Justices of the Peace Branch

Technical Bulletin: 01/22

March 2022

Membership of associations

Previous references

Supersedes Technical Bulletin 02/10 – Membership of associations

General Information

As regulator of the *Justices of the Peace and Commissioners for Declarations Act 1991*, the Justices of the Peace Branch (JP Branch) manages the application process for people seeking to be appointed as Justices of the Peace (JP) or Commissioners for Declarations (Cdec) throughout Queensland. We also oversee the compliance, administration, management, and long-service awards of JPs and Cdecs, once appointed to office.

In addition to the administrative role, the JP Branch is responsible for all official publications such as handbooks, technical bulletins, JP bulletins and other publications. To complement these publications, you can access a range of free professional development opportunities, including <u>webinars</u>, <u>online modules</u>, and <u>face-to-face workshops</u>.

Another fundamental role of the JP Branch is the JPs in the Community program (program). We support and manage the volunteers in the program by providing resources, a dedicated contact in the JP Branch and regularly acknowledging the dedication of the services that volunteers provide.

In addition to the JP Branch, it is also important you are aware of the several associations that exist across Queensland that provide additional peer support and networking opportunities to members.

Purpose of associations

These associations were individually established by like-minded persons and the benefits of membership vary between associations. Some have regular meetings, deliver in-house workshops, and offer stamps and other goods for members to purchase.

Some members of associations also support the volunteer JPs in the Community program by coordinating rosters, mentoring, and disseminating information to volunteers. The JP Branch works closely with all associations to ensure best witnessing practice is maintained

You may be, or have been, contacted by these associations to become a member. Joining an association is a further opportunity for you to become active in your role as a JP or Cdec and to ensure your knowledge base is current when providing your services to members of the public. Membership is entirely optional, and you may be charged a fee for joining.

It is important to distinguish the difference between these associations and the JP Branch. While we collaborate and maintain a positive relationship with these associations, they run independently from the JP Branch and the Department of Justice and Attorney-General.



Contact details

Below are the contact details for each association and you are encouraged to contact them directly should you wish to become a member.

There are currently five (5) Justices Associations throughout Queensland including:

1. Association of Justices of the Peace and Commissioners for Declarations Inc.

Location: Townsville North Queensland

Phone: (07) 4779 2324

Email: AJC@austarnet.com.au

2. Gold Coast Justices Association Inc.

Location: Gold Coast Phone: 0405 310 813

Email: secretary@gcjustices.org.au Website: www.gcjustices.org.au

3. JPs FNQ Group.

Location: Cairns Far North Queensland

Phone: 0418 243 652 Email: ip@fnq.cc

Website: http://fnq.cc/jps fnq group

4. Justice of the Peace Society (Qld) Inc Location: Maroochydore Sunshine Coast

Phone: 0488 539 311 Email: jpsq@bigpond.com

5. Queensland Justices Association (QJA)

Location: Brisbane with local branches across Queensland

Phone: (07) 3392 2455 or 1800 061 423

Website: http://www.gja.com.au

If your contact details have changed and you need to update them with the JP Branch, you can do so by visiting www.qld.gov.au/jps, sending us an email jp@justice.qld.gov.au or speaking to one of our friendly and professional staff on 1300 301 147. Don't forget, if you are already a member of an association, you will also need to update your details with them.

Regards,

Damien Mealey

Registrar and Manager

Justices of the Peace Branch

Department of Justice and Attorney-General