

# CORONERS ORDINANCE, 1911<sup>(1)(2)</sup> (PAPUA, ADOPTED) IN ITS APPLICATION TO THE TERRITORY OF NEW GUINEA.

## An Ordinance to Amend and Consolidate the Laws Relating to Coroners.

**B**E it enacted by the Lieutenant-Governor of the Territory of Papua with the advice and consent of the Legislative Council thereof as follows:—

1. This Ordinance may be cited as the "*Coroners Ordinance 1911.*"<sup>(2)</sup> Short title.

It shall come into operation on a day to be fixed by the Lieutenant-Governor by proclamation published in the *Gazette.*<sup>(3)</sup>

2. The following Ordinances are repealed:— Repeal.

*"The Inquests of Death Act of 1866"* 30 Vic. No. 3 (*Queensland adopted*);

(1) Whenever amendments inserted by Ordinances of the Territory of New Guinea consist either of the addition of sections or words, or of the substitution of sections or words for other sections or words, such amendments have been enclosed in brackets and printed in italics.

(2) The *Coroners Ordinance, 1911*, of the Territory of Papua in its application to the Territory of New Guinea comprises the original *Coroners Ordinance, 1911*, of the Territory of Papua referred to in Part I. of the following Table, as amended by the Ordinances of the Territory of New Guinea referred to in Part II. of the following Table:—

TABLE.  
PART I.—ORDINANCE OF THE TERRITORY OF PAPUA.

Short title, number and year.	Ordinance by which adopted.	Date on which adoption took effect.
<i>Coroners Ordinance, 1911</i> (No. 15 of 1911)	<i>Laws Repeal and Adopting Ordinance 1921</i> (No. 1 of 1921)	9.5.1921 ( <i>Cullth. Gaz. of 6.5.1921</i> )

PART II.—ORDINANCES MADE BY THE GOVERNOR-GENERAL IN COUNCIL.

Short title, number and year.	Date on which made by Governor-General in Council.	Date on which notified in <i>Commonwealth Gazette.</i>	Date on which took effect.
<i>Coroners Ordinance 1927</i> (No. 28 of 1927)	5.9.1927	8.9.1927	8.9.1927 ( <i>Cullth. Gaz. of 8.9.1927</i> )
<i>Coroners Ordinance 1930</i> (No. 5 of 1930)	10.2.1930	13.2.1930	31.7.1930 ( <i>N.G. Gaz. of 31.7.1930</i> )

(3) By Proclamation dated 1st December, 1911, and published in *Papua Govt. Gaz.* of 6th December, 1911, the *Coroners Ordinance, 1911*, was proclaimed to commence in the Territory of Papua on 1st January, 1912.

## CORONERS—

“*The Inquests on Fires Act of 1863*” 27 Vic. No. 12  
(*Queensland adopted*);

“*An Act to Abolish Deodands*” 13 Vic. No. 18 (*Queensland adopted*).

Appointment  
of coroners.  
Substituted by  
No. 5 of 1930,  
s. 3.

3. [*The Administrator may, by notice*<sup>(4)</sup> *published in the New Guinea Gazette, appoint—*

(a) *persons to be coroners; and*

(b) *the districts within which such coroners shall act and have jurisdiction.*]<sup>(1)</sup>

Jurisdiction  
of coroners.  
S.A., 332 of  
1884, s. 4.  
Deaths.

4. Every coroner shall have jurisdiction to inquire concerning the manner and cause of the death of any person who is slain or who is drowned or who dies suddenly or under any suspicious or unusual circumstances or in prison or while detained in any lunatic asylum and to inquire into the cause and origin of any fire whether a bush fire or other fire whereby any building ship merchandise or any stack of corn or hay or any growing crop standing trees or any other valuable effects shall be endangered destroyed or damaged.

Fires.  
Q., 27 Vic.  
No. 12, s. 1.

5. All inquests of death or concerning the cause or origin of any fire shall be held before a coroner sitting alone.

Inquests  
before a  
Coroner only.  
Q. 30 Vic. No.  
3, s. 3 altered.

