STATUTORY INSTRUMENTS

2004 No. 1501

The Criminal Justice (Evidence) (Northern Ireland) Order 2004

PART III

HEARSAY EVIDENCE

General

Rules of court

35.—(1) Rules of court may make such provision as appears to the appropriate authority to be necessary or expedient for the purposes of this Part; and the appropriate authority is the authority entitled to make the rules.

(2) The rules may make provision about the procedure to be followed and other conditions to be fulfilled by a party proposing to tender a statement in evidence under any provision of this Part.

(3) The rules may require a party proposing to tender the evidence to serve on each party to the proceedings such notice, and such particulars of or relating to the evidence, as may be prescribed.

(4) The rules may provide that the evidence is to be treated as admissible by agreement of the parties if—

- (a) a notice has been served in accordance with provision made under paragraph (3), and
- (b) no counter-notice in the prescribed form objecting to the admission of the evidence has been served by a party.

(5) If a party proposing to tender evidence fails to comply with a prescribed requirement applicable to it—

- (a) the evidence is not admissible except with the court's leave;
- (b) where leave is given the court or jury may draw such inferences from the failure as appear proper;
- (c) the failure may be taken into account by the court in considering the exercise of its powers with respect to costs.

(6) In considering whether or how to exercise any of its powers under paragraph (5) the court shall have regard to whether there is any justification for the failure to comply with the requirement.

(7) A person shall not be convicted of an offence solely on an inference drawn under paragraph (5) (b).

(8) Nothing in this Article prejudices the generality of any statutory provision conferring power to make rules of court; and no particular provision of this Article prejudices any general provision of it.

(9) In this Article—

"prescribed" means prescribed by rules of court;

"rules of court" means-

(a) Crown Court rules;

- (b) rules of court made under section 55 of the Judicature (Northern Ireland) Act 1978 (c. 23);
- (c) county court rules; and
- (d) magistrates' courts rules.

Changes to legislation: There are currently no known outstanding effects for the The Criminal Justice (Evidence) (Northern Ireland) Order 2004, Section 35.