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Circular Memorandum No. 1 / 2018

TOPIC: **Improper use of stakes as boundary marks**

DATE: 22 January 2018

All Registered Land Surveyors

It has come to the attention of my office that some registered land surveyors are improperly using stakes to define the physical location of boundaries of land.

The *Surveyors Act 2002* specifies that only a Registered Land Surveyor may undertake a 'survey of land' and the Survey Directions identifies the two means by which the surveyor may provide information to a client as to the location of property boundaries. These are:

- A survey of land (including a re-mark or repeg survey) where boundary marks are placed on the ground. In this case the survey must be made in full compliance with the Survey Directions with Division 5 specifying the boundary marking requirements. Section 3.5.7 prescribes the form of boundary marks, which includes marks placed on the line of the boundary and not just at the corner. Subsection 3.5.2.4 makes it clear that stakes may only be used to assist in the identification of prescribed marks along a boundary line in bushland and not be used to replace them.
- An Identification survey, where no boundary marks are placed: In this case there are no statutory requirements prescribed. Surveyors are reminded of Circular Memorandum No. 4 / 2012, where it was made clear the placing of non-conforming marks such as stakes does not circumvent the requirements of the Survey Directions.

If any mark is placed on the ground to indicate the location of a boundary line or corner the Survey Directions excludes the use of stakes for that purpose.



Michael Giudici
SURVEYOR GENERAL