

**TASMANIA POLICE GRADUATION CEREMONY  
RECRUIT TRAINING COURSE 3/2024  
ADDRESS BY  
HER EXCELLENCY THE HONOURABLE BARBARA BAKER AC  
GOVERNOR OF TASMANIA  
TASMANIA POLICE ACADEMY, ROKEBY, FRIDAY 29 NOVEMBER 2024**

Thank you, Commissioner Adams, for your kind introduction.

May I too acknowledge the Mumirimina people upon whose land we gather and today's Tasmanian Aboriginal Community as ongoing custodians of Country. I pay my respects to the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander men and women who have served as first responders and contributed to the protection of our Tasmanian and national community.

I am honoured by my invitation to review today's graduation parade and to present the graduation certificates. This is an important day not only for the 21 members graduating from Recruit Training Course 3 of 2024, their families, and loved ones but also for our Tasmania Police and our broader Tasmanian community.

Having worked in our Justice System for many years, I know your chosen career can be both rewarding and challenging.

As you commence your duties across our State, you will meet a wide and diverse range of people who will all have unique needs and demands of you, which may, at times, be difficult or threatening.

You will work closely with vulnerable members of our community; young people, those suffering from mental ill-health, and people dealing with the impacts of family violence.

You will witness and attend incidents that our public never experience. Often, you will meet people at the worst moments of their lives.

On all these occasions, it will be your duty to protect, help, and serve members of our community.

While many of your community interactions will be positive, some will always react with hostility toward police officers. You may be provoked at times, and your professionalism, patience, and tolerance tested. Through your training and your work experience you will gain skills and knowledge to help you meet these challenges.

Your new graduate role brings with it a conspicuous and public profile. Your actions and decisions will always be subject to public scrutiny; you will be held to higher standards than the public.

As graduates, you have demonstrated tertiary level standards and competencies across a diverse range of study topics. You have studied law and ethics, as well as learning the operational and tactical aspects of your role.

Tasmania Police will also offer access to further opportunities to continue your education and professional development, and you will have opportunities to advance your career.

Next week, as you begin work as new constables, you will appreciate that our Tasmania Police continues to enjoy high levels of public confidence. In last year's community survey, a majority of respondents described Tasmania Police as "professional, trustworthy, honest, compassionate, fair and equitable<sup>1</sup>." It is for you all to maintain that judgement.

As you graduate today, may I acknowledge your families and loved ones. They are to be congratulated for supporting and encouraging you throughout your 28 weeks of training. I am sure they will continue to support and encourage you throughout your policing career.

May I congratulate each of you on graduating from our Tasmania Police Academy.

I also wish you every success in your future policing career. On behalf of our Tasmanian community, thank you for your commitment to this important public role.

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<sup>1</sup> [Tasmania Police Community Survey 2023](#), accessed 25 November 2024