



## DECISION

*Fair Work (Registered Organisations) Act 2009*  
s.189—Arrangement for conduct of an election

**Police Federation of Australia**  
(E2026/85)

MR STEENSON

SYDNEY, 29 MAY 2026

*Arrangement for conduct of election.*

[1] On 27 November 2025 the Victoria Police Branch (**Branch**) of the Police Federation of Australia lodged with the Fair Work Commission prescribed information for an election to fill a casual vacancy in the following office for the remainder of the term:

Branch Senior Vice President (1)

[2] The casual vacancy arose because the recent incumbent had been elected to the position of Branch President in a previous election **E2025/134**.

[3] On 5 December 2025, I issued a decision<sup>1</sup> as Delegate of the General Manager, arranging for an election (**E2025/182**) to be conducted in relation to that vacancy. The election was subsequently conducted by the Australian Electoral Commission (**AEC**) and was declared on 16 December 2025.

[4] Following concerns about an irregularity in the process and declaration of results in that election (E2025/182), on 20 February 2026, the Commissioner of the AEC made an application to the Federal Court (the **Court**) for an inquiry under section 200(2) of the *Fair Work (Registered Organisations) Act 2009* (**RO Act**), in relation to the matter.<sup>2</sup>

[5] Having determined that an irregularity had occurred in the AEC's conduct of election E2025/182 and its declaration of same, the Court observed that as the term of office of the Branch Senior Vice President still had some months to run (the scheduled term of office is due to expire in October 2026), it was appropriate to make an order under section 206(4)(a) of the RO Act to declare the election void, and to direct the General Manager to make arrangements for a new election to fill the casual vacancy in the office as soon as practicable.<sup>3</sup> The Court made such orders in its decision issued on 22 May 2026.<sup>4</sup>

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<sup>1</sup> [2025] FWCD 1156

<sup>2</sup> Electoral Commission in the matter of an inquiry relating to an election for office in the Police Federation of Australia, Victoria Police Branch (matter VID 194 of 2026)

<sup>3</sup> See section 206(4)(c)(ii) of RO Act

<sup>4</sup> [2026] FCA 639

[6] On 29 May 2026, the Branch advised the Commission that it sought to rely upon the previously lodged prescribed information (in E2025/182), in conjunction with the Court's decision, for the Commission to consider in determining this matter.

[7] As the authorised Delegate of the General Manager, I am satisfied that an election for the abovenamed office is required to be held under the rules of the organisation and, under subsection 189(3) of the RO Act, I am making arrangements for the conduct of the election by the AEC, consistent with the Court's order under subsection 206(4) of that Act.

[8] For the conduct of this election, the AEC has indicated its preference that the new election be arranged under a separate matter number (i.e. E2026/85).

[9] The Commission has been advised that the AEC is likely to be able to conduct the election at the next meeting of the Branch Executive, which is apparently scheduled for 16 June 2026.



DELEGATE OF THE GENERAL MANAGER

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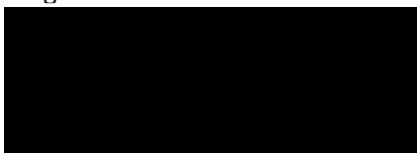
**PRESCRIBED INFORMATION FOR ELECTIONS in accordance with Section 189 of the *Fair Work (Registered Organisations) Act 2009* and Regulation 138 of the *Fair Work (Registered Organisations) Regulations 2009*, with a request under Section 187 of the *Fair Work (Registered Organisations) Act 2009***

1. The election that is required is set out in the table in Annexure B.
2. A copy of the request under section 187 for the AEC to conduct an election for any non-office positions is attached (see Annexure A).

I, **DERMOT AVON**, being the **PRESIDENT** of the **POLICE FEDERATION OF AUSTRALIA, VICTORIA POLICE BRANCH**, make the following statement:

1. I am authorised to sign this statement containing prescribed information for POLICE FEDERATION OF AUSTRALIA, VICTORIA POLICE BRANCH.
2. The following information is lodged under subsection 189(1) of the Fair Work (Registered Organisations) Act 2009 (the RO Act).
3. The election required is set out in the table in Annexure B.
4. No rule alterations are pending that will impact the election.
5. This statement **IS** lodged at least 2 months before nominations open for the election(s) in Annexure B.

Signed:



Dated: 26 November 2025

**NOTE:** This statement, together with Annexures A and B, must be lodged with the Fair Work Commission at least 2 months prior to nominations opening. It can be submitted by email to [regorgs@fwc.gov.au](mailto:regorgs@fwc.gov.au).

## Annexure B

- Election that is required

Branch	Name of Office	Number required	Voting System Direct voting system; Collegiate electoral system	Reason for Election Scheduled; Casual vacancy; New office created; Insufficient nominations	Electorate
<b>For the election of officers</b>					
Victoria Police	Branch Senior Vice President	1	Collegiate electoral system	Casual vacancy	Victoria Police Branch Election of Branch Officers / Casual Vacancies (Rule 52CH(17)(b))
<b>For the election of non-office positions</b>					
N/A	N/A	N/A	Select relevant voting system	Select reason for election	State the electorate and reference the relevant rule

- Important dates:

	Direct Voting System	Collegiate Electoral System
<b>Nominations OPEN</b>		Following the election of Branch President. Refer E2025/134 - Declaration of Contested Results.
<b>Nominations CLOSE</b>		N/A
<b>Roll of Voters cut off date</b>		N/A