



County Courts Act 1984

1984 CHAPTER 28

PART III

PROCEDURE

Right of audience

61 Right of audience by direction of Lord Chancellor.

- (1) The Lord Chancellor may [^{F1}, with the concurrence of the Lord Chief Justice,] at any time direct that such categories of persons in relevant legal employment as may be specified in the direction may address the court in any proceedings in [^{F2}the county court] , or in proceedings in [^{F2}the county court] of such description as may be so specified.
 - (2) In subsection (1), “relevant legal employment” means employment which consists of or includes giving assistance in the conduct of litigation to a [^{F3}legal representative] whether in private practice or not.
 - (3) A direction under this section may be given subject to such conditions and restrictions as appear to the Lord Chancellor to be necessary or expedient, and may be expressed to have effect as respects [^{F4} every place where the county court sits or] as respects one or more specified places where [^{F2}the county court] sits.
- [^{F5}(3A) Subsections (1) to (3) apply in relation to the family court as they apply in relation to the county court.]
- (4) The power to give directions conferred by this section includes a power to vary or rescind any direction given under this section.
 - [^{F6}(5) The Lord Chief Justice may nominate a judicial office holder (as defined in section 109(4) of the Constitutional Reform Act 2005) to exercise his functions under this section.]

Changes to legislation: County Courts Act 1984, Section 61 is up to date with all changes known to be in force on or before 01 March 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

Textual Amendments

- F1** Words in s. 61(1) inserted (3.4.2006) by [Constitutional Reform Act 2005 \(c. 4\)](#), ss. 15(1), 148(1), [Sch. 4 para. 168\(2\)](#); S.I. 2006/1014, [art. 2\(a\)](#), Sch. 1 para. 11(r)
- F2** Words in ss. 36-147 substituted (22.4.2014) by [Crime and Courts Act 2013 \(c. 22\)](#), s. 61(3), [Sch. 9 para. 10\(1\)\(b\)](#); S.I. 2014/954, [art. 2\(c\)](#) (with [art. 3](#)) (with transitional provisions and savings in S.I. 2014/956, arts. 3-11)
- F3** Words in s. 61(2) substituted (1.4.1991) by [Courts and Legal Services Act 1990 \(c. 41, SIF 37\)](#), s. 125(3), [Sch. 18 para. 49\(2\)](#); S.I. 1991/608, [art. 2](#), [Sch.](#)
- F4** Words in s. 61(3) substituted (22.4.2014) by [Crime and Courts Act 2013 \(c. 22\)](#), s. 61(3), [Sch. 9 para. 10\(18\)](#); S.I. 2014/954, [art. 2\(c\)](#) (with [art. 3](#)) (with transitional provisions and savings in S.I. 2014/956, arts. 3-11)
- F5** S. 61(3A) inserted (22.4.2014) by [Crime and Courts Act 2013 \(c. 22\)](#), s. 61(3), [Sch. 10 para. 69](#); S.I. 2014/954, [art. 2\(d\)](#) (with [art. 3](#)) (with transitional provisions and savings in S.I. 2014/956, arts. 3-11)
- F6** S. 61(5) inserted (3.4.2006) by [Constitutional Reform Act 2005 \(c. 4\)](#), ss. 15(1), 148(1), [Sch. 4 para. 168\(3\)](#); S.I. 2006/1014, [art. 2\(a\)](#), Sch. 1 para. 11(r)

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

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

- Pt. 6A inserted by [2007 c. 15 s. 107\(1\)](#) (This affecting provision is amended (22.4.2014) by [2013 c. 22, Sch. 9 paras. 10\(53\), 48](#); [S.I. 2014/954, art. 2\(c\)](#))
- s. 60A inserted by [2007 c. 29 s. 191](#)
- s. 60A(2) words substituted by [2013 c. 22 Sch. 9 para. 10\(17\)](#) (Effect not applied as s. 60A has not been brought into force)
- s. 60A(3)(b) words substituted by [S.I. 2022/1166 reg. 10\(2\)\(a\)\(ii\)](#) (This amendment comes into force immediately after [2007 c. 29, s. 191\(1\)](#) comes into force)
- s. 60A(3)(aa) inserted by [S.I. 2022/1166 reg. 10\(2\)\(a\)\(i\)](#) (This amendment comes into force immediately after [2007 c. 29, s. 191\(1\)](#) comes into force)
- s. 60A(3)(bb) inserted by [S.I. 2022/1166 reg. 10\(2\)\(a\)\(iii\)](#) (This amendment comes into force immediately after [2007 c. 29, s. 191\(1\)](#) comes into force)
- s. 60A(3)(cc) inserted by [S.I. 2022/1166 reg. 10\(2\)\(a\)\(iv\)](#) (This amendment comes into force immediately after [2007 c. 29, s. 191\(1\)](#) comes into force)
- s. 60A(7) words inserted by [S.I. 2022/1166 reg. 10\(2\)\(b\)](#) (This amendment comes into force immediately after [2007 c. 29, s. 191\(1\)](#) comes into force)
- s. 60A(7) words substituted by [S.I. 2010/844 Sch. 2 para. 2](#) (Effect not applied as s. 60A has not been brought into force)
- s. 112A112B inserted by [1990 c. 41 s. 13\(5\)](#)