

SOLICITORS' PRACTICE (ASSISTANT SOLICITOR) REGULATIONS 2007

The Council of the Law Society of Northern Ireland, in pursuance of the power conferred on them by Articles 74 (1) and 75 (1) of the Solicitors' (Northern Ireland) Order 1976 (as amended) and all other powers enabling them in that behalf, and with the concurrence of the Lord Chief Justice of Northern Ireland hereby make under Article 26 (1) of that Order the following regulations: -

- 1 These Regulations shall be cited as the Solicitors' Practice (Assistant Solicitor) Regulations 2007 and shall come into force on the 1st September 2007.
- 2 In these Regulations
 - (a) "the Society" means the Law Society of Northern Ireland.
 - (b) "assistant solicitor" means any person admitted to the Roll of Solicitors in Northern Ireland, and employed in any capacity, irrespective of the conditions or duration of employment by a solicitor, or in an incorporated practice of solicitors.
 - (c) A "solicitor" shall mean a solicitor of the Supreme Court and shall include a firm of solicitors.
 - (d) Other expressions in these Regulations have the meanings assigned to them by the Solicitors (Northern Ireland) Order 1976.
- 3 The Solicitors' Practice (Qualified Assistants) Regulations 1992 are hereby repealed.
- 4 A solicitor who employs or who is a director of an incorporated body of solicitors which employs an assistant shall forthwith on commencement of that employment: -
 - (a) ascertain from the Society if the assistant solicitor is required to hold a Practising Certificate.
 - (b) ensure that an application for a Practising Certificate is made by the assistant solicitor if so required.
 - (c) Inform the managing Insurance Brokers of the Society's Professional Indemnity Insurance Master Policy that the assistant solicitor has been so employed, pay the appropriate insurance premium to those Brokers and furnish evidence of payment to the Society.
 - (d) Inform the Society of the name of the assistant solicitor and of the date of commencement of the employment and undertake to notify the date of termination of the employment.
 - (e) Reimburse any former employer of the assistant solicitor on a pro rata basis for any current annual Practising Certificate fee and Professional Indemnity Insurance contribution paid by the former employer.

I certify that this is a true copy of the Regulations as made by the Council on 5th September 2006.

Suzanne Smyth
Acting Chief Executive / Acting Secretary
Law Society of Northern Ireland
2nd August 2007.

I concur

Brian Kerr
20 August 2007



Lord Chief Justice