6.—(1.) Whenever any dead body shall be found or any case of sudden death or death attended with suspicious circumstances shall occur then every person knowing or becoming acquainted with any such death or knowing that any dead body has been found shall forthwith give notice to the nearest coroner or European officer or constable of police and in default shall on conviction for such neglect or omission be liable to a penalty not exceeding Ten pounds.

Notice of  
sudden death,  
&c., to be given.  
S.A., 332 of  
1884, s. 6.

(2.) Every such officer or constable of police receiving notice or otherwise becoming aware of any such death or of any dead body being found shall forthwith give such information thereof as he can obtain to a coroner.

Proceedings  
if inquest  
deemed  
necessary by  
coroner.  
S.A. 16., s. 6,  
altered.

7. If upon receipt of such information a coroner shall deem it necessary to hold an inquest upon such dead body or if any coroner shall at any time think it necessary to hold an inquiry into the causes and origin of any fire such coroner shall issue a summons to every witness whose evidence he shall deem necessary to attend an inquest at the time and place therein specified for the purpose of giving evidence relative to such dead body or the cause or origin of such fire and he shall deliver or cause to be delivered such summonses to any European officer or constable of police who shall forthwith serve the same:

(1) See footnote (1) printed on p. 593.

(4) From time to time persons have been appointed to be coroners individually by name, and the districts specified within which they should act and have jurisdiction. No appointments by office however, have been notified in *N.G. Gaz.*

*Coroners Ordinance, 1911 (Papua, adopted).*

Provided that if the coroner shall in his discretion deem it unnecessary to hold any inquest upon any dead body or concerning the cause and origin of any fire he shall forthwith give to the constable (if any) furnishing the information aforesaid a certificate to that effect and shall forthwith forward a like certificate to the Government Secretary.

Proceedings if inquest deemed unnecessary. S.A., 332 of 1884, s. 6.

8.—(1.) The coroner shall examine on oath touching the death or fire all persons who tender their evidence respecting the facts and all persons having knowledge of the facts whom he thinks it expedient to examine.

Proceedings at inquest. Evidence and inquisition. Imp. 50 and 51 Vic. Ch. 71, s. 4, altered.

(2.) The coroner shall in a case of wilful murder murder manslaughter or arson put into writing the statement on oath of those who know the circumstances or facts of the case or so much of such statement as is material and every such statement shall be signed by the witness and by the coroner.

(3.) After hearing the evidence the coroner shall pronounce his finding and certify it by an inquisition in writing setting forth so far as such particulars have been proved to him in the case of all inquests of death who the deceased was and how when and where the deceased came by his death and if he came by his death by wilful murder murder or manslaughter the persons if any whom the coroner finds to have been guilty of such wilful murder murder or manslaughter and in the case of an inquest concerning the cause and origin of any fire time and place when and where the same occurred the origin and cause thereof and if the offence of arson has been committed the person if any whom the coroner finds to have been guilty of such offence.

9.—(1.) Where a coroner's inquisition charges a person with the offence of wilful murder murder manslaughter or arson the coroner shall issue his warrant for arresting or detaining (if such warrant has not been previously issued) and shall commit for trial such person and shall bind by recognizance all such persons examined before him as know or declare anything material touching the said offence to appear at the next ordinary sittings of the Central Court<sup>(5)</sup> then and there to prosecute or give evidence against the person so charged.

Proceedings upon inquisition charging a person with murder, arson, &c. Compare Imp. 50 and 51 Vic. Ch. 71, s. 5. S.A., 332 of 1884, ss. 19 and 22.

(2.) Where the offence is manslaughter or arson the coroner may if he thinks fit accept bail by recognizance with sufficient sureties for the appearance of the person charged at the sittings of the Central Court<sup>(5)</sup> at which the trial is to be and thereupon such person if in the custody of an officer of the coroner's court or under a warrant of commitment issued by such coroner shall be discharged therefrom.

(5) See Section 17 of the *Laws Repeal and Adopting Ordinance 1921-1939*. At the date of the adoption of the *Coroners Ordinance, 1911*, of the Territory of Papua as a law of the Territory of New Guinea, there was a "Central Court" in both Territories. As to references in any Ordinance to the "Central Court," see now Section 7A of the *Judiciary Ordinance 1921-1938*.

