint order (whether before or after the variation); and

- (c) any other person whom the applicant knows to be affected by the order.

**Application for discharge of a restraint order by the person who applied for the order**

**20.**—(1) This rule applies where the applicant for a restraint order makes an application under section 42(3) of the Act to discharge the order or any ancillary order made under section 41(7) of the Act.

(2) The application may be made without notice.

(3) The application must be in writing and must state the grounds for the application.

(4) If the court makes an order for the discharge of a restraint order, the applicant must serve copies of the order on—

- (a) the defendant;
- (b) any person who is prohibited from dealing with realisable property by the restraint order (whether before or after the discharge); and
- (c) any other person whom the applicant knows to be affected by the order.