

# FIRE SAFETY-REGULATION AND PROSECUTION - ESSENTIAL LEGAL SKILLS



La Touche Training  
*the* legal training consultants



This three module course is designed specifically for officers working in the area of fire safety. It covers the offences that may be prosecuted, the notices that may be served and the powers officers are afforded in this area. Officers will be taught best practice procedures for creating and maintaining documentation, writing reports and giving evidence in court in comprehensive detail.

## **La Touche Training**

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# FIRE SAFETY-REGULATION AND PROSECUTION

## - ESSENTIAL LEGAL SKILLS

*“The course was excellent, it was completely relevant to my duties as a Fire Officer”*

Assistant Chief Fire Officer

### WHO AND WHY?

The training is designed to give practical guidance to fire officers and to instil in them the confidence and ability to collect, write and if necessary, give effective evidence in legal proceedings. The course can be tailored according to the authority's needs whether their fire officers are involved in fire investigations or have a regulatory role under the Building Control Regulations.

### COURSE OUTLINE

The training will enhance the officers knowledge and understanding of the legislation they work under. It will ensure the officers have a clear understanding of what powers the legislation affords them, what notices they can serve under the various acts and what offences they can prosecute under the legislation.

The training will also teach best practice in written evidence (note taking, prosecution statements and reports) and to give delegates an insight into the way in which lawyers scrutinise the evidence and challenge it under cross-examination.

Delegates will learn how to insulate their evidence and how to deal with the lawyers questioning techniques confidently and effectively during a mock court hearing.

The training highlights the importance of distinguishing between facts and inferences and the sources of different types of evidence. The training can also develop knowledge of criminal law, evidence and the best practice procedure necessary for fire safety investigations under the Building Control Regulations, to be carried out effectively.

### MODULE 1 - LEGISLATION (1 DAY)

There are many acts and regulations that affect the work of officers working in the area of fire safety

- Fire services Act 1981-2003
- Licensing of indoor events and upcoming regulations
- Licensing of outdoor Events Act
- Outdoor Event Regulations SI IS4/2001
- Licensing
- Building Control Acts 1990-2006 and regulations
- Dangerous Substances Act 1972 and 1979 regulations
- Seveso II Directive
- Certificate of Authorisation Provisions

#### Key Learning Points

- Explanations as to what each piece of Legislation deals with
- Powers, prosecutions, offences and penalties
- Various notices the Fire Authority may serve - Safety notices, Closure notices, notice of cessation etc
- Appeal procedure for individuals affected

### MODULE 2 - EXCELLENCE IN WRITTEN EVIDENCE (1 DAY)

- Creating maintaining and enhancing best practice standards in record keeping and note taking
- Distinguishing between facts, inferences and opinions
- Understand the difference between notes, statements and reports
- Writing reports that identify and deal with relevant Issues and facts
- Instructing the Solicitor

### MODULE 3 - GIVING EFFECTIVE EVIDENCE (1 DAY)

On completion of this module, delegates will be able to:

- Understand trial procedure
- Consider the process of giving evidence and how best to prepare
- Appreciate the differences between examination-in-chief, cross-examination and re-examination
- Consider the techniques used by lawyers in cross-examination
- Analyse how to handel cross-examination, in particular getting across the whole truth
- Experience cross-examination in the witness box, and receive feedback based on assessment criteria, covering content, structure and presentation

**We work with many local authorities including:**

- Clare County Council
- Cork County Council
- Donegal County Council
- Louth County Council
- Drogheda Borough Council
- Fingal County Council
- Galway City Council
- Kilkenny County Council
- Laois County Council
- Longford County Council
- Leitrim County Council
- Mayo County Council
- North Tipperary County Council
- Westmeath County Council
- Monaghan County Council
- Wicklow County Council
- Kerry county Council
- Kildare County Council
- South Tipperary County Council
- Limerick City Council
- Offaly County Council
- Dun Laoghaire - Rathdown County Council
- South Dublin County Council

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to book or  
discuss training**



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