

Administration of Justice Act 1977

1977 CHAPTER 38

PART II

ENGLAND AND WALES

Circuit judges and county courts

16 Right of audience in county courts

The following section shall be inserted after section 89 of the County Courts Act 1959:

"89A Right of audience by direction of Lord Chancellor.

- (1) The Lord Chancellor may 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 a county court, or in proceedings in a county court of such description as may be so specified.
- (2) In subsection (1) above, "relevant legal employment "means employment which consists of or includes giving assistance in the conduct of litigation to a solicitor 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 every county court or as respects a specified county court or as respects one or more specified places where a county court sits.
- (4) It is hereby declared that the power to give directions conferred by the section includes a power to vary or rescind any direction given under this section.".