



Supreme Court
of New South Wales

Delays in reserved judgments

Purpose

This policy outlines how the Court manages and investigates 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 jurisdiction, 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:

By mail: GPO Box 3
SYDNEY NSW 2001

By email: supreme_court@courts.nsw.gov.au

The investigation 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 investigation'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 investigation. 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