



*EXTRAORDINARY*  
**OFFICIAL GAZETTE**  
**THE BAHAMAS**  
PUBLISHED BY AUTHORITY

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NASSAU

29<sup>th</sup> December, 2017

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# NATIONAL HONOURS REGULATIONS, 2017

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# OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR-GENERAL

S.I. No. 83 of 2017



## NATIONAL HONOURS ACT, 2016 (No. 1 of 2016)

### NATIONAL HONOURS REGULATIONS, 2017

The Governor-General, in exercise of the powers conferred by section 17 of the National Honours Act, 2016, makes the following Regulations

#### PART I - PRELIMINARY

**1. Citation.**

These Regulations may be cited as the National Honours Regulations, 2017.

**2. Interpretation.**

In these Regulations —

“Act” means the National Honours Act, 2016 (*No. 1 of 2016*);

“Advisory Committee” means the Advisory Committee established under section 3 of the Act;

“Order” means a society of honour established under section 5 of the Act.

**3. Administration of societies of honour.**

In accordance with section 6 of the Act, the Governor-General shall be the Chancellor for the societies of honour under the Act and shall be responsible for the administration of all societies of honour under this Act.

**4. Privileges of the Chancellor.**

(1) The Chancellor shall be entitled to wear such insignia as described in the *Second Schedule* and to represent such insignia pendant beneath the shield of such coat of arms as they may lawfully bear.

(2) The —

(a) wearing and display of the insignia in The Bahamas; and

(b) use of the prescribed letters,

shall be in accordance with the terms of any regulation regarding the precedence of Bahamian honours, decorations and medals in force for the time being.

**5. Recommendation of appointment to an Order.**

- (1) In recommending persons to the Prime Minister in accordance with section 3 of the Act, for appointment to an Order, the Advisory Committee, shall consider such persons as have shown considerable achievement in the service of The Bahamas or the Bahamian people and have satisfied any such requirements to be appointed to that Order.
- (2) Subject to paragraph (1), the Advisory Committee, with regard to recommendations for appointment to—
  - (a) the Order of The Bahamas;
  - (b) the Order of Excellence;
  - (c) the Order of Distinction;
  - (d) the Order of Merit; and
  - (e) the Order of Lignum Vitae,shall take into consideration such public nominations made in accordance with due form as shown in the *First Schedule*.

## **PART II – SOCIETIES OF HONOUR**

### **ARMS AND MOTTOS OF ORDERS**

**6. Arms and Mottos of Orders.**

- (1) There shall be, in relation to each Order, Arms which shall be such as are exemplified to the Order and a Motto.
- (2) The Chancellor for the time being, shall be entitled to impale the Arms of the Orders with his own lawfully borne Arms.

**7. Seals of the Orders.**

The Chancellor shall, in relation to each Order, cause a seal to be engraved with the Arms and Motto of that Order and shall retain custody thereof.

### **ORDER OF NATIONAL HERO**

**8. Members of the Order of National Hero.**

- (1) A Member of the Order of National Hero shall be such persons as described in section 9 of the Act as the Chancellor appoints to the Order on the advice of the Prime Minister.
- (2) The Members of the Order of National Hero shall take seniority within the Order according to their date of appointment.

**9. Privileges of the Order of National Hero.**

- (1) A Member of the Order of National Hero shall be entitled—
- (a) to have, hold and enjoy the style, title or attribute of “Right Excellent” before their names or with such other titles as they may lawfully bear;
  - (b) to place the letters “N.H.” after their names or such titles as they may lawfully bear; and
  - (c) to wear such insignia as described in the *Second Schedule* and to represent such insignia pendant beneath the shield of such coat of arms as they may lawfully bear.
- (2) The —
- (a) wearing and display of the insignia in The Bahamas; and
  - (b) use of the prescribed letters,
- shall be in accordance with the terms of any regulation regarding the precedence of Bahamian honours, decorations and medals in force for the time being.

