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**AN BILLE UM CHEARTAS COIRIÚIL (ORD POIBLÍ), 2002**  
**CRIMINAL JUSTICE (PUBLIC ORDER) BILL, 2002**

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*Mar a tionscnaíodh*  
*As initiated*

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ACTS REFERRED TO

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| Criminal Justice (Public Order) Act, 1994                 | 1994, No. 15 |
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| Public Dance Halls Act, 1935                              | 1935, No. 2  |
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| Worker Protection (Regular Part-Time Employees) Act, 1991 | 1991, No. 5  |



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**AN BILLE UM CHEARTAS COIRIÚIL (ORD POIBLÍ), 2002**  
**CRIMINAL JUSTICE (PUBLIC ORDER) BILL, 2002**

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# **BILL**

*entitled*

5 AN ACT TO ENABLE PERSONS CONVICTED OF AN  
OFFENCE UNDER CERTAIN PROVISIONS OF THE  
CRIMINAL JUSTICE (PUBLIC ORDER) ACT, 1994 TO BE  
EXCLUDED FROM ENTERING LICENSED PREMISES  
OR PREMISES (INCLUDING A STALL OR VEHICLE)  
10 USED FOR THE SALE OF FOOD OR FROM AREAS IN  
THE VICINITY OF THOSE PREMISES; TO PROVIDE  
FOR THE CLOSURE OF SUCH PREMISES AT A SPECI-  
FIED TIME OR FOR A SPECIFIED PERIOD WHERE  
NECESSARY IN THE INTERESTS OF THE PREVENTION  
15 OF DISORDER OR EXCESSIVE NOISE ARISING IN  
RELATION TO THOSE PREMISES; AND TO PROVIDE  
FOR CONNECTED MATTERS.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE OIREACHTAS AS FOLLOWS:

## **PART 1**

20 **PRELIMINARY AND GENERAL**

**1.—(1)** This Act may be cited as the Criminal Justice (Public Order) Act, 2002.

Short title,  
collective citations  
and  
commencement.

(2) The Criminal Justice (Public Order) Act, 1994 and this Act may be cited together as the Criminal Justice (Public Order) Acts,  
25 1994 and 2002.

(3) The Licensing Acts, 1833 to 2000, and this Act may be cited together as the Licensing Acts, 1833 to 2002.

(4) The Public Dance Halls Act, 1935 and this Act may be cited together as the Public Dance Halls Acts, 1935 and 2002.

30 (5) The Gaming and Lotteries Acts, 1956 to 1986, and this Act may be cited together as the Gaming and Lotteries Acts, 1956 to 2002.

(6) The Registration of Clubs Acts, 1904 to 2000, and this Act may be cited together as the Registration of Clubs Acts, 1904 to  
35 2002.

(7) This Act shall come into operation one month after its passing.

2.—(1) In this Act—

“catering premises” means:

- (a) licensed premises,
- (b) food premises, or a food stall or food vehicle, within the meaning of the Food Hygiene Regulations, 1950 to 1989; 5

“closure order” means an order under *section 4* for the closure of catering premises and includes such an order as affirmed, varied or extended under this Act;

“licensed premises” means:

- (a) premises licensed for the sale of intoxicating liquor under the Licensing Acts, 1833 to 2000, 10
- (b) premises licensed under the Public Dance Halls Act, 1935,
- (c) premises licensed under the Gaming and Lotteries Acts, 1956 to 1986,
- (d) a club registered under the Registration of Clubs Acts, 1904 to 2000; 15

“licensee” means:

- (a) in relation to licensed premises, the holder of the licence,
- (b) in relation to a club registered under the said Acts of 1904 to 2000, every person entered in the register of clubs as an official or member of its committee of management or governing body at the material time, and 20
- (c) in relation to other catering premises, the registered proprietor (within the meaning of the Food Hygiene Regulations, 1950 to 1989) of the premises; 25

“manager” means any person who works in catering premises in a capacity which gives him or her authority to close the premises;

“vicinity”, in relation to catering premises, means land within a reasonable distance, not exceeding 100 metres, of the premises.

(2) In this Act— 30

- (a) a reference to a section is to a section of this Act,
- (b) a reference to a subsection is a reference to the subsection of the section in which the reference occurs, and
- (c) a reference to an enactment is a reference to that enactment as amended, adapted or extended by or under any subsequent enactment (including this Act). 35

PART 2

EXCLUSION ORDERS

3.—(1) The District Court, on conviction of a person for an offence under section 4, 5, 6, 7, 8 or 9 of the Criminal Justice (Public Order) Act, 1994, may by order prohibit the person from entering or being in the vicinity of specified catering premises between such times, and during such a period, as the Court may specify. 40

(2) Any period so specified shall not exceed 12 months and shall commence—

5 (a) in case the person has been sentenced to imprisonment or detention for the offence, on the date of his or her release therefrom, or

(b) in any other case, on the date of the order.

10 (3) The governor or other person in charge of the place where a person who is subject to an order under *subsection (1)* is serving a sentence shall inform the Commissioner of the Garda Síochána of the date on which the person is to be released.

(4) A person who, without reasonable excuse, does not comply with an order under *subsection (1)* is guilty of an offence and liable on summary conviction to a fine not exceeding €650 or imprisonment for a term not exceeding 3 months or both.

15 (5) In *subsection (1)* “offence” means an offence committed after the commencement of this Act.

### PART 3

#### CLOSURE ORDERS

20 **4.—(1)** Subject to *subsection (2)*, a member of the Garda Síochána not below the rank of inspector may apply to the District Court for an order under this section (in this Act referred to as a “closure order”) in respect of catering premises if in the member’s opinion—

Application for closure order.

