

22 December 2015

Mr Sam Cannicott
fyi-request-3402-aab3b19f@requests.fyi.org.nz

Dear Mr Cannicott

Thank you for your request made under the Official Information Act 1982 (OIA), received on 24 November 2015. You asked:

On how many occasions has Inland Revenue requested the District Court to issue an arrest warrant for a student loan borrower who is about to leave New Zealand with the intent to avoid their student loan repayment obligations – under the terms of the Student Loan Scheme Amendment Act (3)? What was the outcome of each of these arrests?

This information is refused under section 18(c)(i) of the OIA, as making the information available would be contrary to the secrecy provisions in section 81 of the Tax Administration Act 1994 (TAA). In my view, none of the specific exceptions to secrecy listed in the TAA apply to the information requested, nor does the carrying into effect exception apply.

You have the right to ask the Ombudsman to investigate and review my decision on your request. The office of the Ombudsman can be contacted at PO Box 10152, The Terrace, Wellington 6143.

Alternatively, you may have the decision reviewed by a review officer. Choosing the internal right of review does not preclude you from subsequently seeking a review by the Ombudsman if you are dissatisfied with the department's internal review. To ask for an internal review, please write to the Commissioner of Inland Revenue, PO Box 2198, Wellington 6140.

Thank you for your request.

Yours sincerely



Maurice Lawlor
Business Owner