



*EXTRAORDINARY*

**OFFICIAL GAZETTE**

**THE BAHAMAS**

PUBLISHED BY AUTHORITY

---

NASSAU

22<sup>nd</sup> April, 2022

(B)

---

# NATIONAL HONOURS (AMENDMENT) ACT, 2022

## Arrangement of Sections

---

### Section

1.	Short title.....	2
2.	Amendment of section 2 of the principal Act .....	2
3.	Amendment of section 5 of the principal Act .....	2
4.	Insertion of new section 5A into the principal Act .....	3
5.	Amendment of section 8 of the principal Act .....	3
6.	Insertion of new section 12A into the principal Act .....	4
7.	Amendment of section 17 of the principal Act .....	4
8.	Amendment of section 7 of the principal Act .....	4



No. 2 of 2022

## **NATIONAL HONOURS (AMENDMENT) ACT, 2022**

### **AN ACT TO AMEND THE NATIONAL HONOURS ACT, 2016**

[Date of Assent - 21<sup>st</sup> April, 2022]

#### **Enacted by the Parliament of The Bahamas**

**1. Short title.**

This Act which amends the National Honours Act, 2016 (*No. 1 of 2016*) may be cited as the National Honours (Amendment) Act, 2022.

**2. Amendment of section 2 of the principal Act.**

Section 2 of the principal Act is amended by the insertion, in the appropriate alphabetical order, of the following new definition —

“**civil society**” includes charities, charitable persons, international organisations with humanitarian objectives, non-governmental organisations improving health, education and the standard of living in The Bahamas;

“**public service**” includes government ministries, full and quasi government departments, units and other entities, public and private corporations wholly or partially owned by the Government;”.

**3. Amendment of section 5 of the principal Act.**

Section 5 of the principal Act is amended —

- (a) in subsection (1)(h), by the insertion immediately before the word “honour” of the words “society of”; and
- (b) by the repeal and replacement of subsections (2), (3) and (4) as follows —

“(2) Each of the societies referred to in subsection (1) shall be

governed by regulations made by the Governor-General.

- (3) There shall exist a hierarchy among the Orders in the order in which they are listed in subsection (1) and any further society of honour constituted by the Governor-General under subsection (1)(h) shall be of the last priority unless otherwise provided.”.

#### **4. Insertion of new section 5A into the principal Act.**

The principal Act is amended by the insertion immediately after section 5 of the following new section 5A —

**“5A. Badges and medals.**

- (1) There shall be awarded by the Chancellor on the recommendation of the Advisory Committee —
  - (a) distinguished service badges and medals in honour of service by Bahamians serving in the public service;
  - (b) distinguished service badges for exceptional service by members of civil society;
  - (c) medals of bravery.
- (2) The Chancellor may, in his absolute discretion, award a medal of honour for long, valuable or exceptional service to the Governor-General, his spouse or the Vice Regal Household, which is worthy of special recognition.
- (3) The awards referred to in this section shall be conferred under the conditions prescribed by the Governor-General.”.

#### **5. Amendment of section 8 of the principal Act.**

Section 8 of the principal Act is amended —

- (a) in subsection (1), by the deletion of the word “shall” and the substitution therefor of the word “may”;
- (b) by the repeal and replacement of subsection (3) as follows —

“(3) Notwithstanding subsections (1) and (2), the Chancellor may make appropriate arrangements for the announcement or conferment of honours or awards where —

  - (a) the announcement or conferment is not possible on the date as provided in subsection (1) or (2); or
  - (b) the circumstances of the award requires announcement or conferment to be made on another date.”.

**6. Insertion of new section 12A into the principal Act.**

The principal Act is amended by the insertion immediately after section 12 of the following new section 12A —

**“12A.Revocation of badges and medals.**

- (1) The Chancellor, on the advice of the Advisory Committee, may by notice in the *Gazette* —
  - (a) where the conferment of a badge or medal has been announced but has not yet been conferred, cancel the intended award; or
  - (b) revoke a badge or medal where the person conferred with the badge or medal —
    - (i) is convicted of an offence under the laws of The Bahamas or any other country; or
    - (ii) behaves in a manner that is inconsistent with the purposes of the award.
- (2) Where any badge or medal is revoked, the badge or medal shall be immediately returned to the Secretary of the Awards.
- (3) Any person who fails to return a badge or medal that has been revoked, commits an offence and is liable to a fine of five thousand dollars or a term of imprisonment not exceeding three months or to both.”.

**7. Amendment of section 17 of the principal Act.**

Section 17 of the principal Act is amended in paragraph (b) by the deletion of the word “of” where it first appears and the substitution therefor of the word “for”.

**8. Amendment of section 7 of the principal Act.**

Section 7 of the principal Act is amended by the insertion of a subsection (5) to provide the following —

- “(5) Notwithstanding subsection (1) where any honour or award is to be conferred upon the Governor-General, such honour or award shall be conferred upon the Governor-General by the Chief Justice.”.