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STATUTORY INSTRUMENTS

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**1989 No. 1341**

**The Police and Criminal Evidence  
(Northern Ireland) Order 1989**

**PART IX**

**EVIDENCE IN CRIMINAL PROCEEDINGS—GENERAL**

*Convictions and acquittals*

**Provisions supplementary to Article 72**

**73.**—(1) Where evidence that a person has been convicted of an offence is admissible by virtue of Article 72, then without prejudice to the reception of any other admissible evidence for the purpose of identifying the facts on which the conviction was based—

(a) the contents of any document which is admissible as evidence of the conviction; and

[<sup>F1</sup>(b) the contents of the complaint, indictment or charge-sheet on which the person in question was convicted,]

shall be admissible in evidence for that purpose.

(2) Where in any criminal proceedings the contents of any document are admissible in evidence by virtue of paragraph (1), a copy of that document, or of the material part of it, purporting to be certified or otherwise authenticated by or on behalf of the court or authority having custody of that document shall be admissible in evidence and shall be taken to be a true copy of that document or part unless the contrary is shown.

(3) Nothing in any of the following—

*Sub#para. (a) rep. by 1996 NI 24*

[<sup>F2</sup>(aa) section 187 of the Armed Forces Act 2006 (which makes similar provision in respect of service convictions);]

(b) section 13 of the Powers of Criminal Courts Act 1973<sup>F3</sup> (which makes provision similar to section 8 of that Act of 1950); and

(c) section 392 of the Criminal Procedure (Scotland) Act 1975<sup>F4</sup> (which makes similar provision in respect of convictions on indictment in Scotland);

shall affect the operation of Article 72; and for the purposes of that Article any order made by a court of summary jurisdiction in Scotland under section 182 or 183 of the said Act of 1975 shall be treated as a conviction.

(4) Nothing in Article 72 shall be construed as rendering admissible in any criminal proceedings evidence of any conviction other than a subsisting one.

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**F1** [Art. 73\(1\)\(b\)](#) substituted (31.12.2020) by [The Criminal Justice \(Amendment etc.\) \(EU Exit\) Regulations 2019 \(S.I. 2019/780\)](#), regs. 1(1), **28(4)** (with reg. 31) (as amended by [S.I. 2020/1520](#), regs. 1(1), 7); 2020 c. 1, Sch. 5 para. 1(1)

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**Changes to legislation:** *The Police and Criminal Evidence (Northern Ireland) Order 1989, Section 73 is up to date with all changes known to be in force on or before 18 April 2024. There are changes that may be brought into force at a future date. Changes that have been made appear in the content and are referenced with annotations. (See end of Document for details) View outstanding changes*

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- F2** Art. 73(3)(aa) inserted (28.3.2009 for certain purposes otherwise 31.10.2009) by [Armed Forces Act 2006](#) (c. 52), ss. 378(1), 383(2), **Sch. 16 para. 120**; S.I. 2009/812, **art. 3(a)(b)** (with transitional provisions in S.I. 2009/1059); S.I. 2009/1167, **art. 4**
- F3** 1973 c. 62
- F4** 1975 c. 21

**Changes to legislation:**

The Police and Criminal Evidence (Northern Ireland) Order 1989, Section 73 is up to date with all changes known to be in force on or before 18 April 2024. There are changes that may be brought into force at a future date. Changes that have been made appear in the content and are referenced with annotations.

[View outstanding changes](#)

**Changes and effects yet to be applied to :**

- various legislation applied by [2016 c. 18 \(N.I.\) s. 161\(2\)\(a\)](#)

**Changes and effects yet to be applied to the whole Order associated Parts and Chapters:**

- Order applied by [2016 c. 18 \(N.I.\) s. 150\(1\)\(a\)](#)
- Order excluded by [2012 c. 9 Sch. 1 para. 7\(5\)](#)
- Order extended by [2003 c. 6 Sch. 4 para. 23A \(as inserted\) by S.I. 2007/912 \(N.I.\) Sch. 4 para. 5](#)

