1989 No. 296

SUPREME COURT, NORTHERN IRELAND

CROWN COURT

The Crown Court (Amendment) Rules (Northern Ireland) 1989

Made . . . . . *25th July 1989*

Coming into operation . . . *1st September 1989*

To be laid before Parliament

We, the Crown Court Rules Committee, in exercise of the powers conferred on us by section 52(1) of the Judicature (Northern Ireland) Act 1978(**a**) and section 159(6) of the Criminal Justice Act 1988(**b**), hereby with the concurrence of the Lord Chancellor make the following Rules:—

1. These Rules may be cited as the Crown Court (Amendment) Rules (Northern Ireland) 1989 and shall come into operation on 1st September 1989.

2. Rule 2(1) of the Crown Court Rules (Northern Ireland) 1979(**c**) shall be amended by inserting, before the definition of "chief clerk";

"the Act" means the Judicature (Northern Ireland) Act 1978;"

3. The Crown Court Rules (Northern Ireland) 1979 shall be amended by inserting after Rule 44 the following new rule—

"*Hearings in Camera*

44A.—(1) Where a prosecutor or a defendant intends to apply for an order that all or part of a trial be held in camera for reasons of national security or for the protection of the identity of a witness or any other person he shall not less than 7 days before the date on which the trial is expected to begin serve a notice in writing to that effect on the chief clerk and shall at the same time serve a copy of the notice on each other party to the proceedings.

(2) On receiving such notice, the chief clerk shall forthwith cause a copy thereof to be displayed in a prominent place within the precincts of the Court.

(3) An application by a prosecutor or a defendant who has served such a notice for an order that all or part of a trial be heard in camera shall,

---

(**a**) 1978 c. 23
(**b**) 1988 c. 33
(**c**) S.R. 1979 No. 90