Perjury

s.327 / s.328 (NSW) Crimes Act

327 Make any false statement on oath in, or in connection with, any judicial proceeding concerning any matter which is material to the proceeding, knowing the statement to be false or not believing it to be true

Maximum Penalty: 10 years

328 Commit perjury intending to procure the conviction or acquittal of any person of any serious indictable offence

Maximum Penalty: 14 years

	Case (age if known)	Offence	Plea	Sentence	Appeal	Record	Facts
	Fish (28 at offence – 37 at appeal)	s.327 [10y]	VG	20m NPP 12m	AA 20m NPP 6m	Nil	Off duty police officers involved in brawl with young men – at police station young men brutally assaulted by police officers bring struck by batons as they left van – both offenders gave false evidence at Court hearings denying
1.	Swan (42 at offences – 52 at sentence) (2002)131 A Crim R 172 [2002] NSWCCA 196 Co-offender: LANGTON	2 x s.327 [10y]	VG	Total: 2y 8m NPP 2y	<u>Total</u> : 1y 10m NPP 1y 2m	nil	assaults occurred Fish – female – excellent work record – good character - difficult personal life – delay – depression – protective custody – gave evidence to protect husband (Langton) and avoid violence at home Swan: - war service in Vietnam – excellent work record – married with children - suffering PTSD – protective custody - delay
2.	Treglia (21 – 28 at appeal) [2002] NSWCCA 338	s.327 [10y]	PG (20%)	4y NPP 3y	AA 3y NPP 18m	Record not detailed	Gave evidence and called witnesses supporting alibi at trial for home invasion – acquitted – premeditated and perpetuated in trial for serious offences Some progress in rehabilitation

	Case (age if known)	Offence	Plea	Sentence	Appeal	Record	Facts
3.	Langton [2002] NSWCCA 382	s.327 [10y]	PG	2y NPP 18m	AA 18m NPP 6m	Nil priors – subsequent offence of	Off duty police officer involved in brawl with young men – three victims assaulted by offender and other police at station - struck by batons as they left van – later punched
		s.327 [10y]		2y NPP 18m	18m NPP 3m	assault not taken into account on sentence	repeatedly – gave false evidence at Local Court hearing and District Court appeal denying assaults Reduction of 4 months for significant delay On appeal: erred in making sentences for perjury
		Affray		FT 2y	FT 2y	00000	offences cumulative but also erred in making affray sentence concurrent – total NPP excessive
		3 x Assault		FT 12m	FT 12m		semence concurrent – total NFF excessive
	Co-offenders: FISH SWAN			Total: 3y 6m NPP 3y	Total: 3y 6m NPP 2y 3m		
4.	Mahoney (40) [2004] NSWCCA 138	s.327 / 328 [14y] s.327 / 328 [14y]	PG (25%)	FT 15m (concurrent)	Crown AA 18m NPP 9m 2y NPP 12m (concurrent to each other but	Minor offences – supply comm qty prohibited drug	Gave false evidence at trial for supply and manufacture prohibited drug offence – when first trial aborted gave false evidence again at second trial On appeal: error in making sentences concurrent with existing sentence
					cumulative to existing sentence)		
	Einfeld (2010) 200 A Crim R 1	Pervert course of justice: s.319	PG (12.5%)	2y 3m NPP 15m	AD		Offender's car recorded by speed camera – gave evidence in Local Court denying he had been driving: s.327 – when giving evidence identified another person
5.	[2010] NSWCCA 87	s.327 [10y]		21m NPP 14m			as driver of car – person nominated was deceased – provided written statement to police which was false in number of particulars: s.319
				<u>Total</u> : 3y NPP 2y			Former barrister and Judge – status and experience rendered offences more serious

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6.	King [2011] NSWCCA 274	Pervert course of justice: s.319 s.327 [10y]	PG (10%) (25%)	16m NPP 12m FT 12m Total: 2y 3m 1y 11m 3 weeks	AD	B&E, malicious damage, larceny, arson	Convicted of arson offence — claimed brother's death affecting him at time of arson offence — brother had died after arson — falsified newspaper report in respect of date of brother's death — immature attempt to get undeserved sympathy for offence of real gravity — not designed to help him or another to escape conviction — lie easily discovered. Appalling childhood — intellectual functioning at lower end of average.
7.	Hunt (54 at sentence) [2019] NSWCCA 118	s.327 / 328 [14y] s.327 [10y] Threaten witness: s.322 [10y]	PG	Indicative: 10y 7y 2y Aggregate: 12y NPP 9y	AA Indicative: 5y 7y 2y Aggregate: 8y NPP 6y	Record including for violence	At trial for offences of assault police in execution of duty occasioning actual bodily harm and intimidation lied about reason for being at rural property of victim – acquitted of both charges – lied at subsequent civil proceedings in relation to charges and paid two men to give false corroborating evidence – received \$300,000 payout – made threats to sister that Rebel bikies would be waiting for her if she consulted solicitor over her son's desire to withdraw statements made in support of offender's false version – deliberate attempt to pervert administration of justice over several years – threaten witness offence towards bottom of scale because not believed by sister Difficult childhood including sexual abuse – long term psychiatric illnesses – substance abuse – physical health issues On appeal: error in assessment of first perjury offence – seriousness of substantive offence relevant to assessment of perjury offence
8.	Mehajer [2022] NSWCCA 240	2 x Pervert course of justice: s.319 s.327 [10y]	VG	Indicative 2y 6m / 2y 1y Aggregate 3y 6m NPP 2y 3m	AD	Record although offences not stated – on bail and bonds.	Tried to secure bail conditions in court proceedings under false pretences to further business interests - swearing and use of false affidavit - provided false information as to circumstances of employment - made false statement on oath about his employment - significant planning and preparation of documentation. Requires long-term mental health treatment – special circumstances - high media profile – protective custody - depression and anxiety.

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