

2007 No. 398

MAGISTRATES' COURTS

**The Magistrates' Courts (Domestic Proceedings) (Amendment)
Rules (Northern Ireland) 2007**

Made - - - - - *12th September 2007*

Coming into operation - - - - - *22nd October 2007*

The Magistrates' Courts Rules Committee makes the following Rules in exercise of the powers conferred by Article 13 of the Magistrates' Courts (Northern Ireland) Order 1981(a) after consultation with the Lord Chancellor and with the agreement of the Lord Chief Justice.

Citation and commencement

1. These Rules may be cited as the Magistrates' Courts (Domestic Proceedings) (Amendment) Rules (Northern Ireland) 2007 and shall come into operation on 22nd October 2007.

Amendment to the Magistrates' Courts (Domestic Proceedings) Rules (Northern Ireland) 1996(b)

2. After rule 15 insert—

“Evidence by video link or other method

15A. The court may allow a witness to give evidence through a video link or by any other method of direct communication.”

*George Conner
John P.B. Maxwell
Mandy Kilpatrick
Nigel Broderick
Robin Steer*

Dated 12th September 2007

(a) S.I.1981/1675 (N.I. 26) to which the most recent relevant amendments were made by paragraph 65 of Schedule 5 to the Constitutional Reform Act 2005 (c.4).
(b) S.R.1996 No. 324 to which the most recent amendments were made by S.R. 2005 No. 559.

EXPLANATORY NOTE

(This note is not part of the Rules)

These Rules amend the Magistrates' Courts (Domestic Proceedings) Rules (Northern Ireland) 1996 (S.R. 1996 No. 324) to enable the court to allow a witness to give evidence through a video link or by any other method of direct communication.

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