



Australian Government

IT'S AN HONOUR

Australia Celebrating Australians

National Police Service Medal

About the award

The National Police Service Medal recognises the special status that sworn police officers have because of their role protecting the community. It represents a police officer's past and future commitment to give ethical and diligent service.

The National Police Service Medal was established on 9 November 2010 by Letters Patent.

How it is awarded

The Governor-General awards the National Police Service Medal on the recommendation of the responsible police force commissioner.

While a minimum of 15 years service is required to qualify for the National Police Service Medal, it does not represent a distinct period of service. A police officer must have been serving on or after 30 October 2008 in order to qualify for the National Police Service Medal.

The National Police Service Medal can also be awarded to persons whose ability to complete the minimum qualifying period has been removed through death, injury or disability in the course of their police service.

Medal design

The medal was designed by Inspector Rick Steinborn of the NSW Police Service and the ribbon by Federal Agent James Cheshire of the Australian Federal Police.

The medal is finished in cupro-nickel. The St Edward's Crown, representing the Sovereign whom all Australian police officers ultimately serve, is located on the suspender bar. The front (obverse) of the medal features the Federation Star located inside an unbroken circular chequered band, known as 'Sillitoe Tartan'. The Federation Star represents the national scope of the medal, while the Sillitoe Tartan is the internationally recognised symbol of policing.



The National Police Service Medal recognises the special status that sworn police officers have because of their role protecting the community

The unbroken band surrounds the star, signifying the unity and cooperation between each of the individual state, federal and territory police forces who together protect the entire Commonwealth. The back (reverse) of the medal has two sprays of golden wattle, the national floral symbol, located immediately below a raised horizontal panel on which the recipient's details can be engraved. The words 'FOR SERVICE AS AN AUSTRALIAN POLICE OFFICER' appear in capital letters around the inside of the outer rim.

Medal ribbon

The ribbon has a central panel of three stripes of dark blue, gold and dark blue. The central panel is flanked by white panels, each bisected by a thin red stripe. Blue and gold are Australia's heraldic colours, commonly used in the ribbons of Australian medals, while the blue and white are colours traditionally associated with police and police awards. The thin red stripes represent the ever-present hazards experienced in service as an Australian police officer.

Fast facts

POST NOMINAL:

There are no post-nominal entitlements.

INTRODUCED INTO THE AUSTRALIAN HONOURS SYSTEM:

2010

More information

IT'S AN HONOUR WEBSITE: www.itsanhonour.gov.au