

COMMISSIONERS OF OATH ACT (CAP. 05:03)

In exercise of the powers conferred on him by Section 3(2) of the Commissioners of Oaths Act, Mr D K Kwelagobe, Minister of Presidential Affairs and Public Administration made an order amending the schedule to the Commissioners of Oaths Act. The order substituted the existing Part II for a new Part II. This order was made on May 25, 2007.

By this order both Associate and Fellow members of the Botswana Institute of Accountants can now be Commissioners of Oaths in the Districts or Towns within which they are based. It is important to note that the observance of the area of jurisdiction prescribed above is very important. For example, an Officer based in Gaborone can only be a Commissioner of Oaths in the whole of Gaborone and not in Francistown, Masunga or Maun.

The need for authentication of documents especially for us accountants has increased significantly over the years to an extent that visits to the traditionally known Commissioners of Oaths such as the Police was becoming a problem as queues for such services were becoming the order of the day.

The recognition that the Minister has bestowed on the full members of the Institute is testimony of the trust that the people of Botswana are beginning to have on professional accountants. I therefore urge all members of the Botswana Institute of Accountants to continue to uphold the code of ethics that govern them and to maintain the high professional standards that have become the hallmark of the Accounting profession in our country.

For your information, the detail of this order was published in the Government Gazette of June 1, 2007. More information on Commissioner of Oaths can be found in the Commissioners of Oath Act (Cap 05:03) Sections 1 to 6.