

WITNESSING DOCUMENTS

On 1 January 2006 the Parliament of Western Australia proclaimed the *Oaths, Affidavits and Statutory Declarations Act 2005* which makes changes to the manner in which oaths, affidavits and statutory declarations are administered and witnessed.

Under the new legislation more than 40 occupational groups are able to witness statutory declarations, including teachers, engineers, doctors and public servants. This change means the role of commissioner for declarations will no longer exist.

Professions that can now witness statutory declarations include:

- Academics - University faculties
- Architects
- Australian Consular Officers
- Australian Diplomatic Officers
- Auditors and liquidators
- Bank Managers
- Chartered Secretaries
- Chemists
- Accountant - as per the Act
- Chiropractor
- Defence Force Officer
- Dentist
- Doctors
- Electorate Officers (State)
- Engineers
- Industrial organization secretaries
- Insurance brokers
- Justice of the Peace
- Lawyers
- Local government CEO's and Deputy Chiefs
- Local government councillors
- Loss adjusters
- Marriage celebrants
- Members of Parliament
- Minister of Religion
- Nurses
- Optometrists
- Patent Attorney
- Physiotherapists
- Podiatrists
- Police officer
- Post Office Managers
- Psychologist
- Public notary
- Public Servants (Commonwealth)
- Public Servants (State)
- Real Estate Agents
- Settlement agents
- Surveyor
- Teachers
- Veterinary surgeons
- WA Police Service

For further information on witnessing documents please contact (08) 9425 2896. For a copy of the *Oaths, Affidavits and Statutory Declarations Act 2005* go to www.slp.wa.gov.au.