



NEW ZEALAND
POLICE
Ngā Pirihimana o Aotearoa

9 October 2019

Mr Jak Wild
fyi-request-11077-d043a60b@requests.fyi.org.nz

REF: IR-01-19- 23708

Dear Mr Wild

I refer to your Official Information Act request dated 29 August 2019 in which you ask for:

'I write to you in my role as the Advocate of the late Samuel Jacob Fischer who was a patient of Te Whare o Matairangi (TWoM) psychiatric inpatient facility between January 31st 2015 to the time of his discharge to the Wellington Hospital's Intensive Care Unit where he died on the 20th April 2015.

I request the following information under the provisions of the Official Information Act 1982:

All New Zealand Police National and/or Wellington District policies, procedures and protocols specifically related to the investigation of deaths in New Zealand inpatient psychiatric institutions.

Including but not limited to:

- 1) Collection of evidence at the scene of death.*
- 2) Photographic evidence of the scene of death*
- 3) Protection of evidence at, or related to the scene of death.*
- 4) Collection of statements relevant to the death, including statements that police require of staff, patients, family, professionals and any other person that has information deemed as relevant to the police investigation.*
- 5) Police means of access to, and protection of evidence relevant to the death, including but not limited to:*
 - a) All personal health records of the deceased, including both paper and electronic health records.*
 - b) Staff and patient Swipe Card records.*
 - c) Personal effects of the deceased.*

Police National Headquarters

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d) *Cell phone records of the deceased.*

6) *Moving of the deceased*

7) *Presentation of the evidence to coronial inquiries*

8) *Release of evidence to interested parties during coronial inquiries'*

As discussed by telephone and then clarified by email on 8 October 2019 you confirmed the following:

'I hereby confirm this OIA request is for NZ police operational policies and procedures in general and not information specific to the investigation into Mr Samuel Jacob Fischer.'

New Zealand Police National and/or Wellington District policies, procedures and protocols specifically related to the investigation of deaths in New Zealand inpatient psychiatric institutions do not exist.

Your request is therefore refused pursuant to Section 18(e) of the Official Information Act 1982.

If you are not satisfied with my response to your request, you have the right to complain to the Office of the Ombudsman and seek an investigation and review of my decision.

Yours sincerely



Craig Scott
Detective Inspector
National Criminal Investigations Unit