25 (a) (i) there has been disorder either on the premises or in the vicinity of, and involving persons who were on, the premises, or

30 (ii) noise emanating from the premises, or emanating from the vicinity of the premises and caused by persons who were on the premises, has been so loud, so continuous, so repeated, of such duration or pitch or occurring at such times as to give reasonable cause for annoyance to persons in that vicinity,

and

(b) such disorder or noise is likely to recur.

35 (2) An application for a closure order shall not be made unless a member of the Garda Síochána has—

(a) informed the licensee of the premises concerned that in the member’s opinion disorder or noise as mentioned in *subsection (1)* has occurred, and

40 (b) requested the licensee to take such action within the licensee’s control as is necessary to prevent, as far as possible, a recurrence of the disorder or noise within such reasonable period, not being more than 7 days, as may be specified by the member.

45 (3) The application shall be on notice to the owner or operator of the catering premises concerned.

5.—(1) If on an application under *section 4* the District Court is satisfied—

- (a) that disorder or noise as referred to in *subsection (1)* of that section has occurred and is likely to recur, and
- (b) that the making of a closure order is necessary to prevent a recurrence of the disorder or noise, 5

the Court shall make a closure order in respect of the catering premises concerned.

(2) A closure order shall order the closure of catering premises—

- (a) at a specified time or between specified times on a specified day or days during a specified period, or 10
- (b) for a period—
  - (i) not exceeding 7 days in the case of the first such order, or
  - (ii) not less than 7 and not exceeding 30 days in the case of a second or subsequent order. 15

(3) On making a closure order the Court may, having regard to the particular circumstances of the case, order that it shall be a condition of the renewal of the licence or registration relating to the premises that the licensee shall comply with such requirements as the Court may specify, including the installation of a closed circuit television system, the type of substances which may be sold or the maximum number of persons to be admitted. 20

(4) In determining whether to make a closure order the Court may take into account any conduct of the licensee or a manager or other person employed by the licensee in relation to the operation of the premises concerned. 25

(5) A closure order—

- (a) may apply to the whole or part of catering premises,
- (b) shall specify the ground or grounds for making it, and 30
- (c) shall come into force when written notice of its making is given by a member of the Garda Síochána to the licensee or manager of the premises concerned.

(6) While a closure order is in force, a notice specifying the closure times or the period of closure under the order and the grounds for making it shall be affixed by the licensee to the exterior of the premises concerned in a conspicuous place. 35

(7) No employee who is working in the premises to which a closure order applies shall be disadvantaged in his or her employment by reason of the order or during the period of closure under it. 40

(8) For the purposes of *subsection (7)* “employee” means any person who works under a contract of employment with an employer or is a regular part-time employee as defined in section 1 of the Worker Protection (Regular Part-Time Employees) Act, 1991.

(9) A person who contravenes *subsection (6)* is guilty of an offence and liable on summary conviction to a fine not exceeding—

(a) for a first offence, €300, or

(b) for a second or subsequent offence, €600.

5 **6.—**(1) An appeal to the Circuit Court against a closure order shall not affect the operation of the order unless the Court, within 7 days from the date of the order, makes an order suspending its operation pending the hearing of the appeal. Appeals.

(2) On the hearing of the appeal the Circuit Court may—

10 (i) affirm, revoke or vary the order concerned, and

(ii) make such other order (if any) in relation to the premises as it considers just.

15 **7.—**(1) Before the end of the period during which a closure order is in force, a member of the Garda Síochána not below the rank of inspector may apply to the District Court for an order extending the closure order. Extension of closure order.

20 (2) On such an application the Court may, if satisfied that an order extending the closure order is necessary to prevent a recurrence of the disorder or noise concerned, by order extend the closure order, with any such variation in its terms as it considers appropriate, for a further period.

25 **8.—**(1) A person who, without reasonable excuse, permits catering premises to be open for business in contravention of a closure order is guilty of an offence and liable to a fine not exceeding €3,000 or imprisonment for a term not exceeding 6 months or both. Breach of closure order.

30 (2) Any person who is on catering premises, without reasonable excuse, while there is a closure order in force in respect of the premises is guilty of an offence, unless the person shows that *section 5(6)* in relation to affixing a notice to the exterior of the premises was not complied with.

(3) A person who—

(a) is requested to leave catering premises for the purpose of enabling compliance with a closure order, and

(b) without reasonable excuse, does not do so,

35 is guilty of an offence.

(4) A person who is guilty of an offence under *subsection (2)* or *(3)* is liable on summary conviction to a fine of not less than €70 and not more than €125.

**9.—**(1) Where—

40 (a) an offence under this Part has been committed by a body corporate, and Liability for offences by bodies corporate and unincorporated.

(b) the offence is proved to have been committed with the consent or connivance of, or to have been attributable to any neglect on the part of, a person who was either—

(i) a director, manager, secretary or other officer of the body corporate, or

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(ii) a person purporting to act in any such capacity,

the person, as well as the body corporate, is guilty of an offence and liable to be proceeded against and punished as if he or she were guilty of the first-mentioned offence.

(2) Where the affairs of a body corporate are managed by its members, *subsection (1)* applies in relation to the acts and defaults of a member in connection with the member's functions of management as if he or she were a director or manager of the body corporate.

(3) The foregoing provisions apply, with the necessary modifications, in relation to offences under this Part committed by an unincorporated body.

Jurisdiction.

**10.**—The jurisdiction of the District and Circuit Court under this Part shall be exercised by the judge for the time being assigned—

(a) in the case of the District Court, to the district court district in which the relevant catering premises are situated, and

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(b) in the case of the Circuit Court, to the circuit in which is situated the courthouse in which the order appealed against was made.