

1969. No. 305

[C]

LEGAL AID

Extension of Proceedings

REGULATIONS*, DATED 1ST OCTOBER 1969, MADE BY THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS UNDER SECTIONS 1 AND 14 OF THE LEGAL AID AND ADVICE ACT (NORTHERN IRELAND) 1965.

The Ministry of Home Affairs in exercise of the powers conferred by sections 1 and 14 of the Legal Aid and Advice Act (Northern Ireland) 1965(a) (hereinafter referred to as "the Act") and all other powers thereunto enabling hereby makes the following Regulations:—

Citation and commencement

1. These Regulations may be cited as the Legal Aid (Extension of Proceedings) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 1969 and shall come into operation on 1st December 1969.

Proceedings partly in respect of defamation

2. Notwithstanding anything in paragraph 2 of Part II of Schedule 1 to the Act, the making of a counter-claim for defamation in proceedings for which legal aid may be given shall not of itself affect any right of a defendant to the counter-claim to legal aid in the proceedings and legal aid may be granted to enable him to defend such counter-claim.

Additional summary proceedings for which aid may be granted

3. The proceedings in a court of summary jurisdiction for which legal aid may be given shall, in addition to those referred to in paragraph 3 of Part I of Schedule 1 to the Act, include proceedings under section 11 of the Welfare Services Act (Northern Ireland) 1949(b), section 22 of the Maintenance Orders Act 1950(c), section 24 of the Supplementary Benefits &c. Act (Northern Ireland) 1966(d), section 13 of the Maintenance and Affiliation Orders Act (Northern Ireland) 1966(e) and section 106 of the Children and Young Persons Act (Northern Ireland) 1968(f).

Sealed with the Official Seal of the Ministry of Home Affairs for Northern Ireland this 1st day of October 1969.

(L.S.)

W. G. Robinson,
Assistant Secretary.

(a) 1965. c. 8 (N.I.).
(b) 1949. c. 1.
(c) 14 Geo. 6. c. 37.

(d) 1966. c. 28 (N.I.).
(e) 1966. c. 35 (N.I.).
(f) 1968. c. 34 (N.I.).

*These Regulations were affirmed by a Resolution of each House of Parliament on the 18th November 1969.

EXPLANATORY NOTE

(This note is not part of the Regulations but is intended to indicate their general purport.)

These Regulations make legal aid available in the High Court and County Court where one party alleges defamation by way of counter-claim for damages in proceedings for which legal aid has hitherto been available apart from certain restrictions under the Legal Aid Act (Northern Ireland) 1965.

Legal aid is also made available under these regulations to the following proceedings before Courts of Summary Jurisdiction; namely, proceedings by a welfare authority or the Supplementary Benefits Commission for failure to maintain a relative; proceedings to vary a maintenance order registered in such a court and made by another court in the United Kingdom or made in the High Court in Northern Ireland, and for the discharge of an order vesting parental rights over a child in a welfare authority.