

**LAWS OF TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO**

**OATHS OF OFFICE ACT**

**CHAPTER 7:03**

Act  
33 of 1917  
Amended by  
6 of 1937  
14 of 1939  
10 of 1956  
136/1976  
\*47 of 1980

\*See Note on page 2

**Current Authorised Pages**

<i>Pages</i> <i>(inclusive)</i>	<i>Authorised</i> <i>by L.R.O.</i>
1-2	1/1990
3-4	1/1980

**L.R.O. 1/1990**

Note  
on  
**Subsidiary Legislation**

No subsidiary legislation has been made under this Act.

Note  
on  
**Act No. 47 of 1980**

*See* Schedule B to Act No. 47 of 1980 (at page 443 of the 1980 Annual Volume of Acts and Subsidiary Legislation of Trinidad and Tobago) for amendments made to this Act [formerly known as the Promissory Oaths Ordinance, Ch. 7 No. 11—(1950 Ed.) before it was revised].

Note  
on  
**Transferred Provisions**

Sections 2 to 6, section 7 (in so far as it relates to the Chief Justice, to Judges and Magistrates) and section 8 of the Promissory Oaths Ordinance Ch. 7 No. 11 (1950 Ed.) have been omitted as superfluous since these provisions are now duplicated in the Constitution and the various public service Acts.

Section 7 (in so far as it relates to Justices of the Peace) has been transferred to Summary Courts Act (Chap. 4:20) as section 4(4).

## CHAPTER 7:03

## OATHS OF OFFICE ACT

## ARRANGEMENT OF SECTIONS

## SECTION

1. Short title.
2. Before whom oath to be taken.
3. Neglect or refusal to take oaths.
4. Unnecessary repetition of oaths.
5. Record of official oaths.
6. Act does not affect matters herein specified.

**An Act relating to Oaths of Office.**

1950 Ed.  
Ch. 7 No. 11.  
33 of 1917.

[17TH DECEMBER 1917]

Commencement.

1. This Act may be cited as the Oaths of Office Act.

Short title.

2. (1) The oaths required to be taken by Judges of the Supreme Court and by members of the Cabinet shall be taken before the President.

Before whom  
oaths to be  
taken.

(2) Subject to any provision to the contrary in any other written law, any oath of office required to be taken by any person in the public service of Trinidad and Tobago shall be taken before the President or before such other person as the President may in any case in writing direct.

3. If any officer declines or neglects to take such oath when any oath required to be taken by him under any written law is duly tendered, he shall, if he has already entered on his office, vacate the same, and, if he has not entered on the same, be disqualified from entering on the same; but no person shall be compelled, in respect of the same appointment to the same office, to take such oath more than once.

Neglect or  
refusal to take  
oaths.

L.R.O. 1/1980

Unnecessary repetition of oaths.

4. (1) When any person is appointed to act in any office or capacity in the place and during the absence of any officer or person, he shall not be required to take any oath on the occasion of such appointment, unless the oath required to be taken in respect of such appointment is different from or in addition to any oath already taken by him and duly recorded in respect of any previous appointment, permanent or temporary.

(2) No person who has on any occasion taken the oath of allegiance, which oath has been duly recorded, shall be required to repeat the same oath on appointment to any office or on any other occasion.

Record of oaths of office.

5. Every oath of office shall be recorded, in some book to be kept for the purpose, by the signature of the person taking such oath, with the attestation of the person before whom the same is taken; and such book shall be conclusive evidence, for all purposes, of any oath therein recorded having been duly taken and recorded.

Act does not affect matters herein specified.

6. Nothing contained in this Act shall affect—

- (a) any oath required or authorised by any written law to be taken or made for the purpose of attesting any fact or verifying any account or document; or
  - (b) any oath required to be taken by any juror, witness, or other person in pursuance of any written law or custom as preliminary to or in the course of any civil, criminal, or other trial, inquest, or proceedings of a judicial nature, including any arbitration.
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