

# Family Law Act 1996

#### **1996 CHAPTER 27**

#### PART IV

## FAMILY HOMES AND DOMESTIC VIOLENCE

Further provisions relating to occupation and non-molestation orders

#### 46 Undertakings.

- (1) In any case where the court has power to make an occupation order or non-molestation order, the court may accept an undertaking from any party to the proceedings.
- (2) No power of arrest may be attached to any undertaking given under subsection (1).
- (3) The court shall not accept an undertaking under subsection (1) [FI instead of making an occupation order] in any case where apart from this section a power of arrest would be attached to the order.
- [F2(3A) The court shall not accept an undertaking under subsection (1) instead of making a non-molestation order in any case where it appears to the court that—
  - (a) the respondent has used or threatened violence against the applicant or a relevant child; and
  - (b) for the protection of the applicant or child it is necessary to make a non-molestation order so that any breach may be punishable under section 42A.]
  - (4) An undertaking given to a court under subsection (1) is enforceable as if [F3the court had made an occupation order or a non-molestation order in terms corresponding to those of the undertaking].
  - (5) This section has effect without prejudice to the powers of the High Court and the county court apart from this section.

Part IV – Family Homes and Domestic Violence
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Changes to legislation: Family Law Act 1996, Section 46 is up to date with all changes known to be in force on or before 25 July 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. (See end of Document for details)

#### **Textual Amendments**

- F1 Words in s. 46(3) inserted (1.7.2007) by Domestic Violence, Crime and Victims Act 2004 (c. 28), ss. 58(1), 60, Sch. 10 para. 37(2) (with Sch. 12 para. 1(11)); S.I. 2007/1845, art. 2(c) (with art. 3)
- F2 S. 46(3A) inserted (1.7.2007) by Domestic Violence, Crime and Victims Act 2004 (c. 28), ss. 58(1), 60, Sch. 10 para. 37(3) (with Sch. 12 para. 1(11)); S.I. 2007/1845, art. 2(c) (with art. 3)
- **F3** Words in s. 46(4) substituted (1.7.2007) by Domestic Violence, Crime and Victims Act 2004 (c. 28), ss. 58(1), 60, **Sch. 10 para. 37(4)** (with Sch. 12 para. 1(11)); S.I. 2007/1845, **art. 2(c)** (with art. 3)

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