



27 August 2015

John Harpley  
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File No: DOIA 1516-0007

Dear Mr Harpley,

I refer to your request under the Official Information Act 1982 (the OIA) received on 2 July 2015 requesting the following information from Immigration New Zealand:

*My request is with regards to the flight steward, Jesus Beltran, that INZ use at Auckland International Airport as a Spanish interpreter:*

- 1) What nationality is he?*
- 2) Is he a NZ resident or citizen?*
- 3) how is he paid? and by whom?*
- 4) Is his payment for services above the minimum wage?*
- 5) What qualifications does he have with regard interpreting?*

Our response

- 1) What nationality is he? This information is withheld in reliance on section 9(2)(a) of the OIA as the withholding of the information is necessary to protect the privacy of natural persons.
- 2) Is he a NZ resident or citizen? This information is withheld in reliance on section 9(2)(a) of the OIA as the withholding of the information is necessary to protect the privacy of natural persons.
- 3) How is he paid and by whom? Mr Beltran is paid on invoice by the Ministry of Business Innovation and Employment.
- 4) Is his payment for services above the minimum wage? Yes
- 5) What qualifications does he have with regard interpreting? Mr Beltran is a native Spanish speaker. Immigration New Zealand instructions A14.5 state that immigration officers may use a third party as an interpreter if they have confidence in that person:

#### **A14.5 Suitability of interpreters**

- a. An immigration officer may use a staff member who understands and communicates in the interviewee's language, or a third party interpreter in whom they have confidence.
- b. If family members, friends or agents accompany interviewees who do not speak English fluently to an interview, an immigration officer should not use these people as interpreters, because they may have an interest in the outcome of the application and therefore may:

- i. provide an incorrect translation; or
- ii. give their own answers and ask their own questions rather than those of the applicant; or
- iii. seek to influence the applicant's responses.

If you wish to discuss any aspect of your request or this response, please contact Martin Prowse, Business Advisor, Business Support, Immigration New Zealand at [martin.prowse@mbie.govt.nz](mailto:martin.prowse@mbie.govt.nz) or 04 896 5525.

Yours sincerely



John Ivil

Acting General Manager – Compliance, Risk and Intelligence Services  
Immigration New Zealand  
Ministry of Business, Innovation and Employment