

PART 22

STATEMENTS OF TRUTH

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DOCUMENTS TO BE VERIFIED BY A STATEMENT OF TRUTH

- 22.1 | (1) The following documents must be verified by a statement of truth –
- (a) a statement of case;
 - (b) a response complying with an order under rule 18.1 to provide further information;
 - (c) a witness statement;
 - (d) an acknowledgement of service in a claim begun by way of the Part 8 procedure;
 - (e) a certificate stating the reasons for bringing a possession claim or a landlord and tenant claim in the High Court in accordance with rules 55.3(2) and 56.2(2); and
 - (f) any other document where a rule or practice direction requires.
- (2) Where a statement of case is amended, the amendments must be verified by a statement of truth unless the court orders otherwise.
- (Part 17 provides for amendments to statements of case)
- (3) If an applicant wishes to rely on matters set out in his application notice as evidence, the application notice must be verified by a statement of truth.
- (4) Subject to paragraph (5), a statement of truth is a statement that –
- (a) the party putting forward the document; or
 - (b) in the case of a witness statement, the maker of the witness statement,
- believes the facts stated in the document are true.

- (5) If a party is conducting proceedings with a litigation friend, the statement of truth in –
 - (a) a statement of case;
 - (b) a response; or
 - (c) an application notice,
 is a statement that the litigation friend believes the facts stated in the document being verified are true.
- (6) The statement of truth must be signed by –
 - (a) in the case of a statement of case, a response or an application –
 - (i) the party or litigation friend; or
 - (ii) the legal representative on behalf of the party or litigation friend; and
 - (b) in the case of a witness statement, the maker of the statement.
- (7) A statement of truth which is not contained in the document which it verifies, must clearly identify that document.
- (8) A statement of truth in a statement of case may be made by –
 - (a) a person who is not a party; or
 - (b) by two parties jointly,
 where this is permitted by a relevant practice direction.

FAILURE TO VERIFY A STATEMENT OF CASE

- 22.2 |
- (1) If a party fails to verify his statement of case by a statement of truth –
 - (a) the statement of case shall remain effective unless struck out; but
 - (b) the party may not rely on the statement of case as evidence of any of the matters set out in it.
 - (2) The court may strike out^(GL) a statement of case which is not verified by a statement of truth.
 - (3) Any party may apply for an order under paragraph (2).

FAILURE TO VERIFY A WITNESS STATEMENT

- 22.3 |
- If the maker of a witness statement fails to verify the witness statement by a statement of truth the court may direct that it shall not be admissible as evidence.

POWER OF THE COURT TO REQUIRE A DOCUMENT TO BE VERIFIED

- 22.4 |
- (1) The court may order a person who has failed to verify a document in accordance with rule 22.1 to verify the document.
 - (2) Any party may apply for an order under paragraph (1).