ORDER OF THE NATION

**10. Members of the Order of the Nation.**

- (1) A Member of the Order of the Nation shall be—
- (a) the Chancellor as Principal Member;
  - (b) any former Governor-General; and
  - (c) the Prime Minister or any person who has served as Prime Minister of the Commonwealth of The Bahamas.
- (2) The Members of the Order shall take seniority within the Order after the Principal Member and then according to the date of their holding the office of Governor-General or Prime Minister.

**11. Privileges of the Order of the Nation.**

- (1) A Member of the Order of the Nation shall be entitled—
- (a) to have, hold and enjoy the style, title or attribute of “Most Honourable” before their names or with such other titles as they may lawfully bear;
  - (b) to place the letters “O.N.” after their names or such titles as they may lawfully bear; and
  - (c) to wear such insignia as described in the *Second Schedule* and to represent such insignia pendant beneath the shield of such coat of arms as they may lawfully bear.

- (2) The —
- (a) wearing and display of the insignia in The Bahamas; and
  - (b) use of the prescribed letters,
- shall be in accordance with the terms of any regulation regarding the precedence of Bahamian honours, decorations and medals in force for the time being.

## ORDER OF THE BAHAMAS

### 12. Ranks of the Order of The Bahamas.

There shall be three ranks of membership in the Order of The Bahamas, namely —

- (a) Companion;
- (b) Officer; and
- (c) Member.

### 13. Companions of the Order of The Bahamas.

The Companions of the Order of The Bahamas shall —

- (a) be—
  - (i) the Chancellor as Principal Companion; and
  - (ii) such citizens of The Bahamas as the Chancellor appoints to the rank of Companion on the recommendation of the Advisory Committee; and
- (b) take seniority within the Order after the Principal Companion and then according to the date of their appointment.

### 14. Officers of the Order of The Bahamas.

The Officers of the Order shall —

- (a) be such citizens of The Bahamas as the Chancellor appoints to the Order in the rank of Officer on the recommendation of the Advisory Committee; and
- (b) take seniority within the Order after the Companions and then according to their date of appointment.

### 15. Members of the Order of The Bahamas.

The Members of the Order of The Bahamas shall —

- (a) be such citizens of The Bahamas as the Chancellor appoints to the Order in the rank of Member on the recommendation of the Advisory Committee; and

- (b) take seniority within the Order after the Officers and then according to their date of appointment.

**16. Promotion within the Order of The Bahamas.**

A member of the Order of The Bahamas who is promoted to a higher rank within the Order shall be entitled to the privileges of the rank to which he is appointed.

**17. Privileges of the Order of The Bahamas.**

- (1) A Companion of the Order of The Bahamas shall be entitled—
  - (a) to have, hold and enjoy the style, title or attribute of “Right Honourable” before their name or with such other titles as they may lawfully bear;
  - (b) to place the letters “C.B.” after their name or such titles as they may lawfully bear; and
  - (c) to wear such insignia as described in the *Second Schedule*; and
  - (d) to present such insignia pendant beneath the shield of such coat of arms as they may lawfully bear.
- (2) An Officer of the Order of The Bahamas shall be entitled—
  - (a) to have, hold and enjoy the style, title or attribute of “Honourable” before their name or with such other titles as they may lawfully bear; and
  - (b) to place the letters “O.B.” after their name of such titles as they may lawfully bear.
  - (c) to wear such insignia as described in the *Second Schedule*; and
  - (d) to present such insignia pendant beneath the shield of such coat of arms as they may lawfully bear.
- (3) A Member of the Order of The Bahamas shall be entitled—
  - (a) to place the letters “M.B.” after their name of such titles as they may lawfully bear; and
  - (b) to wear such insignia as described in the *Second Schedule*; and
  - (c) to present such insignia pendant beneath the shield of such coat of arms as they may lawfully bear.
- (4) The —
  - (a) wearing and display of the insignia in The Bahamas; and
  - (b) use of the prescribed letters,shall be in accordance with the terms of any regulation regarding the precedence of Bahamian honours, decorations and medals in force for the time being.



