

# DECLARED RELATIONSHIPS STATUTORY DECLARATION – NORTHERN TERRITORY VERSION

## THIS IS AN IMPORTANT LEGAL DOCUMENT

### About this document:

This document contains two copies of a model statutory declaration which allows two people to declare they have a relationship pursuant to various Acts of State and Territory parliaments.

Signing a statutory declaration is a method of declaring evidence. Those signing a statutory declaration should be mindful that making a false or misleading declaration is an offence.

Even if you don't make this statutory declaration, you can still claim that you are in a relationship protected by law. You may still be considered in a de facto relationship by virtue of the definitions under the laws of each State and Territory, irrespective of whether you both sign a statutory declaration. This document attempts to make it easier for you to provide evidence of a relationship when asked to by business or government.

If you and your partner sign these statutory declaration documents, the original versions of these declarations should be kept together in a safe place as evidence of your joint agreement that a relationship exists. You may also wish to make notarised copies of the statutory declarations.

*If you require more information about statutory declarations or are unsure about the impacts of making one, you are strongly urged to seek independent legal advice.*

### Other things to consider:

This document contains statutory declarations which attempt to declare a relationship under law. Such a declaration may establish obligations, rights and responsibilities under the laws of various States and Territories.

*If you require more information or are unsure about the rights and responsibilities under law that this declaration may impose, you are strongly urged to seek independent legal advice.*

Other documents may also help protect your relationship. If you are considering signing a relationship statutory document, then you may wish to consider these other legal documents.

These documents include wills (to determine how you would like your estates to be distributed on your death), formalised property or financial agreements (which may help avoid property or financial disputes if your relationship should end), powers of attorney (which may help one partner manage the financial and legal affairs of the other partner from time to time), and living wills or medical powers of attorney (which may help one partner manage the health affairs of the other partner).

*If you require more information about legal documents like wills, agreements, powers of attorney and/or living wills, you are strongly urged to seek independent legal advice.*

### Legal disclaimer:

The Declared Relationships Project, [www.declaredrelationships.info](http://www.declaredrelationships.info) or any other organisations that may disseminate this model statutory declaration are not responsible for the way in which the document is used, or for the results of any actions taken on the basis of information contained within this document.

The contents of this document do not constitute legal advice about individual situations but contains only general information about the law.

No one should rely on this information as legal advice regarding a claim or individual case. There are many differences depending on an individual situation which may affect an individual's rights. The information contained in this document or any associated website is not intended to be a substitute for professional legal advice.

**It is strongly urged that people intending to utilise this document seek independent legal advice about their situation before considering declaring their relationship using a legal document like a statutory declaration. Any person or persons who uses the model statutory declaration (either wholly or in part) does so at their own risk.**

COMMONWEALTH OF AUSTRALIA  
STATUTORY DECLARATION  
STATUTORY DECLARATIONS ACT (COMMONWEALTH) 1959

I, ..... [Full Name]

of ..... [Address]

in the Northern Territory, ..... [Occupation]

make the following declaration under the Statutory Declarations Act 1959: -

That I am in a relationship with ..... [partner's name]

of ..... [partner's address]

and publicly declare that I intend the relationship and my partner to be recognised as:

- a) a domestic partner, domestic partnership and domestic relationship pursuant to the Legislation Act (ACT) 2001, s169 and the Domestic Relationships Act (ACT) 1994, s3; and
- b) a de facto relationship and a domestic relationship pursuant to the Property (Relationships) Act (NSW) 1984, s4 and various other Acts operating in New South Wales which define such relationships, including those Acts amended by the Property (Relationships) Legislation Amendment Act (NSW) 1999; and
- c) a de facto relationship pursuant to the De Facto Relationships Act (NT) 1991, s3A; and
- d) a de facto partner pursuant to the Acts Interpretation Act (QLD) 1954, s32DA; and
- e) a domestic partner pursuant to the De Facto Relationships Act (SA) 1996, s3; and
- f) a significant relationship pursuant to the Relationship Act (TAS) 2003, s4; and
- g) a partner, domestic partner and domestic relationship pursuant to the Property Law Act (VIC) 1958, s275 and various other Acts amended by the Statute Law Amendment (Relationships) Act (VIC) 2001 and the Statute Law Further Amendment (Relationships) Act (VIC) 2001; and
- h) a de facto relationship and a de facto partner pursuant to the Interpretation Act (WA) 1984, s13A; and
- i) a relationship or partner pursuant to any future Act of a State or Territory Parliament which may recognise and/or regulate de facto relationships, domestic relationships, significant relationships and/or civil unions.

