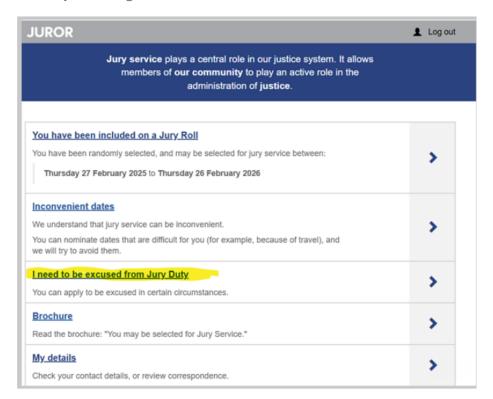
# Responding to a Jury Duty Advice online

Log into the Jury service system as a Juror (using your Juror number and your Date Of Birth).

The logon is: www.juror.nsw.gov.au/home



#### Select "I need to be excused from Jury Duty"

# Applying to be excused

If you have a good reason, you can apply to be excused. You can also request to be excused on the day, when you attend court.



Select "Employment"

#### Applying to be excused

If you have a good reason, you can apply to be excused. You can also request to be excused on the day, when you attend court.



# Select "Clergy, or vowed member of any religious order".

Following selection, you can attach a letter requesting exemption that must incorporate the phrase that you are a "vowed member of the Christadelphian Church" as well as providing all the details of the Jury notification.

A letter can be provided by your ecclesial Secretary / Recorder but this must be done expeditiously as time is of the essence.

If delays are experienced, then see the AACE Jury Duty exemptions guide at <u>aace.info/matters</u>-of-state/ for more details.

### **New South Wales**

- 1. When members receive notification that they will be placed on a jury roll, they should:
  - Complete the form received with the notification as a matter of urgency, indicating the reason listed on the document as "a vowed member of the Christadelphian Church". This is the wording of the Jury Act and the grounds that will be accepted. It is recommended to use the online reply as this is the fastest and simplest method of responding. The steps involved are:
    - Log into the NSW Juror system as a Juror (using your Juror number and your Date Of Birth). This is at <a href="https://www.juror.nsw.gov.au/home">www.juror.nsw.gov.au/home</a>
    - Select the option "I need to be excused from Jury Duty".
    - o Select "Employment" as the basis of your reason for seeking to be excused.
    - o Select "Clergy, or vowed member of any religious order".
    - You are then able to attach a letter requesting exemption incorporating the phrase that you are "a vowed member of the Christadelphian Church". A letter in support of your request can be provided by your ecclesial Secretary / Recorder. This must be done expeditiously as time is of the essence.
    - If your Secretary / Recorder cannot be contact OR if the Secretary / Recorder's letter is not accepted, then please send all the pertinent details including that of your ecclesial membership, to the NCC's NSW Sheriff Liaison email of jury@christadelphiansaustralia.org.au
    - o Retain a copy of all correspondence submitted.
    - Repeat logging into the NSW Juror system, as a Juror, to check on the progress of your request.
  - In addition to OR alternatively ask your Secretary / Recorder to write a letter on an ecclesial letterhead requesting that you be excused from Jury Duty. Your Secretary / Recorder knows what to do. If opting to complete the form by hand, then send both documents (the copy of the form and the letter from the Secretary / Recorder) together, as soon as possible. Keep a copy of all documents for your records (scan, copy or photograph the originals with a smart phone). This is not the most effective method as mail service delays will invariably impact on seeking an exemption.

#### 2. If:

- The reply to the Jury Role notification is too slow, OR
- The online request is not accepted, OR
- A Notification to Attend a Court is also received, THEN ...

Please contact the NCC's NSW Sheriff Liaison immediately. They will make a special application on your behalf that will be sent to the directly to the NSW Sheriff requesting an exemption from your Jury notification. The NCC's NSW Sheriff Liaison email is: <a href="mailto:jury@christadelphiansaustralia.org.au">jury@christadelphiansaustralia.org.au</a> If you don't receive a reply in a couple of days please contact the NCC Secretary on email ncc@aace.info for assistance. Continue to log into the NSW Juror portal as a Juror (using your Juror number and your Date Of Birth) at <a href="https://www.juror.nsw.gov.au/home">www.juror.nsw.gov.au/home</a> to check on your status.

The NCC's NSW Sheriff Liaison will require the following:

- Full Name.
- Ecclesial Name.
- Date of Baptism (if known) or else the approximate number of baptised years.
- Confirmation that you are a regular attender of ecclesial activities.
- Juror Number (if applicable).
- Panel Number (if applicable).
- Court Appearance, Date and Place (if applicable).
- Attach a copy of the Jury notification (if applicable).
- 3. If there is no response to this appeal before the date as notified to attend the Court (checked by logging into the NSW Juror system), then you must attend the Court as directed, taking a copy of all the correspondence and emails to this point, including the copy of the letter to the NSW Sheriff. When arriving at the Court, introduce yourself to the officer who is overseeing the arrival of the Jurors on the day and be prepared to show that officer your correspondence and copies of the documents that you have with you. It is likely that this officer will have instructions to release you at this point in which case you can thank them and leave.
- 4. If you receive a response refusing your request, then you will have to appear in court when you are called as a Juror. When you appear, you will be able to tell the Judge and the Prosecutor and Defence Counsel about your inability to give a judgment, based on your conscientious objection on religious grounds. Be careful that the Judge (respectfully referred to as "Your Worship") does not get the impression that you are out to convert them or to prove that they are "wrong". Your aim is solely to give an interpretation of the law and to claim the exemption as stated in the Director-General's letter. Nicely explain, if all else fails, that you will be unable to decide on any matter presented to you in a trial. If the Judge decides that you must stay in the courtroom for the proceedings, then so be it. Smile and be nice about it all.