## ORDER OF EXCELLENCE

### 18. Members of the Order of Excellence.

- (1) A Member of the Order of Excellence shall be—
  - (a) the Chancellor as Principal Member;
  - (b) such Heads of foreign governments, on the recommendation of the Prime Minister;
  - (c) such persons, not being citizens of The Bahamas who have given exemplary service to The Bahamas, on the recommendation of the Advisory Committee.
- (2) The Members of the Order of Excellence shall take seniority within the Order after the Principal Member and then according to the date of their appointment.

### 19. Privileges of the Order of Excellence.

- (1) A Member of the Order of Excellence shall be entitled—
  - (a) to have, hold and enjoy the style, title or attribute of “Honourable” before their names or with such other titles as they may lawfully bear;
  - (b) to place the letters “O.E.” after their names of such titles as they may lawfully bear; and
  - (c) to wear such insignia as described in the *Second Schedule*; and
  - (d) to present such insignia pendant beneath the shield of such coat of arms as they may lawfully bear.
- (2) The—
  - (a) wearing and display of the insignia in The Bahamas; and
  - (b) use of the prescribed letters,shall be in accordance with the terms of any regulation regarding the precedence of Bahamian honours, decorations and medals in force for the time being.

## ORDER OF DISTINCTION

### 20. Ranks of the Order of Distinction.

There shall be three ranks of membership in the Order of Distinction, namely—

- (a) Companions;
- (b) Officers; and

- (c) Members.

**21. Companions of the Order of Distinction.**

- (1) A Companion of the Order of Distinction shall be—
  - (a) the Chancellor as Principal Companion; and
  - (b) such citizens of The Bahamas as the Chancellor appoints to the rank of Companion on the recommendation of the Advisory Committee.
- (2) The Companions of the Order of Distinction shall take seniority within the Order after the Principal Companion and then according to the date of their appointment.

**22. Officers of the Order of Distinction.**

- (1) An Officer of the Order of Distinction shall be such citizens of The Bahamas as the Chancellor appoints to the Order in the rank of Officer on the recommendation of the Advisory Committee.
- (2) The Officers of the Order of Distinction shall take seniority within the Order after the Companion and then according to their date of appointment.

**23. Members of the Order of Distinction.**

- (1) A Member of the Order of Distinction shall be such citizens of The Bahamas as the Chancellor appoints to the Order in the rank of Member on the recommendation of the Advisory Committee.
- (2) The Members of the Order of Distinction shall take seniority within the Order after the Officers and then according to their date of appointment.

**24. Promotion within the Order of Distinction.**

A person appointed a member of the Order of Distinction who is promoted to higher rank within the Order shall be entitled to the privileges of the rank to which is he appointed.

**25. Privileges of the Order of Distinction.**

- (1) A Companion of the Order of Distinction shall be entitled—
  - (a) to place the letters "C.D." after their names or such titles as they may lawfully bear; and
  - (b) to wear such insignia as described in the *Second Schedule*; and
  - (c) to present such insignia pendant beneath the shield of such coat of arms as they may lawfully bear.
- (2) An Officer of the Order of Distinction shall be entitled—

- (a) to place the letters "O.D." after their names of such titles as they may lawfully bear; and
  - (b) to wear such insignia as described in the *Second Schedule*; and
  - (c) to present such insignia pendant beneath the shield of such coat of arms as they may lawfully bear.
- (3) A Member of the Order of Distinction shall be entitled—
- (a) to place the letters "D.M." after their names of such titles as they may lawfully bear; and
  - (b) to wear such insignia as described in the *Second Schedule*; and
  - (c) to present such insignia pendant beneath the shield of such coat of arms as they may lawfully bear.
- (4) The —
- (a) wearing and display of the insignia in The Bahamas; and
  - (b) use of the prescribed letters,
- shall be in accordance with the terms of any regulation regarding the precedence of Bahamian honours, decorations and medals in force for the time being.

