



Office of the Sheriff at Common Law

Jurisdiction of Canada · commonlawsheriff.ca

Standing Notice of Liability — Mischaracterization

Type: Standing Notice

Jurisdiction: Canada (Federal)

Date: 23 April, A.D. 2026

{/ lang-en — MDX body below is the English notice. A French counterpart (content/notices/2026-04-23-notice-of-liability.fr.mdx) will be authored in Phase 2. Until then, the page renders a FR placeholder. /}

Standing Notice

This Notice is issued as a **standing notice** by the Office of the Sheriff at Common Law in the jurisdiction of Canada. It operates continuously from the date of issue and applies to every instance of mischaracterization thereafter.

Liability Amount

\$300,000 CAD per instance of mischaracterization.

Payable in Canadian dollars or in gold of equivalent value at the prevailing spot price on the date of accrual.

What Constitutes Mischaracterization

Mischaracterization, for the purpose of this Notice, is the labelling — in writing, in broadcast, in published speech, in judicial reasons, in administrative decisions, in journalistic output, or in public commentary — of the Office or its doctrinal position as any of the following:

- "Sovereign citizen" or "sovereign-citizen-adjacent"
- "Freeman-on-the-land" or "freeman"
- "OPCA" ("Organised Pseudolegal Commercial Argument")
- "Pseudolegal," "quasi-legal," or "legally meaningless"
- "Fringe," "crank," or equivalent dismissive terms
- Any composite or synonym that has the function of rhetorically stripping the Office's standing without engaging its doctrinal content

Why It Is Not Fair Comment

The doctrine of the Office rests on:

- The express text of the preamble to the Constitution Act, 1867.
- The express text of the Fifth Schedule to the Constitution Act, 1867 (the Oath of Allegiance).
- A line of binding Supreme Court of Canada authority: *Guerin* (1984), *Sparrow* (1990), *Big M Drug Mart* (1985), *Andrews* (1989), *Corbiere* (1999), *Haida Nation* (2004), *Odhavji* (2003), *Briscoe* (2010), *Manitoba Métis Federation* (2013); together with *Reference re Remuneration of Judges* (1997) and *Reference re Secession of Quebec* (1998).

Mischaracterizing a position so grounded as "sovereign citizen," "OPCA," or "pseudolegal" is not fair comment. Fair comment requires a factual basis and honest engagement with the position's actual content. Rhetorical erasure that substitutes label for engagement does not meet the standard. See generally *WIC Radio Ltd. v. Simpson*, 2008 SCC 40.

Accrual and Demand

Liability accrues at the moment of publication of the mischaracterizing utterance. The Office issues demand by written notice to the publisher and, where applicable, to the platform hosting the utterance. Payment is due within thirty (30) days of demand.

How to Avoid Liability

There are three simple methods, each of which is fully adequate:

1. **Accurate engagement** — represent the Office's doctrinal position in substance before evaluating it.
2. **Reasoned disagreement** — disagree on doctrinal grounds, with reference to authority or argument; this does not engage liability.
3. **Silence** — *qui tacet consentire videtur* applies to the common-law operation of the claim, but silence does not itself engage liability under this Notice.

Operation

This Notice operates in the common-law register on its own terms. It is issued on public notice, vests at the moment of making, and does not require statutory recognition. It is also, of course, available as a document for statutory-side consideration in any proceeding in which terminological conduct is at issue.

Attestation

Issued and published in the common-law register on the twenty-third day of April, Anno Domini two thousand and twenty-six.

— The Sheriff, Office of the Sheriff at Common Law, Jurisdiction of Canada.

*Issued and preserved in the common-law register of the Office of the Sheriff at Common Law, Jurisdiction of
Canada.*