

SECTION: Protocol and International Engagement

NUMBER: GES.PRO.008

SUBJECT: Retention of the title 'Honourable'

AUTHORISED:

1. Purpose

- 1.1 To outline the policy regarding retention of the title 'Honourable' by relevant office holders in Queensland.

2. Scope

- 2.1 This policy applies to the following office holders upon their departure from office:

- 2.1.1 Members of the Executive Council of Queensland;
- 2.1.2 Speakers of the Legislative Assembly of Queensland;
- 2.1.3 Judges of the Supreme Court of Queensland.

3. References and Authority

- 3.1 *MEMORANDUM RECORDING AGREEMENTS REGARDING SECTION 7 OF THE AUSTRALIA ACTS AND ESTABLISHED PRACTICE TAKING INTO ACCOUNT THE AUSTRALIA ACTS*, 16 February 1989.
- 3.2 Delegation of Authority by Her Majesty The Queen to the Governor of Queensland, 25 May 1993 (file reference F783).
- 3.3 Letter from the Foreign and Commonwealth Office, London, dated 20 February, 1984, relating to requests for retention of the title 'Honourable' where the period of service has been less than three (3) years.

4. Definitions

- 4.1 **Office holders** refers to those persons who have occupied any of the offices listed in 2.1.1, 2.1.2 or 2.1.3.

5. Guidelines

- 5.1 The office holders listed in 2.1, who are entitled to use the title 'Honourable' whilst in office, do not automatically retain the title when they cease to hold that office. If they wish to retain the title, they must apply for it but only after their departure from office (refer 7.1 and 7.2 for application procedure).
- 5.2 Under the guidelines laid down by Buckingham Palace, office holders must have served a minimum period of time in that office to be eligible to retain the title. The minimum length of service required for each particular office holder is as follows:

Premiers - One year;

Ministers	-	Three years;
Speakers	-	Three years;
Judges	-	No qualifying period.

5.3 The Governor of Queensland has been granted a delegation of authority from The Queen to grant the right of retention of the title 'Honourable' for life where applications for such grant are in accordance with the guidelines outlined in 5.2.

5.4 In each case, the Governor relies on the advice of the Premier who has sole discretion in this matter. The Premier can decline to recommend an office holder for retention of the title on the following grounds:

5.4.1 the office holder has failed to serve the required period in office (refer 5.2); or

5.4.2 the office holder's departure from office was a direct consequence of some misdeed or action regarded as having brought his/her office into disrepute.

[Note: There have been a number of cases where the Premier of the day has declined to recommend former Ministers for retention of the title.]

5.5 Notwithstanding the guidelines outlined in 5.2, the Premier may, in special circumstances, recommend an office holder for retention of the title even though the office holder has served less than the required period in office. As such cases are not covered by the Governor's delegation of authority, the matter must be referred, via the Governor, to Buckingham Palace for determination.

[Note: There are only two known cases of Queensland office holders being approved for retention of the title under special circumstances - Heading (Minister) in 1960 and Warner (Speaker) in 1987. In both cases, they failed by only several weeks to serve the required three (3) years due to an early State Election being called and were prevented from standing for re-election because of ill health.]

6. Responsibilities

6.1 The **Director, Protocol and International Engagement**, is responsible for the administration of this policy.

7. Actions

7.1 Upon receiving notification of the retirement or resignation of an office holder, the Director, Protocol and International Engagement, should contact the office holder to inform them of their entitlement to retain the title 'Honourable' and advise them of the required procedure should they wish to apply.

7.2 Former Executive Councillors and former Speakers wishing to retain the title should apply in writing direct to the Premier.

7.3 Former Judges of the Supreme Court wishing to retain the title should apply in writing direct to the Minister responsible for the administration of the Court who will then submit the matter, with a recommendation, to the Premier.

7.4 All applications are assessed by the Director, Protocol and International Engagement, in accordance with the guidelines established by Buckingham Palace (refer 5.2), following

which a recommendation is submitted by the Director-General to the Premier for consideration.

