



Australian Government

IT'S AN HONOUR

Australia Celebrating Australians

## Police Overseas Service Medal

The Police Overseas Service Medal recognises service by officers of Australian police forces with international peace-keeping organisations.

### About the award

The Police Overseas Service Medal complements the Australian Service Medal, which is awarded to members of the Australian Defence Force, and the Humanitarian Overseas Service Medal.

Australian police forces have been involved in overseas peace-keeping since 1964. At this time, 40 police were sent to Cyprus to help maintain peace after independence was declared.

In 1991, the overseas peace-keeping role of police officers was formally acknowledged with the introduction of the Police Overseas Service Medal.

The medal is awarded with a clasp, which details the area of service. The following clasps have been declared:

- Bougainville
- Cambodia
- Cyprus
- East Timor
- Haiti
- Mozambique
- Solomon Islands
- Somalia, and
- Regional Assistance Mission, Solomon Island.
- Sudan
- Timor Leste

This award was established on 25 April 1991 by Letters Patent.

### How it is awarded

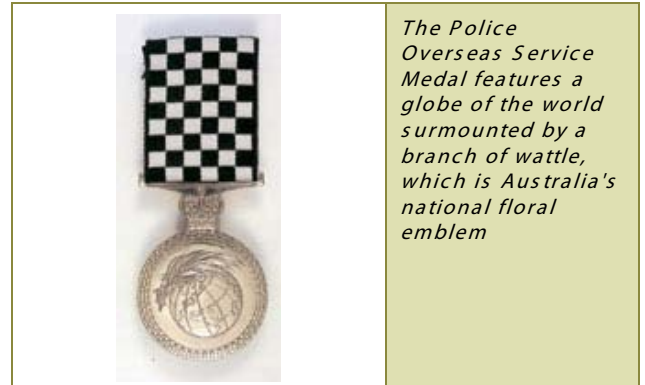
The Governor-General awards the medal on the recommendation of the Chief Officer of an Australian police force.

The medal is awarded with a clasp, which features the area of prescribed service. Additional awards to the same person are in the form of another clasp with the area of service inscribed.

### Past recipient story

Superintendent Ingrid Kuster was awarded the Police Overseas Service Medal in 2005 in recognition of her dedication and service to peace and justice. Ingrid

was a United Nations police liaison officer on the Isle of Cyprus helping to keep a precarious peace.



### Medal design

The Police Overseas Service Medal features a globe of the world surmounted by a branch of wattle, which is Australia's national floral emblem. The rim of the medal is a chequerboard pattern, which symbolises police forces across the world.

The circular, nickel-silver medal is ensigned with the Crown of St Edward.

The back of the medal displays a Federation Star. The words 'Police Overseas Service Medal' are inscribed around the rim.

### Medal ribbon

The 32 millimetre-wide ribbon consists of alternating squares of black and white in the chequerboard pattern commonly representative of police services.

Fast facts

POST NOMINAL:

None

INTRODUCED INTO THE AUSTRALIAN HONOURS SYSTEM:

1991

NOMINATIONS:

The Chief Office of a police force puts forward a nomination.

### More information

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