



## Delays in reserved judgments

### Purpose

This policy outlines how the Court manages inquiries regarding delays in the delivery of reserved judgments.

### Application

This policy applies to parties and legal representatives awaiting delivery of a reserved judgment.

### Making an Inquiry

If a party or legal representative becomes concerned that a reserved judgment has been outstanding for an unreasonably long time, a written inquiry should be directed to the relevant head of division, specifically:

- the Chief Justice (if the matter is a criminal appeal);
- President of the Court of Appeal (if the matter is a civil appeal);
- the Chief Judge at Common Law (for any Common Law matter), and
- the Chief Judge in Equity (for any Equity Division matter).

The inquiry should include the following details:

- the name of the proceedings and the case number;
- your role in proceedings (e.g. plaintiff/defendant; legal representative for the first plaintiff/second defendant; cross-claimant/defendant), and
- the date upon which the judicial officer reserved judgment.

Inquiries should be sent to the following addresses:

(the Head of Division by name)

By mail: GPO Box 3  
SYDNEY NSW 2001

By email: [sc.enquiries@justice.nsw.gov.au](mailto:sc.enquiries@justice.nsw.gov.au)

### The inquiry process

The head of jurisdiction will discuss each inquiry with the judicial officer/s involved in the reserved decision. However, at no time will the head of jurisdiction reveal the inquirer's identity to the judicial officer/s concerned.

Upon the inquiry's conclusion, the head of jurisdiction will provide the inquirer with a written response. If this response does not satisfactorily resolve the concerns, the inquirer may write to the Chief Justice and ask that his Honour conduct a further inquiry. A copy of the original letter and the head of jurisdiction's response shall be attached to this request.

### Issued by

J J Spigelman AC  
Chief Justice of NSW  
25 October 2007