- 7.5 If the Premier supports the office holder's application for retention of the title, a letter of recommendation signed by the Premier is despatched to the Governor.
- 7.6 The Governor may approve retention of the title 'Honourable' for life, where an application complies with the guidelines. Alternatively, the Governor may refer the matter to Buckingham Palace, if the Premier has recommended that the application be considered as a special case (refer 5.5).
- 7.7 Following advice from Government House that retention of the title has been approved, a letter is prepared for the Premier's signature informing the office holder of such approval.
- 7.8 A notice is then prepared for publication in the *Queensland Government Gazette*. After publication, copies are to be distributed to 7.8.1 and 7.8.2 and also to the appropriate officials listed in 7.8.3 to 7.8.6:
 - 7.8.1 The applicant (ie the former office holder)
 - 7.8.2 The Official Secretary, Government House;
 - 7.8.3 All Ministers;
 - 7.8.4 The Chief Justice of the Supreme Court;
 - 7.8.5 The Clerk of the Parliament;
 - 7.8.6 The Leader of the Opposition.
- 7.9 The lists contained in Attachment 1, as well the *List of Queenslanders who have been awarded Honours*, are then up-dated:

8. Attachment

Attachment 1 *Title 'Honourable' Lists*

Title ‘Honourable’ Lists

last updated – 24 October 2025

List of office holders who have been granted approval to retain the title ‘Honourable’ for life (in order of date of gazette)

* indicates application approved as special case.

Office Holder	Office Held	Date Gazetted
GRAY George Wilkie	Minister	3/11/1903
MURRAY John	Minister	3/11/1903
BLAIR James William	Minister	17/12/1910
KIDSTON William	Minister	17/05/1911
HAWTHORN Arthur George Clarence	Minister	20/04/1914
APPEL John George	Minister	11/11/1915
PAGET Walter Trueman	Minister	9/03/1916
ARMSTRONG William Drayton	Speaker	14/07/1916
HARDARCE Herbert Freemont	Minister	21/01/1920
HUNTER John McEwan	Minister	21/01/1920
RYAN Thomas Joseph	Premier	21/01/1920
REAL Patrick	Judge	4/08/1922
O’SULLIVAN Thomas K.C	Judge	15/03/1927
SHAND William Alfred Byam	Judge	25/01/1928
LUKIN Lionel Oscar	Judge	2/04/1928
MACNAUGHTON Allan Wight	Judge	12/03/1929
FIHELLY John Arthur	Minister	29/04/1930
SIZER Hubert Ebenezer	Minister	17/01/1935
KING Reginald MacDonnell	Minister	22/10/1935
MORGAN Godfrey	Minister	17/01/1939
MULLAN John	Minister	8/03/1941
DASH John	Minister	13/05/1941
SMITH William Forgan	Premier	20/02/1943
BULCOCK Frank W	Minister	15/06/1943
HANSON Edward Joseph	Speaker	27/10/1944
COOPER F.A.	Lieutenant-Governor	13/03/1946
WALKER Henry Fredrick	Minister	13/01/1947
BRUCE Henry Adam	Minister	1/07/1950
DOUGLAS Robert Johnstone	Judge	8/01/1954
WILLIAMS Thomas Lewis	Minister	16/05/1956
HILTON Paul Jerome Remigius	Minister	1/12/1957
COLLINS Harold Henry	Minister	2/12/1957
GAIR Vincent Clair	Minister	2/12/1957
JONES Arthur	Minister	2/12/1957
POWER William	Minister	2/12/1957

Office Holder	Office Held	Date Gazetted
HEADING James Alfred CMG DCM *	Minister	15/09/1960
MATTHEWS Benjamin Henry	Judge	23/01/1962
MORRIS Kenneth James	Minister	13/02/1963
MADSEN Otto Ottosen	Minister	18/07/1963
TOWNLEY Kenneth Russell	Judge	18/01/1964
STANLEY Edward James Droughton	Judge	14/11/1964
JEFFERIES Bernard Joseph	Judge	25/02/1965
MUNRO Alan Whiteside	Minister	25/02/1965
HILEY Thomas Alfred	Minister	25/02/1966
MANSFIELD Alan KCMG	Chief Justice	10/03/1966
NICKLIN G. F (Francis) R.	Premier	28/02/1968
RICHTER Harold	Minister	10/07/1969
DEWAR Alexander Tattenhall	Minister	13/03/1970
TATTENHALL Dewar Alexander	Minister	13/03/1970
SHEEHY Sir Joseph Aloysius KBE	Judge	15/07/1970
MACK Sir William George KBE	Chief Justice	24/06/1971
DELAMOTHE Dr Peter Roylance OBE	Minister	3/02/1972
NICHOLSON Sir David	Speaker	8/08/1972
ROW Sir John Alfred	Minister	8/08/1972
SKERMAN Russell Wigton	Judge	17/01/1974
FLETCHER Sir Alan Roy	Minister	23/12/1974
RAE Sir Wallace Alexander Ramsay	Minister	23/12/1974
TOOTH Sir Douglas	Minister	23/12/1974
CHALK Sir Gordon William Wesley KBE	Minister	13/09/1976
HANGER Sir Moystn KBE	Chief Justice	10/09/1977
HERBERT John Desmond	Minister	24/10/1978
HOUGHTON James Edward Hiram	Speaker	23/08/1979
HODGES Allen Maxwell	Minister	23/10/1979
NEWBURY T. G	Minister	23/10/1979
STABLE Norton S	Judge	23/10/1979
HOARE Marcus Bentram CMG	Judge	12/03/1980
CAMM Ronald Ernest	Minister	18/08/1980
CAMPBELL Frederick Alexander	Minister	25/02/1981
GREENWOOD John Ward QC	Minister	25/02/1981
HEWITT Neville Thomas Eric MM AFM	Minister	25/02/1981
LEE Norman Edward	Minister	25/02/1981
LICKISS William Daniel QGM	Minister	25/02/1981
PORTER Charles Robert	Minister	25/02/1981
LUCAS Geoffrey A G AC	Judge	27/02/1982
WANSTALL Sir Charles	Judge	27/02/1982
SULLIVAN Victor Bruce	Minister	22/01/1983
TOMKINS Kenneth Burgoyne	Minister	22/01/1983
DOUMANY Samuel Sydney	Minister	22/10/1983

