Statutory Declaration

*OATHS ACT 1900*, NSW, EIGHTH SCHEDULE

I, , do solemnly and sincerely declare that

 *[name of declarant]*

and I make this solemn declaration conscientiously believing the same to be true, and by virtue of the provisions of the *Oaths Act 1900*.

Declared at: on

 *[place] [date]*

 *[signature of declarant]*

in the presence of an authorised witness, who states:

I, , a ,

 *[name of authorised witness] [qualification of authorised witness]*

certify the following matters concerning the making of this statutory declaration by the person who made it: *[\* please cross out any text that does not apply]*

1. \*I saw the face of the person *OR* \*I did not see the face of the person because the person was wearing a face covering, but I am satisfied that the person had a special justification1 for not removing the covering, and
2. \*I have known the person for at least 12 months *OR* \*I have confirmed the person’s identity using an identification document and the document I relied on was …… [*describe identification document relied on]*

 *[signature of authorised witness] [date]*

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 The only “special justification” for not removing a face covering is a legitimate medical reason (at September 2018)

**About Statutory Declarations**

A statutory declaration is a written statement which a person swears, affirms, or declares to be true in the presence of an authorised witness – usually a Justice of the Peace, a lawyer or a notary public.

**Who can witness your statutory declaration?**

Your witness must:

* be on the list of approved witnesses **and** have a connection to Australia (see explanations below) **or**
* be a notary public (with or without a connection to Australia)

**List of approved witnesses**

As well as a Justice of the Peace, Lawyer or notary public, the following can witness your statutory declaration if they are licenced in Australia, OR if they are registered to practice their work in Australia.

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| * architect
* chiropractor
* dentist
* financial adviser or financial planner
* legal practitioner, with/without a practicing certificate
* medical practitioner
* midwife
* migration agent registered under Division 3of Part 3 of the *Migration Act 1958*
 | * nurse
* occupational therapist
* optometrist
* patent attorney
* pharmacist
* physiotherapist
* psychologist
* trade marks attorney
* veterinary surgeon
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 **What does “have a connection to Australia mean”?**

Having a connection to Australia means the person:

* is licensed or registered to practice in Australia, or
* holds an Australian membership to a professional organisation, or
* is appointed in Australia

For example:

* a doctor who is registered to practise medicine in Australia can witness your declaration (a doctor who is not registered in Australia cannot)
* an accountant who has an Australian membership to Chartered Accountants Australia and New Zealand