## CORONERS—

(3.) The coroner shall forthwith transmit the inquisition depositions and recognizances with a certificate under his hand that the same have been taken before him to the Registrar of the Central Court.<sup>(5)</sup>

Body may be exhumed.  
Compare S.A., 332 of 1884, s. 5. Q., 30 Vic. No. 3, s. 6.

**10.** Where it shall appear to any coroner that there is grave suspicion as to the cause of death of any person whose body shall have been buried it shall be lawful for such coroner upon reasonable cause being shown to issue his warrant for the exhumation of such dead body for the purpose of holding an inquest thereon.

Inquest may be held on Sunday.  
S.A. *Ib.*, s. 7.

**11.** If in the opinion of the coroner it is expedient to hold an inquest on a Sunday it shall be lawful so to do any law or custom to the contrary notwithstanding and no inquisition found upon or by any coroner's inquest nor any judgment recorded upon or by virtue of such inquisition shall be quashed stayed or reversed by reason of such inquest having been held upon a Sunday.

Coroner may summon medical witnesses and direct performance of *post-mortem* examinations.  
S.A. *Ib.*, s. 11.

**12.—(1.)** Whenever upon the holding of an inquest upon any dead body it shall appear to the coroner that the deceased person was attended at his death or during his last illness by any medical practitioner it shall be lawful for the coroner to summon such medical practitioner as a witness at such inquest and if it shall appear to the coroner that the deceased person was not attended at or immediately before his death by a medical practitioner it shall be lawful for the coroner to summon any duly qualified medical practitioner in or near the place where the death happened.

(2.) The coroner may either in his summons or at any time before the termination of the inquest direct the performance of a *post-mortem* examination by the medical witness who may be examined:

Provided that if any person shall state on oath before the coroner that in his belief the death of the deceased person was caused either partly or entirely by the improper or negligent treatment of any medical practitioner or other person such medical practitioner or other person shall not be allowed to perform or assist at the *post-mortem* examination of the deceased.

S.A., *Ib.*, s. 5. Q., *Ib.*, s. 12, altered.

(3.) If the coroner is of opinion that the cause of death has not been satisfactorily explained by the evidence of the medical practitioner or other witnesses brought before him he may summon as a witness some other legally qualified medical practitioner and direct a *post-mortem* examination of the deceased to be made by him whether such examination shall have been already performed or not.

Summonses, &c., to be signed by coroner.  
S.A., *Ib.*, s. 13.

**13.** Every summons warrant and order which any coroner shall issue or make in writing shall be signed by such coroner.

(5) See footnote (6) printed on p. 595.

*Coroners Ordinance, 1911 (Papua, adopted).*

**14.** When any person duly summoned to attend as a witness fails or neglects to attend at the time and place specified in such summons the coroner may cause such person to be openly called three times to appear and give evidence at the inquest and upon the non-appearance of such person and proof of the service of such summons the coroner may impose upon such person a fine not exceeding the sum of two pounds and in default of payment it shall be lawful for the coroner to commit such person to any gaol or lock-up for any period not exceeding one calendar month unless such fine shall be sooner paid:

Coroner may  
fine witness  
for non-  
attendance.  
S.A., 332 of  
1884, s. 14.

Provided that the coroner may in his discretion remit such fine if it is proved to his satisfaction that the non-appearance of such witness was unavoidable.

**15.** Any person interested in the result of any inquest may with the permission of the coroner attend personally or by counsel and examine and cross-examine witnesses regarding matters which are relevant to the subject of the inquiry.

Examination,  
&c., of witnesses  
by persons  
interested.  
S.A., *Ib.*, s. 17,  
altered.