Office Holder	Office Held	Date Gazetted
EDWARDS Sir Llewellyn AC	Minister	22/10/1983
KNOX Sir William	Minister	22/10/1983
BIRD Valmond James	Minister	31/03/1984
MULLER Selwyn John	Speaker	31/03/1984
WILLIAMS Sir Edward KCMG KBE	Judge	14/04/1984
SHEAHAN C D	Judge	27/04/1985
CAMPBELL Sir Walter AC QC	Judge	29/06/1985
CAMPBELL Douglas Malcolm	Judge	2/09/1985
WHARTON Claude Alfred CMG	Minister	2/12/1986
TURNER Neil John	Minister	28/01/1987
WARNER John Herbert*	Speaker	25/06/1987
BJELKE-PETERSEN Sir Joh KCMG	Premier	4/02/1988
MATTHEWS Ronald Henry	Judge	20/02/1989
ANDREWS Sir Dormer	Judge	1/06/1989
POWELL Lionel William	Minister/Speaker	4/10/1989
AHERN Michael John	Premier	8/12/1989
GLASSON William Hamline	Minister	8/12/1989
MCKECHNIE Peter Richard	Minister	8/12/1989
TENNI Martin James	Minister	8/12/1989
HARPER Neville John	Minister	26/04/1990
KATTER Robert Carl	Minister	26/04/1990
LESTER Vincent Patrick	Minister	26/04/1990
GUNN William Angus Mason	Minister	12/07/1990
COMBEN Patrick	Minister	23/06/1995
SMITH Geoffrey Norman	Minister	17/11/1995
WELLS Dean MacMillan	Minister	22/12/1995
CARTER William Joseph	Judge	12/01/1996
CONNOLLY Peter David CBE	Judge	12/01/1996
KELLY Jack Lawrence CBE	Judge	12/01/1996
RYAN Kevin William	Judge	12/01/1996
BRADDY Paul Joseph	Minister	26/04/1996
BURNS Thomas James	Minister	26/04/1996
DELACY Keith Ernest	Minister	26/04/1996
ELDER James Peter	Minister	26/04/1996
FOLEY Matthew Joseph	Minister	26/04/1996
GIBBS Robert James	Minister	26/04/1996
HAMILL David John	Minister	26/04/1996
HAYWARD Kenneth William OAM	Minister	26/04/1996
MACKENROTH Terence Michael	Minister	26/04/1996
MCGRADY Anthony	Minister	26/04/1996
MILLINER Glen Richard	Minister	26/04/1996
FOURAS Demetrios	Speaker	17/05/1996
WARNER Anne Marie AM	Minister	17/05/1996

