



Australian Government

IT'S AN HONOUR

Australia Celebrating Australians

## Commendation for Distinguished Service

The Commendation for Distinguished Service is awarded for the distinguished performance of duties in warlike operations.

It is the third level of the Distinguished Service Decorations.

### About the award

The Distinguished Service Decorations recognise command and leadership in military action. They are awarded primarily to members of the Defence Forces.

The Distinguished Service Decorations were introduced in 1991 and replaced a number of Imperial decorations.

There are three levels of decoration:

- Distinguished Service Cross (DSC)
- Distinguished Service Medal (DSM), and
- Commendation for Distinguished Service.

### How it is awarded

The Distinguished Service Decorations are awarded by the Governor-General on the recommendation of the Minister for Defence.

The decoration may be awarded posthumously.

Second and subsequent Commendations for Distinguished Service are made by warrant.

The award is announced on Australia Day (January 26) and the Queen's Birthday (June) each year.

### Past recipient story

Major Michael Moon of the Australian Army was awarded the Commendation for Distinguished Service for confident and resolute leadership in action. Major Moon was in command of C Company on operations in Somalia. He dealt with a difficult military-civil environment in 1993.



### Medal design

The insignia of the Commendation for Distinguished Service is a central Federation Star on a nickel-silver row of flames that taper at each end.

### Medal ribbon

The insignia is attached to an ochre-red ribbon.

### Fast facts

POST NOMINAL:

None

INTRODUCED INTO THE AUSTRALIAN HONOURS SYSTEM:

1991

### More information

IT'S AN HONOUR WEBSITE: [www.itsanhonour.gov.au](http://www.itsanhonour.gov.au)

DEPARTMENT OF DEFENCE: [www.defence.gov.au](http://www.defence.gov.au)