

Code of Conduct

For the Seneschal of Sark*

(*Any reference to "Seneschal" shall include the Deputy Seneschal and Lieutenant Seneschals)

1. The Seneschal shall uphold the integrity and independence of the Office of Seneschal of Sark and perform his duties with competence, diligence and integrity.
2. The Seneschal shall decide cases within a reasonable time frame, according to the means and resources placed at his disposal by the Government of Sark. He must ensure that justice is done by giving each party a fair hearing.
3. The Seneschal shall ensure, as far as practicable, that good order and decorum are maintained in the Courtroom and that all persons conduct themselves accordingly.
4. The Seneschal has every right to administer his personal assets and property in the manner most beneficial to him. However, he shall not engage in any activity which is incompatible with the Office he holds. Nor shall he exercise any profession, business or trade which conflicts with his judicial obligations.
5. The Seneschal shall ensure that his conduct in private life is consistent with his Office and that it does not tarnish his personal integrity and dignity.
6. The Seneschal shall not join any political organisation or body, nor one which by reason of its nature or purpose, could conflict with judicial independence or impartiality; nor shall he provide financial assistance or show support for any such organisation, association or body.
7. The Seneschal shall not, while outside the Court Room, discuss pending cases and should discourage persons from discussing *sub judice* cases whilst in his presence.
8. The Seneschal shall carry out his duties according to the dictates of his conscience and without fear or favour. Cases shall be decided objectively and solely on their legal and factual merits.
9. The contents of discussions between members of the Court when reaching a decision shall not be disclosed to others.
10. The Seneschal shall not sit on any case where he has a financial or other interest, or where the circumstances are such that a fair minded, informed observer would conclude that there was a real possibility that he was biased. In all other cases he is bound to sit.
11. The Seneschal should at all times exercise care when asked to speak or comment in public or to the media. – as a general rule he should decline to give interviews except of a very general nature.
12. The Seneschal shall inform the Seigneur and / or the Lt. Governor if he is convicted of any criminal offence outside the Island.

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