



Judicature (Northern Ireland) Act 1978

1978 CHAPTER 23

PART IV

THE CROWN COURT

^{F1}51G Punishment for disobedience to witness summons.

- (1) Any person who without just excuse—
 - (a) disobeys a witness summons requiring him to attend before the Crown Court;
or
 - (b) disobeys a requirement made by the Crown Court under section 51B,shall be guilty of contempt of that court and may be punished summarily by that court as if his contempt were in the face of the court.
- (2) A person shall not be committed to prison by reason of any disobedience mentioned in subsection (1) for a period exceeding three months.

Textual Amendments

- F1** Ss. 51A- 51H inserted (4.7.1996) by virtue of 1996 c.25, s. 79(4), Sch. 4 paras. 1, 28 (by virtue of which provisions the 1996 Act has effect, subject to the modification that in its application to N.I. for s. 66(1)(4) of that Act there is substituted s. 66(1)(4) as set out in Sch. 4 para. 28 of the 1996 Act) (with s. 78(1))

Changes to legislation:

Judicature (Northern Ireland) Act 1978, Section 51G is up to date with all changes known to be in force on or before 03 August 2024. There are changes that may be brought into force at a future date. Changes that have been made appear in the content and are referenced with annotations.

[View outstanding changes](#)

Changes and effects yet to be applied to the whole Act associated Parts and Chapters:

Whole provisions yet to be inserted into this Act (including any effects on those provisions):

- s. 14(1)(1A) substituted for s. 14(1) by [2002 c. 26 Sch. 12 para. 13](#) (This amendment not applied to [legislation.gov.uk](#). Sch. 5 repealed (3.4.2006) without ever being in force by 2005 c. 4, Sch. 5 para. 125, Sch. 18 Pt. 3; S.I. 2006/1014, art. 2, Sch. 1 paras. 12(f), 30(c))
- s. 106(3A) inserted by [2011 c. 24 \(N.I.\) s. 89\(1\)](#)