**16.**—(1.) If any person—

- (a) insults the coroner during the holding of any inquest;  
or
- (b) wilfully interrupts the proceedings of the court of the inquiry; or
- (c) obstructs or assaults any person in attendance at such inquest; or
- (d) refuses without reasonable excuse to answer a question put to him as a witness; or
- (e) refuses or neglects to obey any lawful order of the coroner; or
- (f) wilfully prevaricates in giving evidence—

Power to  
punish for  
contempt.  
S.A. *Ib.*, s. 18.  
Tas., 9 Ed.  
VII. No. 33,  
s. 17.

he shall be guilty of contempt of court and the coroner may punish such person in a summary way by imprisonment in any gaol for any time not exceeding one calendar month or by imposing upon such person a fine not exceeding Twenty pounds.

(2.) If such fine is not forthwith paid the coroner may commit such person to any gaol for any term not exceeding one calendar month unless the fine be sooner paid.

**17.**—(1.) It shall be lawful for a coroner upon the request of any person who has attended as a witness at any inquest if the coroner thinks fit so to do to grant a certificate to such person of the amount of compensation which the coroner may deem reasonable for his expenses trouble and loss of time thereon; such compensation to be computed at a rate not exceeding the rate of compensation for the time being allowed<sup>(5)</sup> by the Central Court<sup>(5)</sup> for the attendance of witnesses before such court in criminal cases.

Witnesses'  
expenses.  
Tas. *Ib.*, s. 11.

(5) See footnote (5) printed on p. 595.

(6) See the *Allowances to Witnesses Rules* (made under *The Criminal Procedure Ordinance of 1889* (Papua, adopted)), printed below, title CRIMINAL LAW.

## CORONERS—

Remuneration  
of medical  
witnesses.  
S.A., 332 of  
1884, s. 15.

(2.) When a legally qualified medical practitioner not in the Public Service shall have attended a coroner's inquest in obedience to a summons he shall if he shall make a *post-mortem* examination of the body of the deceased by the direction of the coroner be entitled in addition to such expenses as aforesaid to be paid the sum of two guineas for such *post-mortem* examination and the coroner shall grant him a certificate therefor.

Treasurer to  
pay certified  
expenses.  
S.A. *Id.*, s. 12.

(3.) Upon production of any such certificate to the Treasurer it shall be lawful for him out of moneys received by him for that purpose to pay to the person named in such certificate or authorized by endorsement thereon to receive the same the sum of money in such certificate mentioned.

Evidence of  
accused  
person, &c.  
S.A. *Id.*, s. 20.

18. The provisions of "*The Criminal Law (Evidence) Amendment Ordinance of 1905*" (No. 1 of 1905)<sup>(7)</sup> regarding the right of any accused person and the husband or wife of such person to give evidence and otherwise shall extend to proceedings before a coroner.<sup>(8)</sup>

(7) *The Criminal Law (Evidence) Amendment Ordinance of 1905* of the Territory of Papua was repealed as from 1st May, 1914, by the *Evidence and Discovery Ordinance 1913*, of the Territory of Papua, and its provisions were re-enacted with modifications in Section 58 of the said *Evidence and Discovery Ordinance 1913*. Section 10 of the *Ordinance Interpretation Ordinance 1911* of the Territory of Papua provided that, "when an Ordinance repeals and re-enacts with or without modification any provision of a former Ordinance reference in any other Ordinance to the provisions so repealed shall unless the contrary intention appear be construed as references to the provisions so re-enacted." Section 58 of the *Evidence and Discovery Ordinance 1913* of the Territory of Papua is as follows:—

"58.—(1.) Every person charged with an offence and the wife or husband as the case may be of the person so charged shall be a competent witness for the defence at every stage of the proceedings whether the persons so charged is charged solely or jointly with any other person. Provided as follows:—

