



Investigatory Powers Act 2016

2016 CHAPTER 25

PART 6

BULK WARRANTS

CHAPTER 3

BULK EQUIPMENT INTERFERENCE WARRANTS

Restrictions on use or disclosure of material obtained under warrants etc.

196 Offence of breaching safeguards relating to examination of material

- (1) A person commits an offence if—
 - (a) the person selects for examination any material obtained under a bulk equipment interference warrant,
 - (b) the person knows or believes that the selection of that material does not comply with a requirement imposed by section 193 or 194, and
 - (c) the person deliberately selects that material in breach of that requirement.
- (2) A person guilty of an offence under this section is liable—
 - (a) on summary conviction in England and Wales—
 - (i) to imprisonment for a term not exceeding 12 months (or 6 months, if the offence was committed before the commencement of section 154(1) of the Criminal Justice Act 2003), or
 - (ii) to a fine,or to both;
 - (b) on summary conviction in Scotland—
 - (i) to imprisonment for a term not exceeding 12 months, or
 - (ii) to a fine not exceeding the statutory maximum,or to both;

Status: This is the original version (as it was originally enacted).

- (c) on summary conviction in Northern Ireland—
 - (i) to imprisonment for a term not exceeding 6 months, or
 - (ii) to a fine not exceeding the statutory maximum,or to both;
 - (d) on conviction on indictment, to imprisonment for a term not exceeding 2 years or to a fine, or to both.
- (3) No proceedings for any offence which is an offence by virtue of this section may be instituted—
- (a) in England and Wales, except by or with the consent of the Director of Public Prosecutions;
 - (b) in Northern Ireland, except by or with the consent of the Director of Public Prosecutions for Northern Ireland.