

3 May 2023

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Our ref: OIA 103583

Tēnā koe

### **Official Information Act request: Request for Court documents**

Thank you for your two Official Information Act (OIA) requests, both submitted to the Ministry of Justice (the Ministry) through the fyi.org.nz website on 26 March 2023, requesting information from a court file. Your requests have been referred to me for response as they fall within my responsibilities as Acting Group Manager, Courts and Tribunals, Regional Service Delivery.

Specifically, your requests seek the following information:

*“Request to be provided with court transcripts on the record and release of all documents held on your files and any submitted*

*‘Cri - Crn  
2021-055-000184  
21055000234  
21055000265  
21055001539*

*Court dates  
10 March 2021  
18 March 2021  
19 March 2021  
18 April 2021  
17 January 2023’*

I would first like to apologise for the time it has taken for you to receive a response. It is expected that responses to OIA requests are sent within 20 working days of receiving the request. I apologise that this has not occurred in this instance.

The information you have requested is court information. Under section 2(6)(a) of the OIA, court information is not considered to be Official Information and therefore cannot be requested under the OIA. I am therefore refusing your requests under s18(g) of the OIA, because the information is not held by the Ministry of Justice (the Ministry).

Access to the Court record is governed by legislation, and there are rules around how this information can be released. Requests for access to court information need to be made to the relevant court directly in writing, identifying the records you wish to access, and the reason you wish to access these records.

I note your request was addressed to Sue Kirk, Service Manager at the Papakura District Court. You can submit your request to the Papakura District Court as an 'Access to Court Documents' request under the District Court (Access to Court Documents) Rules 2017 by emailing [Papakura.DC@justice.govt.nz](mailto:Papakura.DC@justice.govt.nz) or writing to Papakura District Court, DX EX 10945, Papakura. A form is available for requests to access court documents which helps to ensure all of the relevant information needed for the court to consider your request is included. You can find this form at [www.justice.govt.nz/assets/Documents/Forms/MOJ0148.2-Sept-2021-Application-for-access-to-court-docs-updated-v0.6.pdf](http://www.justice.govt.nz/assets/Documents/Forms/MOJ0148.2-Sept-2021-Application-for-access-to-court-docs-updated-v0.6.pdf)

Please note that this response, with your personal details removed, may be published on the Ministry website at: [justice.govt.nz/about/official-information-act-requests/oia-responses/](http://justice.govt.nz/about/official-information-act-requests/oia-responses/)

If you require any further information, please contact Media & Social Media Manager Joe Locke at [media@justice.govt.nz](mailto:media@justice.govt.nz).

If you are not satisfied with this response, you have the right to make a complaint to the Office of the Ombudsman under section 28(3) of the Act. The Office of the Ombudsman may be contacted by email to [info@ombudsman.parliament.nz](mailto:info@ombudsman.parliament.nz) or by phone on 0800 802 602.

Nāku noa, nā



Richard Williams  
**Acting Group Manager, Courts & Tribunals**