Justices of the Peace Branch

# Justices of the Peace Branch March 2021 Update

JP Shop | Update your details | Professional development for JPs and Cdecs

Dear colleagues,

Following on from our eBulletin <u>last month</u>, please find our latest eBulletin update video below as well as other relevant information for your role as a Justice of the Peace and Commissioner for Declarations.



## Making directions for mental health

The Advance health directive for mental health <u>form and guide</u> have been updated and published.

In Queensland, people can choose to record their directions, and express their views, wishes and preferences about their mental healthcare.

New enduring forms were introduced when changes to the <u>Powers of Attorney Act 1998</u> came into force on 30 November 2020.





People can choose to record their wishes in either of the following forms:

- Advance health directive for mental health (issued by Queensland Health)
- Advance health directive (issued by the Department of Justice and Attorney-General)

These forms give the person a greater say in their healthcare if they become unwell and are unable to make decisions about their healthcare. You can read more about the changes to advance health directives in this fact sheet issued by Queensland Health.

clearer and easier to find.

#### New look title searches



On 22 March 2021, the Titles Registry is introducing a new look for current and historical title search statements. Improved formatting makes important information

In line with provisions under s.162 of the *Land Title Act 1994*, you can expect to see the new format title search often being presented as evidence of a person's entitlement to sign a Titles Registry form.

However, please note that the old plain-text format title search will continue to be available to customers via some online distribution channels. Importantly, both the new and old versions of the title search may be relied upon by you as a witnessing officer.

While the new format <u>search</u> looks different be assured the same trusted details remain.

- Title reference (now appears on the top left)
- Lot on plan description (shown under the heading Estate and Land)
- Registered Owner/s (under the heading Registered Owner)

To determine the currency of a title search, refer to the search date. Further information regarding these changes have been included in Titles Registry Alert 179.

If you have any questions, you can also email titlesinfo@resources.qld.gov.au.

### **Professional development opportunities**

The Justices of the Peace Branch is pleased to announce the return of our webinar program for 2021.

Each month, you can spend time online with officers from the Community Engagement Team, who will discuss best witnessing practices and bust some common witnessing myths, before wrapping with a live Q&A.

I invite you to view our program and register for any webinar topic that is of interest to you. This year, once the webinar has been presented, it will be published on our web page for you to watch at a time that suits you.

In the meantime, two recorded webinars have been published regarding the recent changes to the Powers of Attorney Act 1998 that you can watch online at any time.

## **Professional development for JPs and Cdecs**

If you have any questions or concerns regarding your role as a witnessing officer in Queensland, please don't hesitate contacting the Justices of the Peace Branch on 1300 301 147 or jp@justice.qld.gov.au.

Warm regards,

Damien Mealey **Registrar and Manager Justices of the Peace Branch** 

As a Justice of the Peace (JP) or Commissioner for Declarations (Cdec) you play a vital part in the adminstration of justice for the community. From time to time, there are changes made to the laws and functions that relate to your duties. As an active JP or Cdec, it is important you are made aware of this information to ensure you are exercising your duties correctly and lawfully.

If you believe you should not be receiving this email entirely, contact the Justices of the Peace Branch on ip@iustice.qld.qov.au or phone 1300 301 147 during business hours.

