

REPUBLIC OF ZAMBIA

**THE CONTEMPT OF COURT
(MISCELLANEOUS PROVISIONS) ACT**

CHAPTER 38 OF THE LAWS OF ZAMBIA

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ACT**

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(MISCELLANEOUS PROVISIONS) ACT**

ARRANGEMENT OF SECTIONS

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CHAPTER 38

CONTEMPT OF COURT

32 of 1965
32 of 1967
13 of 1994

(MISCELLANEOUS PROVISIONS)

An Act to amend the law relating to contempt of court and to restrict the publication of the details of certain proceedings and for purposes connected therewith.

[4th June, 1965]

1. This Act may be cited as the Contempt of Court (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act.

Short title

2. (1) A person shall not be guilty of contempt of court on the ground that he has published any matter calculated to interfere with the course of justice in connection with any proceedings pending or imminent at the time of publication if at that time (having taken all reasonable care) he did not know and had no reason to suspect that the proceedings were pending, or that such proceedings were imminent, as the case may be.

Innocent publication and distribution of any matter calculated to interfere with the course of justice

(2) A person shall not be guilty of contempt of court on the ground that he has distributed a publication containing such matter as is mentioned in subsection (1) if at the time of distribution (having taken all reasonable care) he did not know that it contained any such matter as aforesaid and had no reason to suspect that it was likely to do so.

(3) The proof of any fact tending to establish a defence afforded by this section to any person in proceedings for contempt of court shall lie upon that person.

3. (1) The publication of information relating to proceedings before any court sitting in private shall not of itself be contempt of court except in the following cases, that is to say:

Publication of information relating to court proceedings in private

- (a) where the proceedings relate to the wardship or adoption of an infant or wholly or mainly to the guardianship, custody, maintenance or upbringing of an infant, or rights of access to an infant;
- (b) where the proceedings are brought under the law for the time being in force in Zambia with respect to the control, care or detention of, or to the estates and property of, mentally disordered or defective persons;
- (c) where the court sits in private for reasons of national security during that part of the proceedings about which the information in question is published;