

HIGH COURT OF AUSTRALIA

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Details of Filing

File Number: \$88/2025

File Title: Obeid v. The King

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Document filed: Appellant's (Edward Obeid) Outline of oral argument (S88/202

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Important Information

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IN THE HIGH COURT OF AUSTRALIA SYDNEY REGISTRY

BETWEEN: EDWARD MOSES OBEID

Appellant

and

THE KING

Respondent

APPELLANT'S OUTLINE OF ORAL SUBMISSIONS

PART I INTERNET PUBLICATION

This outline of oral submissions is in a form suitable for publication on the internet.

PART II PROPOSITIONS TO BE ADVANCED IN ORAL ARGUMENT

A. Paragraphs (a)-(c) of the indictment do not define the acts, which would, if carried out, would amount to misconduct

1. The qualities or descriptors, which are set out in paragraphs (a)-(c) contained in the indictment, describe characteristics of the conduct, which the Crown asserted had been agreed upon. However, they did not define that conduct. RS [8]. Such conduct, if established, would be capable of amounting to misconduct, but would not necessarily be so. AS [27].

B. The need for specification of the alleged acts is demonstrated by so-called element 5

2. Resort to authorities involving conspiracies in relation to other offences is of little utility. The degree of specificity required will vary from case to case. RS [5].

- 3. Conspiracies involving most offences will not require much, if any, specificity beyond a recitation of the elements of the offence. RS [6]. However, the offence of misconduct in public office is an unusual offence, since proof of the offence does not depend solely on prohibited conduct, but also an assessment of whether that misconduct merits criminal punishment.
- 4. It is only by specification of the alleged acts that a tribunal of fact is able to assess whether the nature and extent of the alleged departure from the objects of office are such as to merit criminal punishment. RS [14]-[16].

Dated 6 November 2025

Peter Lange