- (i) A person so charged shall not be called as a witness except upon his own application;
- (ii) The wife or husband of the person charged shall not be called as a witness except on the application of the person so charged;
- (iii) The failure of any person charged with an offence or of the wife or husband as the case may be of the person so charged to give evidence shall not be made the subject of any comment by the prosecution;
- (iv) A person charged and being a witness in pursuance of this section may be asked and shall be required to answer any question in cross-examination notwithstanding that it would tend to criminate him as to the offence charged;
- (v) A person charged and called as a witness in pursuance of this section shall not be asked and if asked shall not be required to answer any question tending to show that he has committed or been convicted of or been charged with any offence other than that wherewith he is then charged or is of bad character unless—
  - (a) The proof that he has committed or been convicted of such other offence is admissible in evidence to show that he is guilty of the offence wherewith he is then charged; or
  - (b) He has personally or by his advocate asked questions of the witnesses for the prosecution with a view to establish his own good character or has given evidence of his good character or the nature or conduct of the defence is such as to involve imputations on the character of the prosecutor or the witnesses for the prosecution; or
  - (c) He has given evidence against any other person charged with the same offence;
- (vi) When paragraph (v) (b) or (v) (c) is or becomes applicable to any person charged who gives evidence for the defence it shall be open to the prosecution or to any other person charged against whom he has given evidence to call evidence that such person is of bad character or has been convicted of or charged with any offence other than that with which he then stands charged notwithstanding that the case for the prosecution or of such other person charged may already have been closed;
- (vii) Every person called as a witness in pursuance of this section shall unless otherwise ordered by the Court give his evidence from the witness-box or other place from which the other witnesses give their evidence;
- (viii) Nothing in this section shall affect the provisions of section ninety-two of the *Justices Ordinance, 1912*, or any right of the persons charged to make a statement without being sworn.

(2.) Where the only witness to the facts of the case called by the defence is the person charged he shall be called as a witness immediately after the close of the evidence for the prosecution.

(3.) Nothing in this Ordinance shall affect a case where the wife or husband of a person charged with an offence may at common law or by statute law be called as a witness without the consent of that person."

(8) See also Section 6 of the *Evidence Ordinance 1934* the provisions of which regulate the right of an accused person and the husband or wife of such person to give evidence in criminal cases.

Coroners Ordinance, 1911 (Papua, adopted).

19. The coroner may having previously explained to any person accused that he is not compellable to answer any questions which may be put to him or to make any statement take down in writing any statement which he may desire to make and such written statement signed by such person and signed by the said coroner shall be forwarded with the depositions and afterwards upon the trial of any accused person the same may be given in evidence against him without further proof unless it shall be proved that the coroner purporting to have signed the same did not in fact sign the same.

Statement of accused persons. S.A. 332 of 1884, s. 21.

20. Every coroner by or before whom any inquest shall be held shall make an abstract of the proceedings upon such inquest and his finding and shall state in such abstract the names of all witnesses examined at such inquest and shall annex thereto an account of all sums of money ordered or certified by him to be paid on account of such inquest and an account of the number of days during which the inquest or any adjournment thereof shall have continued and shall certify such abstracts and accounts to be true and correct and shall sign and forthwith transmit the same to the [Crown Law Officer of the Territory to be filed of record in such manner as the Administrator directs.]<sup>(1)</sup>

Return of inquests by coroners. S.A. *ib.*, s. 23. Amended by No. 28 of 1927 s. 2.

21. There shall be no forfeiture of any chattel for or in respect of the same having moved to or caused the death of any human being and no coroner shall find any forfeiture of any chattel which may have moved to or caused the death of any deceased person or any deodand whatsoever.

Deodands abolished. Q., 13 Vic. No. 18, ss. 1 and 2. S.A., *ib.*, s. 29.

22. Save in so far as is inconsistent with this Ordinance any principle or rule or law or established jurisdiction practice of<sup>(9)</sup> procedure shall notwithstanding the repeal of any enactment by this Ordinance remain in full force.

Savings of repeal. Compare Imp. 50 and 51 Vic. Ch. 71, s. 45 (5). Q., 30 Vic. No. 3, s. 1.

23. The forms in the Schedule hereto or forms to the like effect shall be valid and sufficient for the several proceedings referred to in this Ordinance and may be used in all proceedings by and before coroners.

Forms of proceedings. S.A., *ib.*, s. 31.

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SCHEDULE.

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SUMMONS TO WITNESS.

Territory of Papua  
to wit.