**Whole provisions yet to be inserted into this Order (including any effects on those provisions):**

- [Sch. 2A para. 1\(4\) inserted by 2015 c. 9 \(N.I.\) s. 83\(3\)\(a\)\(ii\)](#)
- [Sch. 2A para. 2\(2\)\(c\) and word inserted by 2015 c. 9 \(N.I.\) s. 83\(3\)\(b\)\(ii\)](#)
- [Sch. 2A para. 9\(4\) inserted by 2015 c. 9 \(N.I.\) s. 83\(3\)\(c\)\(ii\)](#)
- [Sch. 2A para. 10\(5\) inserted by 2015 c. 9 \(N.I.\) s. 83\(3\)\(d\)\(ii\)](#)
- [Sch. 2A para. 2\(2\)\(b\) words substituted by 2015 c. 9 \(N.I.\) s. 83\(3\)\(b\)\(i\)](#)
- [art. 62\(10\)\(ab\) words substituted in earlier affecting provision 2015 c. 9 \(N.I.\), Sch. 2 para. 6\(3\)\(b\) by 2022 c. 4 \(N.I.\) s. 4\(9\)\(e\)](#)
- [art. 3\(9ZA\)\(9ZB\) inserted by 2019 c. 17 s. 12\(5\)](#)
- [art. 19\(1\)\(cc\) inserted by S.I. 2007/916 \(N.I.\) art. 18\(2\)](#)
- [art. 53\(3A\)\(3B\) inserted by 2013 c. 7 \(N.I.\) Sch. 3 para. 1\(3\)](#)
- [art. 53\(3A\) inserted by 2010 c. 17 s. 15\(4\)](#)
- [art. 53\(4\) inserted by 2010 c. 17 s. 9\(6\)](#)
- [art. 53B inserted by 2013 c. 7 \(N.I.\) Sch. 3 para. 3](#)
- [art. 56\(13A\)\(b\)\(iii\) and word substituted for word by 2015 c. 9 \(N.I.\) Sch. 2 para. 6\(1\)\(b\)](#)
- [art. 56\(13A\)\(b\)\(iii\) words substituted in earlier affecting provision 2015 c. 9 \(N.I.\), Sch. 2 para. 6\(1\)\(b\) by 2022 c. 4 \(N.I.\) s. 4\(9\)\(e\)](#)
- [art. 56A\(9\)\(b\)\(iii\) and word substituted for word by 2015 c. 9 \(N.I.\) Sch. 2 para. 6\(2\)\(b\)](#)
- [art. 56A\(9\)\(b\)\(iii\) words substituted in earlier affecting provision 2015 c. 9 \(N.I.\), Sch. 2 para. 6\(2\)\(b\) by 2022 c. 4 \(N.I.\) s. 4\(9\)\(e\)](#)
- [art. 61\(5A\) inserted by 2010 c. 17 s. 8\(1\)](#)
- [art. 61\(5A\)\(b\) words substituted by 2015 c. 9 \(N.I.\) s. 83\(1\)\(a\)](#)
- [art. 61\(5B\) inserted by 2010 c. 17 s. 8\(2\)](#)
- [art. 61\(5B\)\(b\) words substituted by 2015 c. 9 \(N.I.\) s. 83\(1\)\(a\)](#)
- [art. 61\(5C\) inserted by 2015 c. 9 \(N.I.\) s. 83\(1\)\(b\)](#)
- [art. 61\(6\)-\(6ZD\) substituted for art. 61\(6\) by 2010 c. 17 s. 8\(3\)](#)
- [art. 61\(6D\)-\(6G\) inserted by 2010 c. 17 s. 9\(1\)](#)
- [art. 61\(6BA\) inserted by 2008 c. 28 s. 12\(2\) \(This amendment not applied to legislation.gov.uk. S. 12 omitted \(14.12.2011\) by virtue of 2011 c. 23, ss. 29, 31\(2\), Sch. 7 para. 5\(3\)\)](#)
- [art. 62\(2A\)\(2B\) inserted by 2010 c. 17 s. 9\(2\)](#)
- [art. 62\(10\)\(ab\) inserted by 2015 c. 9 \(N.I.\) Sch. 2 para. 6\(3\)\(b\)](#)
- [art. 62\(10\)\(ab\) words substituted in earlier affecting provision 2015 c. 9 \(N.I.\), Sch. 2 para. 6\(3\)\(b\) by 2022 c. 4 \(N.I.\) s. 4\(9\)\(e\)](#)
- [art. 63\(3A\)\(c\)\(i\) word substituted by 2013 c. 7 \(N.I.\) Sch. 3 para. 4](#)
- [art. 63\(3B\)-\(3BD\) substituted for art. 63\(3B\) by 2010 c. 17 s. 8\(7\)](#)

