



Government House
CANBERRA ACT 2600
21 July 2026

Gallantry Decorations - July 2026

The Governor-General is pleased to announce the following Gallantry Decorations:

MEDAL FOR GALLANTRY (MG)

Australian Army

Mr (then Private) Matthew John ADAMS

For acts of gallantry in action in hazardous circumstances as a Commando with the 2nd Commando Regiment on Special Operations Task Group during Operation SLIPPER.

COMMENDATION FOR GALLANTRY

Australian Army

Mr (then Trooper) Chris WILLIAMS

For acts of gallantry in action as a Patrol Scout with the Special Air Service Regiment as part of the Special Operations Task Group during Operation SLIPPER in Afghanistan.

By Her Excellency's command

Gerard Martin PSM

Official Secretary to the Governor-General

MEDAL FOR GALLANTRY (MG)

Mr (then Private) Matthew John ADAMS

For acts of gallantry in action in hazardous circumstances as a Commando with the 2nd Commando Regiment on Special Operations Task Group during Operation SLIPPER.

Mr (then Private) Matthew Adams performed acts of gallantry in hazardous circumstances, and demonstrated courage under fire whilst serving as a member of a four-person sniper patrol supporting Australian and the United States Special Forces in Afghanistan in September 2010. Private Adams repeatedly left the relative safety of a dugout to assist the team medic to safety, to locate enemy positions and to observe and relay adjustments for indirect fire, directly influencing the success of the mission. Without Private Adams' initiative, the force elements would have remained pinned down, unable to neutralise enemy positions or safely extract. His actions were pivotal in turning a highly dangerous situation into a controlled withdrawal.

COMMENDATION FOR GALLANTRY

Mr (then Trooper) Chris WILLIAMS

For acts of gallantry in action as a Patrol Scout with the Special Air Service Regiment as part of the Special Operations Task Group during Operation SLIPPER in Afghanistan.

Mr (then Trooper) Williams' actions on 25 June 2012 displayed gallantry while engaging the enemy at close range and under fire from well concealed and protected enemy positions. His selfless acts of gallantry in the face of a determined enemy and with complete disregard for his personal safety were of the highest order and in keeping with the finest traditions of the Special Operations Task Group, the Australian Army and the Australian Defence Force.