



# Theft Act (Northern Ireland) 1969

## 1969 CHAPTER 16

### FRAUD AND BLACKMAIL

#### 20 **Blackmail.**

- (1) A person is guilty of blackmail if, with a view to gain for himself or another or with intent to cause loss to another, he makes any unwarranted demand with menaces; and, for this purpose, a demand with menaces is unwarranted unless the person making it does so in the belief—
  - (a) that he has reasonable grounds for making the demand; and
  - (b) that the use of the menaces is a proper means of reinforcing the demand.
- (2) The nature of the act or omission demanded is immaterial, and it is also immaterial whether the menaces relate to action to be taken by the person making the demand.
- (3) A person guilty of blackmail shall, on conviction on indictment, be liable to imprisonment for a term not exceeding fourteen years.

**Changes to legislation:**

There are currently no known outstanding effects for the Theft Act (Northern Ireland) 1969, Section 20.