- art. 63(3C) inserted by [2008 c. 28 s. 12\(3\)](#) (This amendment not applied to legislation.gov.uk. S. 12 omitted (14.12.2011) by virtue of 2011 c. 23, ss. 29, 31(2), Sch. 7 para. 5(3))
- art. 63(3D)-(3G) inserted by [2010 c. 17 s. 9\(4\)](#)
- art. 63(3AA) inserted by [2015 c. 9 \(N.I.\) s. 83\(2\)\(c\)](#)
- art. 63(3ZA) inserted by [2010 c. 17 s. 8\(5\)](#)
- art. 63(3ZA)(b)(iii) and word inserted by [2015 c. 9 \(N.I.\) s. 83\(2\)\(a\)](#)
- art. 63A(1E)(1F) inserted by [2010 c. 17 s. 11\(1\)](#)
- art. 63A(6A) inserted by [2008 c. 28 s. 12\(4\)\(b\)](#) (This amendment not applied to legislation.gov.uk. S. 12 omitted (14.12.2011) by virtue of 2011 c. 23, ss. 29, 31(2), Sch. 7 para. 5(3))
- art. 63B-63R inserted by [2013 c. 7 \(N.I.\) Sch. 2](#)
- art. 63D(1)(a) substituted by [2019 c. 3 Sch. 2 para. 5\(2\)\(a\)](#)
- art. 63D(1)(a)(i) words inserted by [S.I. 2023/1386 Sch. para. 9\(5\)\(a\)](#) (This amendment not applied to legislation.gov.uk. The insertions of ss. 63D and 63DA by 2013 c. 7 (N.I.), Sch. 2 and 2019 c. 3, Sch. 2 para. 5 respectively are still prospective)
- art. 63D(14) words inserted by [2019 c. 3 Sch. 2 para. 5\(2\)\(b\)](#)
- art. 63D(14) words inserted by [S.I. 2023/1386 Sch. para. 9\(5\)\(b\)](#) (This amendment not applied to legislation.gov.uk. The insertions of ss. 63D and 63DA by 2013 c. 7 (N.I.), Sch. 2 and 2019 c. 3, Sch. 2 para. 5 respectively are still prospective)
- art. 63N substituted by [2015 c. 9 \(N.I.\) s. 86](#)
- art. 63R(4A) inserted by [2019 c. 3 Sch. 4 para. 20\(9\)](#)
- art. 63R(4B) inserted by [2023 c. 32 Sch. 18 para. 5\(8\)](#) (This amendment not applied to legislation.gov.uk. The insertion of art. 63R by 2013 c. 7 (N.I.) Sch. 2 remains prospective at 31.12.2023.)
- art. 63R(5) words substituted by [2015 c. 9 \(N.I.\) s. 87\(a\)](#)
- art. 63R(5A)(5B) inserted by [2015 c. 9 \(N.I.\) s. 87\(b\)](#)
- art. 63DA inserted by [2019 c. 3 Sch. 2 para. 5\(3\)](#)
- art. 63DA heading words inserted by [S.I. 2023/1386 Sch. para. 9\(6\)\(a\)](#) (This amendment not applied to legislation.gov.uk. The insertions of ss. 63D and 63DA by 2013 c. 7 (N.I.), Sch. 2 and 2019 c. 3, Sch. 2 para. 5 respectively are still prospective)
- art. 63DA(1)(a) words inserted by [S.I. 2023/1386 Sch. para. 9\(6\)\(b\)](#) (This amendment not applied to legislation.gov.uk. The insertions of ss. 63D and 63DA by 2013 c. 7 (N.I.), Sch. 2 and 2019 c. 3, Sch. 2 para. 5 respectively are still prospective)
- art. 63DA(4) words inserted by [S.I. 2023/1386 Sch. para. 9\(6\)\(c\)](#) (This amendment not applied to legislation.gov.uk. The insertions of ss. 63D and 63DA by 2013 c. 7 (N.I.), Sch. 2 and 2019 c. 3, Sch. 2 para. 5 respectively are still prospective)
- art. 63GA inserted by [2015 c. 9 \(N.I.\) s. 84](#)
- art. 63KA inserted by [2015 c. 9 \(N.I.\) s. 85](#)
- art. 64(1AA) inserted by [2008 c. 28 s. 12\(5\)](#) (This amendment not applied to legislation.gov.uk. S. 12 omitted (14.12.2011) by virtue of 2011 c. 23, ss. 29, 31(2), Sch. 7 para. 5(3))
- art. 64(1AB) inserted by [2008 c. 28 s. 15\(5\)](#)
- art. 89(2A) inserted by [2013 c. 7 \(N.I.\) Sch. 3 para. 5](#)