



STATUTORY INSTRUMENTS.

S.I. No. 405 of 2017



DISTRICT COURT (EUROPEAN ACCOUNT PRESERVATION
ORDER) RULES 2017

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The District Court Rules Committee, in exercise of the powers conferred on them by section 91 of the Courts of Justice Act 1924, section 72 of the Courts of Justice Act 1936, section 34 of the Courts (Supplemental Provisions) Act 1961, section 24 of the Interpretation Act 2005, the European Communities (Rules of Court) Regulations 1972 (S.I. No. 320 of 1972) and of all other powers enabling them in this behalf, do hereby, with the concurrence of the Minister for Justice and Equality, make the following rules of court.

Dated this 29th day of May 2017.

Rosemary Horgan Chairperson

Mary C Devins

Anne Watkin

Shane McCarthy

Riobard Pierse

Niall Nolan

Roy Pearson

Noel A Doherty

Michelle Johnston

I concur in the making of the following rules of court.

Dated this 19th day of September 2017.

Charles Flanagan T.D.
Minister for Justice and Equality

*Notice of the making of this Statutory Instrument was published in
"Iris Oifigiúil" of 22nd September, 2017.*

S.I. No. 405 of 2017

DISTRICT COURT (EUROPEAN ACCOUNT PRESERVATION
ORDER) RULES 2017

1. (1) These Rules, which shall come into operation on the 2nd day of October 2017, may be cited as the District Court (European Account Preservation Order) Rules 2017.

(2) These Rules shall be construed together with the District Court Rules 1997 (S.I. No. 93 of 1997) and all other District Court Rules.

(3) The District Court Rules as amended by these Rules may be cited as the District Court Rules 1997 to 2017.

2. The District Court Rules 1997 (S.I. No. 93 of 1997) are amended:

(i) by the insertion immediately following Order 51C of the Order set out in Schedule 1, and

(ii) by the substitution for rule 1 of Order 101 of the following rule:

“1. (1) Every appeal to the Circuit Court from a decision of the District Court shall be by notice of appeal (Form 101.1 or 101.2 Schedule D) which shall be served upon every party directly affected by the appeal within 14 days from the date on which the decision appealed from was given. The notice of appeal shall be made to the appropriate Circuit Court to be held next after the said period of 14 days.

(2) Notwithstanding sub-rule (1), every appeal to the Circuit Court under Article 21.1 of the EAPO Regulation (within the meaning of Order 52) against a decision of the Court rejecting the application in whole shall be by motion of appeal ex parte to the appropriate Circuit Court, to which shall be appended a copy of the original application for a Preservation Order, which shall be lodged within the time prescribed by Article 21.2 of the EAPO Regulation.

(3) Notwithstanding sub-rule (1), every appeal to the Circuit Court under Article 37 of the EAPO Regulation (within the meaning of Order 52) shall be in the form set out in Annex IX to the Implementing Regulation (within the meaning of Order 52) which shall be served upon every party directly affected by the appeal within 14 days from the date on which the decision appealed from was given. The notice of appeal shall be made to the appropriate Circuit Court to be held next after the said period of 14 days.”

Schedule 1

“Order 52

European Account Preservation Order

I. Preliminary and general

1. In this Order:-

“2016 Regulations” means the European Union (European Account Preservation Order) Regulations 2016 (S.I. 645 of 2016);

“EAPO Regulation” means Regulation (EU) No. 655/2014 of the European Parliament and the Council of 15 May 2014(OJ L 189/59 of 27 June 2014);

“competent authority” means the Minister for Justice and Equality;

“creditor” and “debtor” each has the same meaning as in the EAPO Regulation;

“Implementing Regulation” means Commission Implementing Regulation (EU) 2016/1823 of 10 October 2016 establishing the forms referred to in Regulation (EU) No 655/2014 of the European Parliament and of the Council establishing a European Account Preservation Order procedure to facilitate cross-border debt recovery in civil and commercial matters (OJ L283/1 of 19 October 2016);

“information authority” means the Minister for Justice and Equality;

“judgment” has the same meaning as in the 2016 Regulations;

“Member State” means a member state of the European Union but does not include Denmark or the United Kingdom;

“Member State of enforcement” means the Member State in which the bank account to be preserved is maintained;

“Preservation Order” has the same meaning as in the EAPO Regulation.

2. (1) All notifications by the Clerk to the creditor required under this Order or in accordance with Regulation 5 of the 2016 Regulations may be by telephone (if subsequently confirmed in writing by electronic mail, facsimile or letter sent by ordinary prepaid post) or by electronic mail or by such other means as the Clerk considers sufficient.

(2) All notifications or requests by the Clerk to the information authority required under this Order or in accordance with the 2016 Regulations may be by electronic mail or by such other means as the Clerk shall agree with the information authority.

