

INFORMATION DEFGRAM NO 766/2012

Issue Date: 5 November 2012

Expiry Date: 5 February 2013

CESSATION OF THE TIMOR–LESTE SOLIDARITY MEDAL

1. In November 2008, the Australian Government formally accepted an offer from the then-President of Timor-Leste for Australian Defence Force (ADF) personnel to accept and wear the *Timor-Leste Solidarity Medal (TLSM)*. The medal was established to recognise those men and women who provided service in stability and peace operations in Timor-Leste from 01 May 2006. Approximately 7000 ADF members have been awarded the *TLSM* and have been approved by the Governor-General to wear the medal.
2. The eligibility criteria for the *TLSM* states that:
 - a. members qualify having served a minimum of 180 days continuous or accrued service in East Timor from 01 May 2006;
 - b. nominations will be considered for personnel that have served a minimum of 120 days from 01 May 2006;
 - c. nominations will be considered for personnel who served with a start date in May or June 2006 for a period at least 90 days; and
 - d. the president of the Republic may consider extraordinary cases outside the above time periods.

In late 2011, the Timor-Leste Government further advised that extraordinary cases would only be considered for injury sustained in Timor-Leste or members who were returned to Australia for compassionate reasons.

3. Defence has been advised that the award of the *TLSM* will cease at the end of 2012, and no further applications will be considered in 2013 or beyond.
4. The Directorate of Honours and Awards (DH&A) requires all outstanding applications for the *TLSM* to reach DH&A by close of business Friday, 16 November 2012. This will allow DH&A time to process final applications through to the Timor-Leste Government prior to the cut off date. This includes nominations from members who consider that they meet the extraordinary case criteria.
5. Application should be made on page one of [Form AD 111—Application for Approval to Accept and Wear Foreign Awards](#). Members applying under the extraordinary cases clause will need to provide certified true copies of relevant documents detailing the reason for their early return to Australia. All documents will be treated as confidential. [Form AD 111](#) is available on Web Forms or from the Defence Honours and Awards internet site, under the heading Application Forms, at the following link:

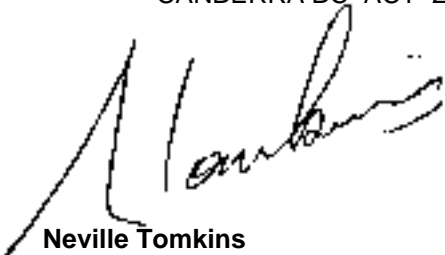
<http://www.defence.gov.au/medals/>

6. In the first instance, applications may be:
 - a. emailed in pdf format to the following address by close of business 16 November 2012:

DHA.CIVLSAFA@defence.gov.au

- b. mailed to the following address to reach DH&A by close of business 16 November 2012:

Directorate of Honours and Awards
Department of Defence
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PO Box 7952
CANBERRA BC ACT 2610



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