

STATEMENTS OF TRUTH

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22.1 Documents to be verified by a statement of truth

- (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);
 - (f) a certificate of service; and
 - (g) 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;
 - (b) in the case of a witness statement, the maker of the witness statement; or
 - (c) in the case of a certificate of service, the person who signs the certificate, 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.

22.2 Failure to verify a statement of case

- (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).

22.3 Failure to verify a witness statement

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.

22.4 Power of the court to require a document to be verified

- (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).