I understand that a person who intentionally makes a false statement in a statutory declaration is guilty of an offence under section 11 of the Statutory Declarations Act 1959, and I believe that the statements in this declaration are true in every particular.

..... [Signature of person making the declaration]

Declared at ..... [place] on ..... [day] of ..... [month] 20..... [year]

before me, ..... [Signature of person authorised witness]

..... [Full name of authorised witness]

of ..... [Witness' address]

..... [Qualification as such a witness\*]

\* see attached list of authorised witnesses for statutory declarations

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..... [Full name of authorised witness]

of ..... [Witness' address]

..... [Qualification as such a witness\*]

\* see attached list of authorised witnesses for statutory declarations

*Note: A person who intentionally makes a false statement in a statutory declaration is guilty of an offence, the punishment for which is imprisonment for a term of 4 years – see section 11 of the *Statutory Declarations Act 1959*. Chapter 2 of the *Criminal Code* applies to all offences against the *Statutory Declarations Act 1959* – see section 5A of the *Statutory Declarations Act 1959*.*

A statutory declaration under the *Statutory Declarations Act 1959* may be made before:

A person who is currently licensed or registered under a law to practise in one of the following occupations:

- Chiropractor
- Dentist
- Legal practitioner
- Medical practitioner
- Nurse
- Optometrist
- Patent attorney
- Pharmacist
- Physiotherapist
- Psychologist
- Trade marks attorney
- Veterinary surgeon

A person who is enrolled on the roll of the Supreme Court of a State or Territory, or the High Court of Australia, as a legal practitioner (however described).

A person who is in the following list:

- Agent of the Australian Postal Corporation who is in charge of an office supplying postal services to the public
- Australian Consular Officer or Australian Diplomatic Officer (within the meaning of the *Consular Fees Act 1955*)
- Bailiff
- Bank officer with 5 or more years of continuous service
- Building society officer with 5 or more years of continuous service
- Chief executive officer of a Commonwealth court
- Clerk of a court
- Commissioner for Affidavits
- Commissioner for Declarations
- Credit union officer with 5 or more years of continuous service
- Employee of the Australian Trade Commission who is in a country or place outside Australia and authorised under paragraph 3(d) of the *Consular Fees Act 1955* and exercising his or her function in that place
- Employee of the Commonwealth who is in a country or place outside Australia and authorised under paragraph 3(d) of the *Consular Fees Act 1955* and exercising his or her function in that place
- Fellow of the National Tax Accountants' Association
- Finance company officer with 5 or more years of continuous service
- Holder of a statutory office not specified in another item in this list
- Judge of a court
- Justice of the Peace
- Magistrate
- Marriage celebrant registered under Subdivision C of Division 1 of Part IV of the *Marriage Act 1961*
- Master of a court
- Member of Chartered Secretaries Australia
- Member of Engineers Australia (other than at the grade of student)
- Member of the Association of Taxation and Management Accountants
- Member of the Australasian Institute of Mining and Metallurgy
- Member of the Australian Defence Force who is an officer; or a non-commissioned officer within the meaning of the *Defence Force Discipline Act 1982* with 5 or more years of continuous service; or a warrant officer within the meaning of that Act
- Member of the Institute of Chartered Accountants in Australia, the Australian Society of Certified Practising Accountants or the National Institute of Accountants
- Member of the Parliament of the Commonwealth, or the Parliament of a State, or a Territory legislature, or a local government authority of a State or Territory
- Minister of religion registered under Subdivision A of Division 1 of Part IV of the *Marriage Act 1961*
- Notary public
- Permanent employees of the Australian Postal Corporation with 5 or more years of continuous service who is employed in an office supplying postal services to the public
- Permanent employees of the Commonwealth or a Commonwealth authority with 5 or more years of continuous service who is not specified in another item in this list
- Permanent employees of a State or Territory or a State or Territory authority with 5 or more years of continuous service who is not specified in another item in this list
- Permanent employees of a local government authority with 5 or more years of continuous service who is not specified in another item in this list
- Person before whom a statutory declaration may be made under the law of the State or Territory in which the declaration is made
- Police officer
- Registrar or Deputy Registrar of a court
- Senior Executive Service employee of the Commonwealth or a Commonwealth authority, or a State or Territory or a State or Territory authority
- Sheriff or Sheriff's officer
- Teacher employed on a full-time basis at a school or tertiary education institution