## ORDER OF MERIT

### 26. Ranks of the Order of Merit.

There shall be three ranks of membership in the Order of Merit, namely—

- (a) Companions;
- (b) Officers; and
- (c) Members.

### 27. Companions of the Order of Merit.

- (1) A Companion of the Order of Merit shall be—
  - (a) the Chancellor as Principal Companion; and
  - (b) such citizens of The Bahamas as the Chancellor appoints to the rank of Companion, on the recommendation of the Advisory Committee.
- (2) The Companions of the Order of Merit shall take seniority within the Order after the Principal Companion and then according to the date of their appointment.

**28. Officers of the Order of Merit.**

- (1) An Officer of the Order of Merit shall be such citizens of The Bahamas as the Chancellor appoints to the Order in the rank of Officer on the recommendation of the Advisory Committee.
- (2) The Officers of the Order of Merit shall take seniority within the Order after the Companion and then according to their date of appointment.

**29. Members of the Order of Merit.**

- (1) A Member of the Order of Merit shall be such citizens of The Bahamas as the Chancellor appoints to the Order in the rank of Member on the recommendation of the Advisory Committee.
- (2) The Members of the Order of Merit shall take seniority within the Order after the Officers and then according to their date of appointment.

**30. Promotion within the Order of Merit.**

A person appointed a member of the Order of Merit who is promoted to a higher rank within the Order shall be entitled to the privileges of the rank to which he is appointed.

**31. Privileges of the Order of Merit.**

- (1) A Companion of the Order of Merit shall be entitled —
  - (a) to place the letters "C.M." after their names or such titles as they may lawfully bear; and
  - (b) to wear such insignia as described in the *Second Schedule* and to present such insignia pendant beneath the shield of such coat of arms as they may lawfully bear.
- (2) An Officer of the Order of Merit shall be entitled—
  - (a) to place the letters "O.M." after their names or such titles as they may lawfully bear; and
  - (b) to wear such insignia as described in the *Second Schedule*; and
  - (c) to present such insignia pendant beneath the shield of such coat of arms as they may lawfully bear.
- (3) A Member of the Order of Merit shall be entitled—
  - (a) to place the letters "M.M." after their names or such titles as they may lawfully bear; and
  - (b) to wear such insignia as described in the *Second Schedule*; and
  - (c) to present such insignia pendant beneath the shield of such coat of arms as they may lawfully bear.
- (4) The —

- (a) wearing and display of the insignia in The Bahamas; and
- (b) use of the prescribed letters,

shall be in accordance with the terms of any regulation regarding the precedence of Bahamian honours, decorations and medals in force for the time being.

## ORDER OF LIGNUM VITAE

### 32. Members of the Order of Lignum Vitae.

- (1) A Member of the Order of Lignum Vitae shall be—
  - (a) the Chancellor as Principal Member;
  - (b) such citizens of The Bahamas as the Chancellor appoints to the rank of Member, on the recommendation of the Advisory Committee.
- (2) The Members of the Order of Lignum Vitae shall take seniority within the Order after the Principal Member and then according to the date of their appointment.

### 33. Privileges of the Order of Lignum Vitae.

- (1) A Member of the Order of Lignum Vitae shall be entitled—
  - (a) to place the letters “L.V.” after their names of such titles as they may lawfully bear; and
  - (b) to wear such insignia as described in the *Second Schedule*; and
  - (c) to present such insignia pendant beneath the shield of such coat of arms as they may lawfully bear.
- (2) The —
  - (a) wearing and display of the insignia in The Bahamas; and
  - (b) use of the prescribed letters,

shall be in accordance with the terms of any regulation regarding the precedence of Bahamian honours, decorations and medals in force for the time being.