(3) A notice required under Regulation 10(2) of the 2016 Regulations to be given by the Clerk to the Property Registration Authority shall be given by the transmission by the Clerk to the Registrar of Titles of a certified copy of the relevant order of the Court by ordinary prepaid post.

(4) A notice required under Regulation 10(4) of the 2016 Regulations to be given by the Clerk to the Registrar of Companies shall be given by the transmission by the Clerk to the Registrar of Companies of a certified copy of the relevant order of the Court by ordinary prepaid post.

(5) A decision referred to in Article 10.2 or, as the case may be, Article 36.5 of the EAPO Regulation shall be transmitted to the competent authority of the Member State of enforcement, in the form set out in Annex III or, as the case may be, Annex VIII to the Implementing Regulation by the transmission by the Clerk to the competent authority of the Member State of enforcement of a certified copy of the relevant decision by electronic mail, facsimile or such other means as the Clerk shall agree with the competent authority of the Member State of enforcement.

II. Application to the Court for a Preservation Order

3. (1) An application to the Court by a creditor for a Preservation Order shall be made:

- (a) in the case of an application to which Article 5(a) of the EAPO Regulation applies, by the lodgment with the Clerk of the completed application in the form set out in Annex I to the Implementing Regulation which shall be treated as a motion *ex parte* in the intended action;
- (b) in the case of an application to which Article 5(b) of the EAPO Regulation applies, by the lodgment with the Clerk of the completed application in the form set out in Annex I to the Implementing Regulation, which shall be treated as a motion *ex parte* in the action, which may be lodged on or after the delivery of judgment by the Court.

(2) Every application made in accordance with sub-rule (1) shall be grounded upon the verification by the applicant of the completed application form in the form set out in Annex I to the Implementing Regulation and any evidence submitted with that application.

(3) The creditor shall lodge with the application a draft of the Preservation Order in the form set out in Annex II to the Implementing Regulation with Part A completed in the terms sought.

(4) The creditor shall, where:

- (a) he has obtained an equivalent national order against the same debtor to secure the same claim during the proceedings for the issuing of a Preservation Order, file an affidavit without delay

setting out the terms of the equivalent national order against the debtor which has been obtained and, exhibiting a copy of that order and a certified translation thereof into Irish or English, and providing details of any subsequent execution of the national order granted;

(b) he has made any application for an equivalent national order which has been rejected as inadmissible or unfounded, file an affidavit without delay providing particulars of the same.

4. (1) Having considered the application, the Court, in accordance with the time limits set out in Article 18 of the EAPO Regulation:

(a) in a case to which Article 12.1 of the EAPO Regulation applies, unless, in accordance with Article 12.1 of the EAPO Regulation, it considers that the provision of security is inappropriate in the circumstances of the case and dispenses with such requirement, or in a case to which Article 12.2 of the EAPO Regulation applies, where it considers it necessary and appropriate in the circumstances of the case, shall fix the amount of security required and form or forms of security acceptable;

(b) where the Court considers in accordance with Article 9.1 of the EAPO Regulation that the evidence provided is insufficient, may direct the delivery of further documentary evidence verified by affidavit or, subject to Article 9.2 of the EAPO Regulation, oral evidence and the nature of the evidence which the Court requires for the purpose of its determining the application, and direct the Clerk to notify the creditor accordingly;

(c) where the Court considers in accordance with Article 17.3 of the EAPO Regulation that the application is incomplete, may fix the time within which and the means by which the creditor may complete or rectify the application and direct the Clerk to notify the creditor accordingly;

(d) in a case to which Article 14.3 of the EAPO Regulation applies, may direct the Clerk to transmit a request for information to the information authority;

(e) in every case, may give such directions and make such orders for the conduct of the proceedings on the application as appear convenient for the determination of the proceedings consistently with the requirements of the EAPO Regulation and in a manner which is just, expeditious and likely to minimise the costs of those proceedings, and

(f) shall determine the application and order accordingly.

(2) The Clerk shall notify the creditor of all directions as to the amount and form of security required in respect of a Preservation Order.

(3) The Court's decision on the application for a Preservation Order and, where appropriate, the date by which any appeal may be made against the decision, shall be notified to the creditor by the Clerk.

(4) Where security is required, the creditor shall lodge proof of entry into the security with the Clerk.

(5) Where the Court makes a Preservation Order, the order shall, following the lodgment of proof of entry into any security required, issue to the creditor in the form in Annex II to the Implementing Regulation.

(6) The creditor shall be the person responsible in accordance with Article 23.3 of the EAPO Regulation for the transmission of Part A of the Preservation Order to the competent authority of the Member State of enforcement.

(7) The creditor shall be the person responsible in accordance with Article 28.3 of the EAPO Regulation for the transmission of the documents referred to in Article 28.1 of the EAPO Regulation to the competent authority of the Member State in which the debtor is domiciled.

