



Police and Criminal Evidence Act 1984

1984 CHAPTER 60

PART II

POWERS OF ENTRY, SEARCH AND SEIZURE

Search warrants

15 Search warrants-safeguards

- (1) This section and section 16 below have effect in relation to the issue to constables under any enactment, including an enactment contained in an Act passed after this Act, of warrants to enter and search premises; and an entry on or search of premises under a warrant is unlawful unless it complies with this section and section 16 below.
- (2) Where a constable applies for any such warrant, it shall be his duty—
 - (a) to state—
 - (i) the ground on which he makes the application ; and
 - (ii) the enactment under which the warrant would be issued;
 - (b) to specify the premises which it is desired to enter and search; and
 - (c) to identify, so far as is practicable, the articles or persons to be sought
- (3) An application for such a warrant shall be made *ex parte* and supported by an information in writing.
- (4) The constable shall answer on oath any question that the justice of the peace or judge hearing the application asks him.
- (5) A warrant shall authorise an entry on one occasion only.
- (6) A warrant—
 - (a) shall specify—
 - (i) the name of the person who applies for it;
 - (ii) the date on which it is issued ;
 - (iii) the enactment under which it is issued ; and

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- (iv) the premises to be searched ; and
 - (b) shall identify, so far as is practicable, the articles or persons to be sought.
- (7) Two copies shall be made of a warrant.
- (8) The copies shall be clearly certified as copies.