## PART III – MISCELLANEOUS

### 34. Method of appointment.

A person shall be appointed to an Order in accordance with section 7(1) of the Act and such appointment shall be published in the Gazette and in such other manner as the Chancellor may decide.

**35. Ownership.**

- (1) Except as otherwise provided by written instrument bearing the sign manual of the Chancellor and seal of the Order, any insignia of the Order worn under the terms of these Regulations shall remain the property of the Order.
- (2) Any person resigning from an Order or whose appointment to the Order is terminated under section 12 of the Act shall immediately return his insignia to the Secretary of the Order from which his appointment has ceased.

**FIRST SCHEDULE**

(regulation 4(2))

**NATIONAL HONOURS AWARD NOMINATION FORM**  
**NOMINEE INFORMATION**

1 Name of nominee: \_\_\_\_\_

2 Age: \_\_\_\_\_

3 Street Address: \_\_\_\_\_

4 Telephone \_\_\_\_\_

5 Postal Address \_\_\_\_\_

6 Years at this address \_\_\_\_\_

7 Family Members \_\_\_\_\_

Spouse \_\_\_\_\_

Children \_\_\_\_\_

8 Occupation: \_\_\_\_\_

9 Years of Service: \_\_\_\_\_

10 Category: \_\_\_\_\_

Please choose one from the following list:

(a) Education	(h) Hospitality Industry
(b) Health Service	(i) Community Service
(c) Agriculture & Fisheries	(j) Public Service
(d) Religion	(k) Youth Development
(e) Sports	(l) Family Island Development
(f) Music/Entertainment	(m) Arts & Culture
(g) Law Enforcement	(n) other _____

11 List places/organisations in which nominee has served \_\_\_\_\_

12

Please include any other information that you feel the Advisory Committee should know about the nominee.

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**NOMINATOR INFORMATION**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Date of Birth: \_\_\_\_\_

Country of Birth: \_\_\_\_\_ Nationality: \_\_\_\_\_

Street Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Postal Address \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone \_\_\_\_\_

Occupation: \_\_\_\_\_

Place of Employment \_\_\_\_\_

Please indicate below whether you are making nomination as a part of a religion, civic, social or other group, provide the full name and address of the group, and provide the full name and address of the group and your position within it:

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Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Nominations must not be disclosed to the Nominee in order to avoid embarrassment if the nomination is not approved.

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## SECOND SCHEDULE

(regulation 3, 9, 11, 17, 19, 25, 31 & 33)

### DESCRIPTION OF INSIGNIA

#### CHANCELLOR

(regulation 3(2))

Upon a double linked collar chain alternating with Yellow Elder flowers and roundels bearing stars within palm leaves a central gold shield with the Coat of Arms of The Bahamas within a wreath of laurel leaves with the words "THE COMMONWEALTH OF THE BAHAMAS". A pendant badge below with a shield bearing the Coat of Arms of the Royal Bahamas Defence Force within a laurel wreath.

#### ORDER OF THE NATIONAL HERO

(regulation 9(1)(c))

A double linked collar chain front and back alternating with Yellow Elder flowers and roundels bearing the Coat of Arms of The Bahamas. A gold shield at the centre bearing the Coat of Arms of The Bahamas with a pendant gold twelve pointed star upon which is representation of shackled hands, a broken chain and the words "FREEDOM AND JUSTICE" within an aquamarine circlet bearing the words "THE COMMONWEALTH OF THE BAHAMAS".

#### ORDER OF THE NATION

(regulation 11(1)(c))

##### *Breast Star*

Upon a star of sixteen points three Yellow Elder flowers in gold on a blue field within a gold circlet bearing the words "THE COMMONWEALTH OF THE BAHAMAS".

All placed on an eight pointed star with concave lines. A Broad riband of the national colours.

