



**Industrial Relations
Commission**
of New South Wales

Tape recording of Industrial Court and Industrial Relations Commission proceedings policy

Purpose

This policy permits the media to use tape recorders during Industrial Court or Industrial Relations Commission proceedings for the purpose of preparing fair and accurate reports of those proceedings. This policy does not apply to

- conciliation of proceedings, for example, under s 84 or s 106 of the *Industrial Relations Act 1996* (the Act)
- to compulsory conferences or other dispute proceedings the Act
- other proceedings determined to be private between the parties

Application

This policy applies to journalists who work for recognised media organisations and who can provide appropriate professional identification.

Approval process

Upon application through the Industrial Registrar (see *Application by journalist to use a tape recorder during proceedings*), a presiding member may permit a journalist to take a tape recording of court or commission proceedings for the purpose of preparing a fair and accurate report of those proceedings.

Proceedings not to be disrupted

It is a condition of approval that tape recording must not cause any disruption to proceedings.

Conversations not to be recorded

Tape recordings must not be made of private conversations before or after proceedings or during breaks.

Use of tape recordings

Tape recordings of court or commission proceedings are not to be broadcast by radio, television or on the internet. Copies of tape recordings of proceedings are not to be made.

Destruction of recordings

Unless otherwise approved or directed by the court or commission, tape recordings must be deleted within 24 hours of being made. Until recordings are deleted, they must be kept in the possession of the approved journalist at all times.

Assistance to other journalists

Journalists who have approval to tape record proceedings are to provide reasonable assistance to other journalists seeking to prepare a fair and accurate report of the proceedings.

Official record of proceedings

The transcript produced by the Reporting Services Branch is, and will remain, the authoritative record of proceedings.

F L Wright *J*
President
21 February 2008



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**Application by journalist to use a tape
recorder during court or commission
proceedings**

Name of proceedings:	
Judicial Officer or Member:	
Date(s):	
Name of journalist:	
ID details & name of employer:	

I undertake to the Court or Commission that whenever I make use of a tape recorder during these court or commission proceedings:

1. I will not permit any recording to be used in any way other than for the preparation of publication of a fair and accurate report of the proceedings
2. I will not permit any recording of court or commission proceedings to be broadcast by radio, television or on the internet
3. I will not permit copies to be made of any recording of court or commission proceedings
4. I will not disrupt the proceedings in any way
5. I will only record proceedings and will not record conversations before or after or during breaks of court or commission proceedings.
6. I will, unless otherwise approved or directed by the Court or Commission, delete the recording within 24 hours of it being made and retain the recording in my possession at all times until deletion
7. I will provide reasonable assistance to other journalists seeking to listen to the recording to prepare a fair and accurate report of the proceedings as I note that a maximum of two tape recorders are permitted to be used in a courtroom.

I give these undertakings in the knowledge that any breach could result in contempt of court proceedings against me.

Signature of applicant:	
Date:	
Approved/not approved:	
Name and signature of presiding Judge:	
Date:	