WHEREAS I am informed that you can give evidence on behalf of His Majesty the King touching the death of [or a certain fire ] in the said Territory: Now by virtue of my office and in His Majesty's

(1) See footnote (1) printed on p. 593.

(9) The word "of" appeared in the original Ordinance. The word "or" has now been substituted therefor by the First Schedule of the *Ordinances Reprint and Revision Ordinance* 1947 of the Territory of Papua-New Guinea.

CORONERS—

name I charge and command you personally to be and appear before me  
at at o'clock in the noon on the  
day of 19 then and there to be examined and give evidence  
on His Majesty's behalf before me and my inquest touching the premises.  
Given under my hand this day of 19

Coroner.

SUMMONS FOR THE ATTENDANCE OF A MEDICAL WITNESS.

*Coroner's Inquest at upon the body of*

By virtue of this my order as Coroner you are required to appear before  
me at on the day of 19  
at o'clock in the noon to give evidence  
touching the cause of death of [add the following if necessary:  
and make or assist in making a *post-mortem* examination of the said body  
and report thereon at the said inquest].

Coroner.

To

WARRANT AGAINST WITNESS FOR CONTEMPT OF SUMMONS.

Territory of Papua  
to wit.

WHEREAS I have received credible information that  
of can give evidence on behalf of His Majesty the King  
touching the death of [or a certain fire ] in  
the said Territory: AND WHEREAS the said having been  
duly summoned to appear and give evidence before me and my inquest  
touching the premises at the time and place in the said summons specified  
of which oath hath been duly made before me hath refused and neglected so  
to do to the hindrance and delay of justice: THESE are therefore by virtue of  
my office in His Majesty's name to charge and command you or one of you  
to apprehend without delay and bring before me one of His Majesty's  
Coroners for the said Territory now sitting at aforesaid  
by virtue of my said office the body of the said that he  
may be dealt with according to law and for so doing this is your warrant.

Given under my hand and seal this day of  
19

[L.S.]

Coroner.

To all Police Officers and Constables in the said Territory.

WARRANT OF COMMITMENT FOR TRIAL.

To all Police Officers and Constables of the Territory of Papua and to the  
Keeper of the Gaol at  
Territory of Papua  
to wit.

WHEREAS by inquisition taken before me one of His Majesty's Coroners  
for the said Territory the day and year undermentioned on the death of  
[or as to the cause and origin of a certain fire ]  
in the said Territory A.B. stands charged that he

AND I have committed him to take his trial for the said offence:

THESE are therefore by virtue of my office in His Majesty's name to  
charge and command you or any of you forthwith safely to convey the body  
of the said A.B. to His Majesty's gaol at ; and these are  
likewise by virtue of my said office and in His Majesty's name to will and  
require you the said keeper to receive the body of the said A.B. into your



Coroners Ordinance, 1911 (Papua, adopted).

custody and him safely keep in the said gaol until he shall be thence discharged by due course of law and for your so doing this shall be your warrant.

Given under my hand and seal at \_\_\_\_\_ this  
day of \_\_\_\_\_ 19 \_\_\_\_\_  
[L.S.] \_\_\_\_\_  
Coroner.

WARRANT OF COMMITMENT FOR CONTEMPT OF COURT.

To all Police Officers and Constables of the Territory of Papua and to the Keeper of the Gaol at \_\_\_\_\_ Territory of Papua to wit.

WHEREAS upon an inquiry this day made before me one of His Majesty's Coroners for the said Territory at \_\_\_\_\_ on the body of \_\_\_\_\_ how and by what means he came to his death [or touching the cause and origin of a certain fire \_\_\_\_\_] one \_\_\_\_\_ did wilfully insult me the said coroner during the holding of my said inquest [or did wilfully interrupt the proceedings of my said inquest or otherwise] and I did therefore adjudge the said \_\_\_\_\_ for his offence to be imprisoned in the gaol at \_\_\_\_\_ for the space of \_\_\_\_\_ :

THESE are therefore to command you the said Police Officers or Constables or some or one of you to take the said \_\_\_\_\_ and him safely to convey to the gaol aforesaid and there deliver him to the keeper thereof together with this precept: AND I hereby command you the said keeper to receive the said \_\_\_\_\_ into the said gaol and there to imprison him for the space of \_\_\_\_\_ ; and for so doing this shall be your sufficient warrant.