Office Holder	Office Held	Date Gazetted
CASEY Edmund	Minister	23/08/1996
GIBBS Ivan J	Minister	4/07/1997
MACROSSAN John AC	Chief Justice	5/06/1998
BORBIDGE Robert Edward	Premier	2/10/1998
COOPER Theo Russell	Minister	2/10/1998
LINGARD Kevin Rowson	Minister	2/10/1998
LITTLEPROUD Brian George	Minister	2/10/1998
FITZGERALD Gerald Edward AC	President Court of Appeal	12/02/1999
DERRINGTON Desmond Keith	Judge	14/07/2000
LEE William Charles	Judge	14/07/2000
SHEPHERDSON Tom Farquhar	Judge	4/08/2000
THOMAS James Burrows	Judge	14/06/2002
AMBROSE Brian William	Judge	28/11/2003
BREDHAUER Stephen Dominic	Minister	2/04/2004
CUNNINGHAM Junita Irene	Minister	2/04/2004
EDMOND Wendy Marjorie	Minister	7/05/2004
DAVIES Geoffrey Lance AO	Judge	22/04/2005
BARTON Thomas Alfred	Minister	9/02/2007
McPHERSON Bruce Harvey CBE	Judge	9/02/2007
PALASZCZUK Henry	Minister	9/02/2007
HELMAN John Westlake Barrett	Judge	19/10/2007
BEATTIE Peter Douglas	Premier	26/10/2007
MOYNIHAN Martin Patrick AO	Judge	16/11/2007
JERRARD John Alexander	Judge	8/12/2008
MACKENZIE Kenneth George William	Judge	20/03/2009
KEECH Margaret Majella	Minister	19/06/2009
PITT Frederick Warren	Minister	19/06/2009
REYNOLDS Michael Francis	Minister/Speaker	19/06/2009
SPENCE Judith Caroline	Minister	19/06/2009
WELFORD Rodney Jon	Minister	19/06/2009
BOYLE Desley Carole	Minister	29/04/2011
SCHWARTEN Robert Evan	Minister	29/04/2011
CULLINANE Keiran A AM	Judge	13/01/2012
CHESTERMAN Richard AO RFD	Judge	25/07/2012
MICKEL John	Minister/Speaker	25/07/2012
JONES Stanley Graham AO	Judge	17/08/2012
WHITE Margaret AO	Judge	11/09/2013
BLIGH Anna Maria	Premier	13/12/2013
DICK Cameron Robert	Minister	13/12/2013
LUCAS Paul Thomas	Minister	13/12/2013
MULHERIN Timothy Sean	Minister	13/12/2013
NOLAN Rachel Genevieve	Minister	13/12/2013
PALASZCZUK Annastacia	Minister	13/12/2013

Office Holder	Office Held	Date Gazetted
REEVES Philip Gerard	Minister	13/12/2013
ROBERTS Neil Stuart	Minister	13/12/2013
WALLACE Craig Andrew	Minister	13/12/2013
WILSON Geoffrey James	Minister	13/12/2013
de JERSEY Paul AC CVO	Chief Justice	9/07/2014
FRYBERG Henry George	Judge	27/03/2015
WILSON Margaret Anne	Judge	27/03/2015
HINCHLIFFE Stirling	Minister	3/07/2015
MUIR John Daniel Murray QC	Judge	14/08/2015
WILSON Alan Muir QC	Judge	18/12/2015
SPRINGBORG Lawrence AM	Minister	23/09/2016
FRASER, Andrew Peter	Minister	-
McMURDO Margaret Anne AC	Judge	2/06/2017
LYONS Peter	Judge	28/07/2017
BYRNE John Harris AO	Judge	2/03/2018
McMEEKIN Duncan Vincent Cook	Judge	1/06/2018
ATKINSON Roslyn Gay AO	Judge	7/06/2019
GOTTERSON, Robert AO	Judge	9/10/2020
DOUGLAS, James Sholto	Judge	16/10/2020
LYNHAM, Anthony Joseph	Minister	12/03/2021
JONES, Kate Jennifer	Minister	16/04/2021
O'ROURKE, Coralee Jane	Minister	16/04/2021
PHILIPPIDES, Anthe Ioanna	Judge	24/09/2021
LYONS, Ann	Judge	14/04/2022
DAUBNEY, Alfred (Martin) AM	Judge	13/05/2022
FRASER, Hugh Barron KC	Judge	20/01/2023
HOLMES, Catherine Ena AC	Chief Justice	3/02/2023
JACKSON, David John Sandford	Judge	21/07/2023
McMURDO, Philip Donald	Judge	21/07/2023
BAILEY, Mark Craig	Minister	15/03/2024
CRAWFORD, Craig Daryl	Minister	28/03/2024
MORRISON, Philip	Judge	27/09/2024
PITT, Curtis Warren	Minister/Speaker	25/10/2024
MILES, Steven John	Premier	7/03/2025
GRACE, Grace	Minister	7/03/2025
FENTIMAN, Shannon Maree	Minister	7/03/2025
de BRENNI, Michael Christopher	Minister	7/03/2025
SCANLON, Meaghan Alana Jenkins	Minister	7/03/2025
RYAN, Mark Thomas	Minister	7/03/2025
ENOCH, Leeanne Margaret	Minister	7/03/2025
FARMER, Dianne Elizabeth	Minister	7/03/2025
FURNER, Mark	Minister	7/03/2025
BUTCHER, Glenn James	Minister	7/03/2025
LINARD, Leanne Maree	Minister	7/03/2025

Office Holder	Office Held	Date Gazetted
APPLEGARTH, Peter AM KC	Judge	7/03/2025
FLANAGAN, Peter	Judge	3/10/2025
D'ATH, Yvette Maree	Minister	24/10/2025