

DECREE CONCERNING TRIBUNALS OF SECOND INSTANCE IN AUSTRALIA AND IN NEW ZEALAND

The Apostolic Signatura has examined the organization of the ecclesiastical tribunals in Australia and New Zealand and has requested a new arrangement to ensure the separation of personnel in hierarchically related tribunals. Accordingly we decree as follows:

1. The National Tribunal of Second Instance established by the Australian Catholic Bishops Conference on 13 September 1974 is hereby suppressed.
2. The present first instance regional tribunals within Australia and New Zealand will act as tribunals of second instance as follows:
 - (i) The Regional Tribunal of Sydney as the tribunal of second instance for the regional tribunals of Melbourne, Brisbane, Adelaide, Perth and New Zealand
 - (ii) The Regional Tribunal of Melbourne as the tribunal of second instance for the regional tribunals of Sydney and Brisbane
 - (iii) The Regional Tribunal of Brisbane as the tribunal of second instance for the regional tribunal of Sydney
 - (iv) The Regional Tribunal of Adelaide as the tribunal of second instance for the regional tribunal of Sydney.
 - (v) The Regional Tribunal of Perth as the tribunal of second instance for the regional tribunals of Melbourne and Brisbane
 - (vi) The Regional Tribunal of New Zealand as the tribunal of second instance for the regional tribunals of Adelaide and Melbourne
3. To ensure the impartial distribution of cases the following protocol numbers will be added as extensions to the usual case numbers of first instance: 02 Sydney 03 Melbourne 04 Brisbane 05 Adelaide 06 Perth 07 New Zealand.

Hence, the following distribution system will be adopted:

CASES FROM THE REGIONAL TRIBUNAL OF PERTH

To the usual case number the extension 02 will be added, e.g. 601-10-001-02

CASES FROM THE REGIONAL TRIBUNAL OF NEW ZEALAND

To the usual case number the extension 02 will be added, e.g. 701-10-001-02

CASES FROM THE REGIONAL TRIBUNAL OF ADELAIDE

To the usual case number ending in an even number the extension 02 will be added, e.g. 501-10-002-02.

To case numbers ending in an odd number the extension 07 will be added, e.g. 501-10-001-07

CASES FROM THE REGIONAL TRIBUNAL OF MELBOURNE

To the usual case numbers ending in 0, 3, 4, 7, 8 will be added the extension 02, e.g. 301-10-010-02, 301-10-013-02, 301-10-017-02, 301-10-018-02

To the usual case numbers ending in 1, 5, 9 will be added the extension 07, e.g. 301-10-001-07, 301-10-005-07, 301-10-009-07

To the usual case numbers ending in 2, 6 will be added the extension 06, e.g. 301-10-002-06, 301-10-006-06

CASES FROM THE REGIONAL TRIBUNAL OF BRISBANE

To the usual case numbers ending in 0, 1, 5, 6 will be added the extension 02, e.g. 401-10-010-02, 401-10-001-02, 401-10-005-02, 401-10-006-02

To the usual case numbers ending in 2, 3, 7, 8 will be added the extension 03, e.g. 401-10-002-03, 401-10-003-03, 401-10-007-03, 401-10-008-03

To the usual case numbers ending in 4, 9 will be added the extension 06, e.g. 401-10-004-06, 401-10-009-06

CASES FROM REGIONAL TRIBUNAL OF SYDNEY

To the usual case numbers ending in 0, 1, 5, 6 will be added the extension 03, e.g. 201-10-010-03, 201-10-001-03, 201-10-005-03, 201-10-006-03

To the usual case numbers ending in 2, 3, 7, 8 will be added the extension 04, e.g. 201-10-002-04, 201-10-003-04, 201-10-007-04, 201-10-008-04

To the usual case numbers ending in 4, 9 will be added the extension 05, e.g. 201-10-004-05, 201-10-009-05

4. This decree is enacted according to the provisions of can. 455 of the Code of Canon Law by the Australian Catholic Bishops Conference and the New Zealand Catholic Bishops Conference.
5. Once *recognitio* is given by the Apostolic See, the decree will be published in the *Australasian Catholic Record* and will come into force on the expiry of one full calendar month after the last day of the month of publication appearing on that particular issue of the Record.

Most Rev Philip Wilson
President
Australian Catholic Bishops Conference
Conference

Most Rev John Dew
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New Zealand Catholic Bishops

Rev Brian Lucas
Notary

Notary

Sydney

Christchurch

8 May 2010