



ST. CHRISTOPHER AND NEVIS

CHAPTER 3.19

OATHS ACT

Revised Edition

showing the law as at 31 December 2002

This is a revised edition of the law, prepared by the Law Revision Commissioner under the authority of the Law Revision Act, No. 9 of 1986.

This edition contains a consolidation of the following laws—

OATHS ACT

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CHAPTER 3.19

OATHS ACT

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CHAPTER 3.19

OATHS ACT

AN ACT TO MAKE PROVISION RESPECTING OATHS AND AFFIRMATIONS; AND TO PROVIDE FOR RELATED OR INCIDENTAL MATTERS.

Short title.

1. This Act may be cited as the Oaths Act.

Interpretation.

2. In this Act, "officer" means any person duly authorised to administer oaths.

Manner of administration of oath.

3. Any oath may be administered and taken in the following form and manner:

The person taking the oath shall hold the New Testament, or, in the case of a Jew, the Old Testament, in his or her uplifted hand, and shall say or repeat after the officer administering the oath, the words

"I swear by Almighty God that" followed by the words of the oath prescribed by law.

When affirmation may be made instead of oath.

4. Every person upon objecting to being sworn, and stating, as the ground of such objection, either that he or she has no religious belief, or that the taking of an oath is contrary to his or her religious belief, shall be permitted to make his or her solemn affirmation instead of taking an oath in all places and for all purposes where an oath is or shall be required by law, which affirmation shall be of the same force and effect as if he or she had taken the oath, and, if any person making such affirmation shall wilfully, falsely, and corruptly affirm any matter or thing which, if deposed on oath, would have amounted to wilful and corrupt perjury, he or she shall be liable to prosecution, indictment, sentence and punishment in all respects as if he or she had committed wilful and corrupt perjury.

Form of affirmation.

5. Every affirmation shall be as follows: "I, A. B., do solemnly, sincerely, and truly declare and affirm," and then proceed with the words of the oath prescribed by law, omitting any words of imprecation or calling to witness.

Validity of oath not affected by absence of religious belief.

6. Where an oath has been duly administered and taken, the fact that the person to whom the same was administered had, at the time of taking the oath, no religious belief, shall not for any purpose affect the validity of that oath.

Form of affirmation in writing.

7. Every affirmation in writing shall commence "I of do solemnly and sincerely affirm," and the form *in lieu* of jurat shall be "Affirmed at, this day of, 20..... Before me."

Swearing with uplifted hand.

8. If any person to whom an oath is administered desires to swear with uplifted hand, in the form and manner in which an oath is usually administered in Scotland, he or she shall be permitted so to do, and the oath shall be administered to him or her in such form and manner without further question.
