



Special Commission of Inquiry into the Greyhound Racing Industry in New South Wales

PRACTICE NOTE 1 – AUTHORISATION TO APPEAR AT PUBLIC HEARINGS

Preamble

It is likely many individuals and groups may wish to assist the Commissioner's inquiry without seeking authorisation to appear. It is possible to assist the Commission by making written submissions or by providing a factual statement or giving evidence or other information. Any of those things can be done without the need to seek authorisation to appear. If you want to discuss the ways you might participate you can contact Cheryl Drummy, Special Counsel for the Crown Solicitor, solicitor assisting the Commissioner, at the Crown Solicitor's Office on (02) 8224 5300.

This Practice Note is directed to those individuals or organisations considering seeking authorisation to appear at public hearings.

Authorisation to appear

1. The Commissioner may authorise a person (or a solicitor or barrister on their behalf) to appear at the Commission's public hearings, or a specified part of the public hearings, if it is shown to the satisfaction of the Commissioner that the person is substantially and directly interested in any subject-matter of the inquiry (or otherwise satisfies the requirement of s 12(2) of the *Special Commissions of Inquiry Act 1983*). Authorisation may be:
 - (a) granted subject to conditions or limitations;
 - (b) made subject to altered or additional conditions or limitations at any time;
 - (c) withdrawn by the Commissioner.
2. Applications for authorisation to appear at the public hearings of the Commission should be made at the first sitting of the Commission on 10 June 2015. Prior notice of the application for authorisation and its stated basis should be provided in writing to the Solicitor Assisting the Commissioner as soon as practicable and before 1 June 2015.
3. The Commissioner will continue to receive and consider subsequent applications for authorisation to appear during the course of the public hearings. It is expected that an explanation for any delay in making an application to appear will be provided.

4. It is expected that any person granted authorisation to appear at the public hearings will take such steps as may reasonably be required to assist with the orderly conduct of the Commission.
5. Authorisation to appear entitles the person to whom it is granted to participate in the public proceedings of the Commission subject to the Commissioner's control and to such extent as the Commissioner considers appropriate. In this respect, the Commissioner may (either when authorisation is granted or subsequently):
 - (a) limit the person's participation to the provision of submissions in writing;
 - (b) grant (or refuse to grant) leave to examine and cross-examine witnesses;
 - (c) limit the particular topics or issues upon which the person may examine and cross-examine witnesses; and/or
 - (d) impose time limits upon examination and cross-examination.
6. The Commission reserves the right to vary or depart from the above practices from time to time where considered necessary or desirable to do so.

7 May 2015