III. Issue of proceedings on the substance of the claim

5. (1) In the case of an application to which Article 5(a) of the EAPO Regulation applies, the creditor shall deliver to the Clerk within the time prescribed by Article 10.1 of the EAPO Regulation a copy of the originating claim notice in the proceedings on the substance of the matter issued by the Clerk.

(2) An application for an extension of time in accordance with Article 10.1 of the EAPO Regulation shall be by motion on notice in the intended action, which need not be grounded upon an affidavit.

6. Where evidence of the initiation of proceedings on the substance of the matter has not been delivered to the Clerk within the time prescribed by Article 10.1 of the EAPO Regulation and no extension of time has been permitted, the application shall be listed before the Court and, if the Court has not received proof of the initiation of proceedings within the time period referred to in Article 10.1 of the EAPO Regulation, the Court shall revoke the Preservation Order and shall issue an order of revocation in the form in Annex III to the Implementing Regulation.

IV. Subsequent proceedings

7. (1) Subject to the EAPO Regulation and the 2016 Regulations, any of the following applications to the Court by a creditor or debtor shall be made:

(a) where there are no proceedings in being before the Court concerning either the substance of the matter or the Preservation

Order, by originating notice of motion entitled in the matter of the EAPO Regulation as between the creditor and the debtor, or

- (b) where there are proceedings in being before the Court concerning either the substance of the matter or the Preservation Order, by notice of motion in the proceedings:
 - (i) any application by a debtor pursuant to Regulation 8 of the 2016 regulations and Article 33 of the EAPO Regulation;
 - (ii) any application by a debtor pursuant to Regulation 9 of the 2016 regulations and Article 34 of the EAPO Regulation;
 - (iii) any application by a debtor or a creditor pursuant to Regulation 9 of the 2016 regulations and Article 35 of the EAPO Regulation.

(2) Every application made in accordance with sub-rule (1) shall:

- (a) be in the form set out in Annex VII to the Implementing Regulation and
- (b) be grounded upon an affidavit sworn by or on behalf of the moving party, which may be endorsed upon the completed application form, or if not so endorsed, which shall exhibit and verify the completed application form and shall exhibit and verify each other document relied upon in the application.

8. (1) Subject to the EAPO Regulation and the 2016 Regulations, any of the following applications to the Court shall be made:

- (a) where there are no proceedings in being before the Court concerning either the substance of the matter or the Preservation Order, by notice of application entitled in the matter of the EAPO Regulation as between the creditor and the debtor, or
- (b) where there are proceedings in being before the Court concerning either the substance of the matter or the Preservation Order, by notice of motion in the proceedings:
 - (i) any application by a creditor or debtor pursuant to Article 31 of the EAPO Regulation;
 - (ii) any application by a debtor pursuant to Article 38 of the EAPO Regulation;
 - (iii) any application by a third party pursuant to Article 39(3) of the EAPO Regulation;
 - (iv) any other application for relief pursuant to the 2016 Regulations, the EAPO Regulation or this Order.

(2) Every application made in accordance with sub-rule (1) shall be grounded upon an affidavit sworn by or on behalf of the moving party.

9. (1) Every person served with notice of an application made under rule 7 or rule 8 shall be at liberty to deliver a replying affidavit.

(2) On the return date of a notice of application or notice of motion under rule 7 or rule 8 (or on any adjournment from such date), the Court shall give directions and make orders for the conduct of the proceedings on the application as appear convenient for the determination of the application consistently with the EAPO Regulation in a manner which is just, expeditious and likely to minimise the costs of those proceedings which, where appropriate, may include:

- (a) directions as to the service of notice of the application on any other person, including mode of service and the time allowed for such service (and the Court may for that purpose adjourn the hearing of the notice of motion or further hearing of such application to a date specified);
- (b) directions as to the filing and delivery of any further affidavits by any party or parties;
- (c) orders fixing time limits.

V. Miscellaneous

10. Subject to the EAPO Regulation, the provisions of these Rules, insofar as they apply to interim and interlocutory orders of the Court, shall apply to a Preservation Order issued in accordance with the EAPO Regulation by a court of a Member State other than the State, and the provisions of these Rules applicable to the enforcement of interim and interlocutory orders of the Court, shall, where the context so admits or requires, apply with any necessary amendments to the enforcement of such a Preservation Order.”

EXPLANATORY NOTE

(This note is not part of the Instrument and does not purport to be a legal interpretation.)

“These rules amend the District Court Rules by the addition of a new order 52 to prescribe the procedure regulating applications and appeals in respect of a European Account Preservation Order under the European Union (European Account Preservation Order) Regulations 2016 (S.I. No. 645 of 2016).”

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