Given under my hand and seal this \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_ 19 \_\_\_\_\_  
[L.S.] \_\_\_\_\_  
Coroner.

WARRANT OF COMMITMENT FOR NON-PAYMENT OF A FINE.

To all Police Officers and Constables of the Territory of Papua and to the Keeper of the Gaol at \_\_\_\_\_ Territory of Papua to wit.

WHEREAS upon inquiry this day made before me one of His Majesty's Coroners for the said Territory at \_\_\_\_\_ on the body of \_\_\_\_\_ how and by what means he came to his death [or touching the cause and origin of a certain fire \_\_\_\_\_] one \_\_\_\_\_ did [here state the offence for which the penalty was imposed] and I did therefore adjudge the said \_\_\_\_\_ for such offence should forfeit and pay the sum of \_\_\_\_\_ and in default of payment should be imprisoned in the gaol at \_\_\_\_\_ for the space of \_\_\_\_\_ : AND

WHEREAS the said sum has not been paid: THESE are therefore to command you the said Police Officers and Constables to take the said \_\_\_\_\_ and him safely to convey to the said gaol at \_\_\_\_\_ aforesaid and there to deliver him to the said keeper thereof together with this precept: AND I do hereby command you the said keeper to receive the said \_\_\_\_\_ into your custody in the said gaol and there to imprison him for the space of \_\_\_\_\_ unless the said sum shall be sooner paid and for your so doing this shall be your sufficient warrant.

Given under my hand and seal this \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_ 19 \_\_\_\_\_  
[L.S.] \_\_\_\_\_  
Coroner.

## CORONERS—

### DEPOSITION OF WITNESS.

Territory of Papua  
to wit.

THE examination of \_\_\_\_\_ of \_\_\_\_\_ in the said Territory taken this \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_ 19 \_\_\_\_\_ at \_\_\_\_\_ in the said Territory before the undersigned one of His Majesty's Coroners for the said Territory on an inquisition there and then taken touching the death of \_\_\_\_\_ [or the cause and origin of a certain fire \_\_\_\_\_].

This deponent says as follows:—

### RECOGNIZANCE WHERE A PERSON COMMITTED BY THE CORONER IS ADMITTED TO BAIL.

Territory of Papua  
to wit.

BE IT remembered that on the \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_ in the year of our Lord one thousand nine hundred and \_\_\_\_\_ A.B. of \_\_\_\_\_ and C.D. of \_\_\_\_\_ and E.F. of \_\_\_\_\_ personally came before me one of His Majesty's Coroners for the said Territory and severally acknowledged themselves to owe to our Sovereign Lord The King the several sums following that is to say the said A.B. the sum of \_\_\_\_\_ the said C.D. the sum of \_\_\_\_\_ and the said E.F. the sum of \_\_\_\_\_ to be made and levied of their goods and chattels lands and tenements respectively to the use of His Majesty His heirs and successors if the said A.B. fail in the condition endorsed.

Taken and acknowledged the day and year first above mentioned at \_\_\_\_\_ before me \_\_\_\_\_

Coroner.

#### *Condition Endorsed.*

The condition of the within written recognizance is such that whereas upon an inquiry made by me as to how and by what means \_\_\_\_\_ came by his death [or concerning the cause and origin of a certain fire \_\_\_\_\_]

I committed the said A.B. for trial on a charge of \_\_\_\_\_ IF THEREFORE the said A.B. shall appear at the next ordinary sittings of the Central Court to be holden at \_\_\_\_\_ in the said Territory and there surrender himself to the keeper of the gaol there and plead to such charge or to such other charge as may be then filed against him touching the premises and take his trial upon the same and not depart the Court without leave then the said recognizance shall be void or else the same shall remain in full force and virtue.

### FORM OF INQUISITION.

Territory of Papua  
to wit.