##### *Sash Badge*

Upon a star of sixteen points three elder flowers in gold on a blue field within a gold circlet bearing the words "THE COMMONWEALTH OF THE BAHAMAS". The badge is suspended from an elder flower below a ring suspension.

## **ORDER OF THE BAHAMAS**

(regulation 17(1)(c))

### *Companion of The Order*

Upon a Cross with a thin aquamarine border the Coat of Arms of The Bahamas within coconut palm leaves placed upon a gold roundel. The Cross is suspended from a ribbon of the national Colours.

### *Officer of The Order*

A gold medal with the Coat of Arms of The Bahamas within coconut palm leaves. The medal is mounted on a ring suspension with a ribbon of the national Colours.

### *Member of The Order*

A silver medal with the Coat of Arms of The Bahamas within coconut palm leaves. The medal is mounted on a ring suspension with a ribbon of the national Colours.

## **ORDER OF EXCELLENCE**

(regulation 19(1)(c))

Upon a gold square with chamfered edges conjoined hands holding an elder flower. The words "THE COMMONWEALTH OF THE BAHAMAS" and "TOGETHER WE ASPIRE AND ADVANCE" are included. The Order is on a ring suspension with a ribbon of the national Colours.

## **ORDER OF DISTINCTION**

(regulation 25(1)(c))

### *Companion of The Order*

Upon a gold medal with the words "THE COMMONWEALTH OF THE BAHAMAS" a Marlin proper in front of the Sun's rays. The medal has a ring suspension and is worn on a ribbon of the national colours.

### *Officer of The Order*

A breast badge upon a silver medal with the words "THE COMMONWEALTH OF THE BAHAMAS" a Marlin proper in front of the Sun's rays. The medal has a ring suspension and is worn on a ribbon of the national colours.

*Member of The Order*

A breast badge upon a bronze medal with the words "THE COMMONWEALTH OF THE BAHAMAS" a Marlin proper in front of the Sun's rays. The medal has a ring suspension and is worn on a ribbon of the National colours.

**ORDER OF MERIT**

(regulation 31(1)(b))

*Companion of The Order*

A neck badge comprising a back circular gold medallion with laurel leaves, upon which is set a gold diamond shape so that laurels show between each point of the diamond.

Upon the diamond is a circlet with the words "THE COMMONWEALTH OF THE BAHAMAS" surrounding a pink flamingo, on a white background, which has laurel leaves either side and the words 'ZEAL AND UNITY' to its left. The rear to have a small dome with the raised arms of The Bahamas.

*Officer of The Order*

A breast badge comprising a back circular gold medallion with laurel leaves, upon which is set a gold diamond shape so that laurels show between each point of the diamond.

Upon the diamond is a circlet with the words "THE COMMONWEALTH OF THE BAHAMAS" surrounding a pink flamingo, on a white background, which has laurel leaves either side and the words 'ZEAL AND UNITY' to its left. The rear to have a small dome with the raised arms of The Bahamas.

*Member of The Order*

A breast badge comprising a back circular gold medallion with laurel leaves, upon which is set a gold diamond shape so that laurels show between each point of the diamond.

Upon the diamond is a circlet with the words "THE COMMONWEALTH OF THE BAHAMAS" surrounding a pink flamingo, on a white background which has laurel leaves either side and the words 'ZEAL AND UNITY' to its left. The rear to have a small dome with the raised arms of The Bahamas.

**ORDER OF LIGNUM VITAE**  
(regulation 33(1)(b))

Upon a Lignum Vitae flower a representation of the Lignum Vitae tree within a purple circlet bearing the words "THE COMMONWEALTH OF THE BAHAMAS". The Order is worn as a breast badge with a ring suspension worn on a ribbon of the national colours.

**Made this 16<sup>th</sup> day of December, 2017.**

**Signed**  
**MARGUERITE PINDLING**  
**Governor-General**