NORTHERN TERRITORY OF AUSTRALIA

OBSERVANCE OF LAW ACT

As in force at 1 July 2010

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NORTHERN TERRITORY OF AUSTRALIA

This reprint shows the Act as in force at 1 July 2010. Any amendments that commence after that date are not included.

OBSERVANCE OF LAW ACT

An Act relating to the observance of law in the Northern Territory

1 Short title

This Act may be cited as the *Observance of Law Act*.

2 Definitions

In this Act, unless the contrary intention appears:

Chairman means the person for the time being presiding over, or in charge of the conduct of the proceedings of, a public meeting;

officer of the Police Force or ***officer of Police*** means any member of the Police Force of the Northern Territory.

3 Misbehaviour at a public meeting

Any person who, in, at or near any place where a public meeting is being held:

(a) behaves in a riotous, disorderly, indecent, offensive, threatening or insulting manner;

(b) uses any threatening, abusive or insulting words; or

(c) in any way whatsoever, except by lawful authority (proof whereof shall lie upon him) obstructs or interferes with any of the proceedings of the meeting or the Chairman in the conduct of the meeting,

shall be guilty of an offence.

Maximum penalty: $40 or imprisonment for 3 months.

4 Powers of Chairman of public meeting

(1) Where in the opinion of the Chairman, any person, in, at or near the place where a public meeting is being held:

(a) behaves in a riotous, disorderly, indecent, offensive, threatening or insulting manner;

(b) uses any threatening, abusive or insulting words; or

(c) in any way whatever, except by lawful authority (proof whereof shall lie upon him) obstructs or interferes with any of the proceedings at the meeting or with the chairman in the conduct of the meeting,

the Chairman may verbally direct any officer of the Police Force, or the police generally, to remove the person from the place and the neighbourhood thereof.

(2) Upon a direction being given under subsection (1), it shall be the duty of any officer of police to whom it is addressed or who is present at, in or near the place, to remove the person in accordance with the direction.

(3) Any person who obstructs or interferes with any officer of police in the performance of his duty under this section, shall be guilty of an offence.

Maximum penalty: 0.8 penalty unit or imprisonment for 6 months.

5 Institution of proceedings

Proceedings in respect of any offence under sections 3 and 4 may be instituted by any person.

11 Victimization as to employment and delivery of goods

Any person who, by threats, intimidation, violence, force or any physical act, interferes with the right of any person:

(a) to carry on his lawful occupation;

(b) to obtain or accept or continue in employment; or

(c) to obtain any goods or services or the delivery of any goods,

shall be guilty of an offence.

Maximum penalty: 0.8 penalty unit or imprisonment for 6 months.

ENDNOTES

1 KEY

Key to abbreviations

amd = amended
app = appendix
bl = by-law
ch = Chapter
cl = clause
div = Division
exp = expires/expired
f = forms
Gaz = *Gazette*
hdg = heading
ins = inserted
lt = long title
nc = not commenced
od = order
om = omitted
pt = Part
r = regulation/rule
rem = remainder
renum = renumbered
rep = repealed
s = section
sch = Schedule
sdiv = Subdivision
SL = Subordinate Legislation
sub = substituted

2 LIST OF LEGISLATION

Observance of Law Ordinance 1921 (Act No. 13, 1921)
Assent date 21 October 1921
Commenced 21 October 1921

Observance of Law Ordinance 1930 (Act No. 1, 1930)
Assent date 16 January 1930
Commenced 16 January 1930

Observance of Law Ordinance (No. 2) 1930 (Act No. 8, 1930)
Assent date 7 July 1930
Commenced 7 July 1930

Observance of Law Ordinance 1958 (Act No. 22, 1958)
Assent date 14 November 1958
Commenced 14 November 1958

Ordinances Revision Ordinance 1973 (Act No. 87, 1973)
Assent date 11 December 1973
Commenced 11 December 1973 (s 12(2))

Amending Legislation

Ordinances Revision Ordinance 1974 (Act No. 34, 1974)
Assent date 26 August 1974
Commenced 11 December 1973 (s 3(2))

Ordinances Revision Ordinance (No. 2) 1974 (Act No. 69, 1974)
Assent date 24 October 1974
Commenced 11 December 1973 (s 3)

Ordinances Revision Ordinance 1976 (Act No. 27, 1976)

Assent date	28 June 1976
Commenced	ss 1, 2 and 6: 28 June 1976 (s 6(2)); ss 3 and 4: 11 December 1973; s 5: 24 October 1974

Statute Law Revision Act (No. 4) 1981 (Act No. 4, 1982)

Assent date	12 February 1982
Commenced	12 February 1982

Justice Legislation Amendment (Penalties) Act 2010 (Act No. 12, 2010)

Assent date	20 May 2010
Commenced	1 July 2010 (*Gaz* G24, 16 June 2010, p 2)

3 GENERAL AMENDMENTS

General amendments of a formal nature (which are not referred to in the table of amendments to this reprint) are made by the *Ordinances Revision Ordinance 1973* (Act No. 87, 1973) (as amended) to the following provisions: ss 3, 4, 5 and 11.

4 LIST OF AMENDMENTS

lt	amd No. 4, 1982, s 3
s 1	amd No. 4, 1982, s 3
s 2	amd No. 1, 1930, s 2; No. 4, 1982, s 3
s 3	amd No. 1, 1930, s 3; No. 4, 1982, s 3; No. 12, 2010, s 3
s 4	amd No. 4, 1982, s 3; No. 12, 2010, s 3
s 6	rep No. 8, 1930, s 2
ss 7 – 10	rep No. 22, 1958, s 2
s 11	amd No. 4, 1982, s 3; No. 12, 2010, s 3