
STATUTORY RULES OF NORTHERN IRELAND

1996 No. 322

The Family Proceedings Rules (Northern Ireland) 1996

Part IV

Children (Northern Ireland) Order 1995

Documentary evidence

4.18.—(1) Subject to paragraphs (4) and (5), in proceedings to which this Part applies a party shall file and serve on the parties, any welfare officer and any guardian ad litem of whose appointment he has been given notice under rule 4.11(5)—

- (a) written statements of the substance of the oral evidence which the party intends to adduce at a hearing of, or a directions appointment in, those proceedings, which shall—
 - (i) be dated,
 - (ii) be signed by the person making the statement,
 - (iii) contain a declaration that the maker of the statement believes it to be true and understands that it may be placed before the court; and
 - (iv) show in the top right-hand corner of the first page—
 - (a) the initials and surname of the person making the statement,
 - (b) the number of the statement in relation to the maker,
 - (c) the date on which the statement was made, and
 - (d) the party on whose behalf it is filed; and
- (b) copies of any documents, including experts' reports, upon which the party intends to rely at a hearing of, or a directions appointment in, those proceedings,

at or by such time as the court directs or, in the absence of a direction, before the hearing or appointment.

(2) A party may, subject to any direction of the court about the timing of statements under this rule, file and serve on the parties a statement which is supplementary to a statement served under paragraph (1).

- (3) At a hearing or a directions appointment a party may not, without the leave of the court—
- (a) adduce evidence, or
 - (b) seek to rely on a document,

in respect of which he has failed to comply with the requirements of paragraph (1).

- (4) In proceedings for an Article 8 order a party shall—
- (a) neither file nor serve any document other than as required or authorised by these rules, and
 - (b) in completing a form prescribed by these rules, neither give information, nor make a statement, which is not required or authorised by that form,

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without the leave of the court.

(5) In proceedings for an Article 8 order no statement or copy may be filed under paragraph (1) until such time as the court directs.