AN INQUISITION taken for our Sovereign Lord the King at \_\_\_\_\_ in the said Territory on the \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_ 19 \_\_\_\_\_ [and by adjournment on the \_\_\_\_\_ as the case may require] before me \_\_\_\_\_ one of His Majesty's Coroners for the said Territory as to when how and by what means A.B. came to his death [or as to the cause and origin of a certain fire at \_\_\_\_\_ whereby the dwelling-house of A.B. was destroyed]: I DO FIND—

*Here set out the circumstances of the death or fire as for example—*

- (a) That the said A.B. was found dead on the \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_ 19 \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_
- (b) That the cause of his death was a bullet wound inflicted upon him by C.D. and \_\_\_\_\_

*Here set out the conclusion of the Coroner as to the death as for example—*

- (c) That the said C.D. by misfortune and against his will did kill the said A.B.

*Coroners Ordinance, 1911 (Papua, adopted).*

Another example is—

- (a) That a fire occurred on the \_\_\_\_\_ day of  
19 \_\_\_\_\_ at the dwelling-house of A.B. at  
and  
(b) That the said fire was caused by C.D. wilfully and unlawfully  
setting fire to the said dwelling-house; or  
(c) That the said fire was caused by the accidental overturning of a  
kerosene lamp by C.D.

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WARRANT TO BURY.

Territory of Papua  
to wit.

To the Police Officers and Constables of the Territory and to all others whom  
it may concern.

WHEREAS I the day and year hereunder written have taken a view of the  
body of \_\_\_\_\_ who now lies dead in \_\_\_\_\_ and have  
proceeded therein according to law: THESE are therefore to certify that you  
may lawfully permit the body of the said \_\_\_\_\_ to be buried and  
for so doing this shall be your warrant.

Given under my hand and seal this \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_ 19  
[L.S.]

Coroner.

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WARRANT TO TAKE UP BODY INTERRED.

Territory of Papua  
to wit.

To all Police Officers and Constables of the Territory of Papua and to all  
others whom it may concern.

WHEREAS complaint has been made unto me \_\_\_\_\_ one of His  
Majesty's Coroners for the Territory of Papua that one  
whose body was buried in \_\_\_\_\_ on the \_\_\_\_\_ day of

19 \_\_\_\_\_ died not of a natural but violent death: AND  
WHEREAS no notice of the violent death of the said \_\_\_\_\_ hath  
been given to any of His Majesty's Coroners for the said Territory whereby  
an inquisition might have been taken on view of the body of the said  
\_\_\_\_\_ before his interment: THESE are therefore by virtue of my  
office in His Majesty's name to charge and command you that you may  
forthwith cause the body of the said \_\_\_\_\_ to be taken up and  
safely conveyed to \_\_\_\_\_ that I may have a view thereof and  
proceed therein according to law.

Given under my hand and seal this \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_ 19  
[L.S.]

Coroner.

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CORONER'S CERTIFICATE WHERE INQUEST DEEMED  
UNNECESSARY.

Territory of Papua  
to wit.

To all Police Officers and Constables of the Territory of Papua and to all  
others whom it may concern.

I the undersigned \_\_\_\_\_ one of His Majesty's Coroners for the  
said Territory having made inquiry respecting the death of  
who died at \_\_\_\_\_ on the \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_ 19  
do hereby certify that there is not in my opinion any necessity for holding  
an inquest upon the body of the said \_\_\_\_\_ and that the body of the  
said \_\_\_\_\_ may be buried.

Given under my hand this \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_ 19

Coroner.

CORONERS—

CORONER'S CERTIFICATE WHERE INQUEST ON FIRE IS DEEMED  
UNNECESSARY.

Territory of Papua  
to wit.

To all whom it may concern.

I the undersigned \_\_\_\_\_ one of His Majesty's Coroners for the  
said Territory having made inquiries regarding the cause and origin of a  
certain fire which occurred at \_\_\_\_\_ on the \_\_\_\_\_ day of  
\_\_\_\_\_ 19\_\_\_\_ do hereby certify that there is not in my opinion  
any necessity for holding an inquest upon the said fire.

Given under my hand this

day of

19\_\_\_\_  
Coroner.