Education Act

31. Truancy

(1) In this section and section 32(2), "authorized person" means –

(a) any member of the Police Force when in uniform; and

(b) any other person authorized in writing by the Secretary for the purposes of this Part.

(2) The Secretary shall issue to each authorized person other than a member of the Police Force an identity card in accordance with a form approved by the Minister.

(3) Where an authorized person observes a child who appears to him to be a child of compulsory school age in a public place at a time when the authorized person is satisfied that there is reasonable ground for believing that the child is required to attend a school, the authorized person may –

(a) after producing, in the case of a person authorized under subsection (1)(b), the identity card issued to him under subsection (2), ask the child for his name and address, his age, the name of the school at which he is enrolled, and an explanation of his absence from school; and

(b) if he remains of the opinion that the child is of compulsory school age and is not satisfied with the explanation offered by the child, escort the child to the school and into the custody of the head teacher.

(4) An authorized person may, at any time between 8.00 a.m. and 7.00 p.m. during any day, call at an address which has been obtained under subsection (3) or otherwise, and, after producing in the case of a person authorized under subsection (1)(b) the identity card referred to in subsection (2), require any person present at that address to furnish him with –

(a) the full names of all children of compulsory school age who ordinarily reside at that address; and

(b) the names of the schools, if any, at which those children are enrolled.

(5) A person shall, so far as he is able, comply with a requirement of an authorized person made under subsection (4).

Penalty: $200.