



## HIGH COURT OF AUSTRALIA

### NOTICE OF FILING

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#### Details of Filing

File Number: C2/2026  
File Title: O'Connell v. Director of Public Prosecutions  
Registry: Canberra  
Document filed: Form 27B - Appellant's chronology  
Filing party: Appellant  
Date filed: 12 Mar 2026

#### Important Information

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**Form 27B – Appellant’s chronology**

Note: see rule 44.02.3.

IN THE HIGH COURT OF AUSTRALIA  
CANBERRA REGISTRY

BETWEEN:

MICHAEL O’CONNELL

Appellant

and

THE KING

Respondent

**APPELLANT’S CHRONOLOGY****Part I: Form of chronology**

1. This chronology is in a form suitable for publication on the internet.

**Part II: Chronology**

<b>Date</b>	<b>Event(s)</b>	<b>Reference</b>
14-18 April 2022	Date of alleged offending as particularised on the Indictment.  Ms Jordan sustained head injuries on 15 April 2022 and died on 17 April 2022.	<b>CAB 6</b>  First J at [1] <b>CAB 74</b>
30 May 2023	The appellant’s trial before Baker J and a jury commenced in the ACT Supreme Court.	Sentencing Judgment at [2] <b>CAB 51</b>
15 June 2023	The jury returned a verdict of guilty on the offence of murder and are discharged.	<b>CAB 47</b>
7 February 2024	The appellant was sentenced by Baker J for the offence of murder, to 15 years imprisonment, commencing on 15 April 2022, with a non-parole	<b>CAB 66</b>

	period of 10 years: <i>DPP v O'Connell (No 5)</i> [2024] ACTSC 17.	
12-13 February 2024	The appellant's appeal against conviction was heard.	<b>CAB 72</b>
27 June 2025	<i>O'Connell v DPP</i> [2025] ACTCA 20, the first judgment, was handed down. A majority of the Court of Appeal (Loukas-Karlsson and Taylor JJ, McCallum CJ dissenting) upheld the appellant's appeal against his conviction on the basis that the jury's verdict was unreasonable because the evidence did not establish beyond reasonable doubt the mental element for murder. The Court entered a verdict of not guilty for murder and reserved the question of whether another verdict should be entered.	<b>CAB 72</b>  First J at [241]-[242] <b>CAB 123</b> , [257] <b>CAB 126</b> , [345] <b>CAB 144</b> .  <b>CAB 146</b>
29 September 2025	<i>O'Connell v DPP (No 4)</i> [2025] ACTCA 41, the second judgment, was handed down. A majority of the Court of Appeal (Loukas-Karlsson and Taylor JJ, McCallum CJ dissenting) concluded that a verdict of guilty should be entered to the charge of manslaughter, and the Court made an order to that effect, remitting the matter for re-sentence.	<b>CAB 147</b> <b>CAB 174</b>
5 February 2026	Special leave to appeal from the second judgment was granted to Mr O'Connell. Special leave to appeal from the first judgment was granted to the Director of Public Prosecutions.	<b>CAB 182</b>  <b>CAB 187</b>

Dated 11 March 2026



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