



EXECUTIVE COUNCIL CHAMBERS

7 October 2020



Ref: OIA-2020/21-0165

Dear 

Official Information Act request: Letter of commission for the Governor General

Thank you for your Official Information Act request received on 22 September 2020. You requested:

"Greeting, can you please email me a complete copy the letter of commission for the Governor General with the signature of the queen included on its face (as the Clerk of the Executive Council said the queen had signed it during the formal swearing in ceremony of the honourable Dame Patsy Reddy to the office).

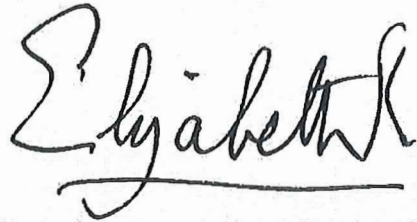
The gazetted letter of commission appears to be a draft, and bears no signature at all (gazette Notice Number 2016-vr5605 Issue Number)"

A copy of the Commission appointing Dame Patsy Reddy as Governor-General, signed by the Queen and issued on 2 August 2016, is **enclosed**. The Commission was publicly read at Dame Patsy's swearing-in on 28 September 2016 and published in the Gazette on 4 October 2016.

Yours sincerely



Michael Webster
Clerk of the Executive Council



ELIZABETH THE SECOND, by the Grace of God Queen of New Zealand and Her Other Realms and Territories, Head of the Commonwealth, Defender of the Faith:

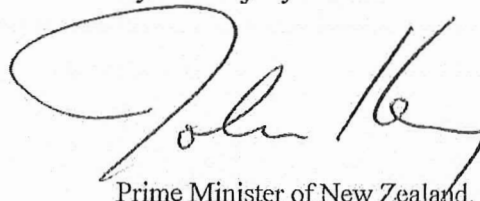
To Our Trusty and Well-beloved DAME PATRICIA LEE REDDY, Dame Grand Companion of Our New Zealand Order of Merit, Companion of Our Service Order:

GREETING!

- I We do by this Our Commission under the Seal of New Zealand, appoint you, the said Dame Patricia Lee Reddy, to be, during Our pleasure, Our Governor-General and Commander-in-Chief in and over Our Realm of New Zealand.
- II. And We do hereby authorise and empower you to exercise the powers and authorities conferred on Our Governor-General and Commander-in-Chief by Our Letters Patent under the Seal of New Zealand bearing date the 28th day of October 1983 and constituting the office of Governor-General and Commander-in-Chief in and over Our Realm of New Zealand, or by any other Letters Patent, altering, amending, or substituting for the same.
- III. And We do hereby command you to do and execute those powers and authorities according to -
- (a) The tenor of the said Letters Patent and of this Our Commission; and
 - (b) Such laws as are now or shall hereafter be in force in Our Realm of New Zealand or in any part thereof.
- IV. And We do hereby declare that this Our Commission shall take effect on the 28th day of September 2016.
- V. We do hereby direct -
- (a) That you shall, as soon as convenient after this Our Commission takes effect, and before entering on any of the duties of the office of Governor-General and Commander-in-Chief, cause this Our Commission to be publicly read in accordance with clause V of the said Letters Patent; and
 - (b) That you shall, immediately after this Our Commission has been so publicly read, take, as required by the said Letters Patent, -
 - (i) The Oath of Allegiance; and
 - (ii) The Oath for the due execution of the office of Governor-General.
- VI. We do hereby direct and enjoin Our Ministers of the Crown and other Officers, and all other inhabitants of Our Realm of New Zealand, to take notice of this Our Commission and to comply accordingly.

Given at Our Court at Saint James's and
issued under the Seal of New Zealand, this
2 day of August
2016, in the sixty-fifth year of Our Reign.

By Her Majesty's Command.



Prime Minister of New Zealand.