



NEW ZEALAND
CUSTOMS SERVICE
TE MANA ĀRAI O AOTEAROA

Auckland City

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PROTECTING NEW ZEALAND'S BORDER

19 February 2014

Ref: IIE OIA 14-008A

Richard McMillan
Email: fyi-request-1370-06e552f4@requests.fyi.org.nz

Dear Mr McMillan

Request for Information

I refer to your revised request to the New Zealand Customs Service (Customs), lodged via www.fyi.org.nz on 30 January 2014, asking for the contents of any correspondence, alerts or notes relating to the seizure of electronic devices belonging to Sam Blackman at Auckland Airport on 12 December 2013 that specifically led to Sam Blackman being stopped at the airport. You have stated that if Customs cannot provide the contents of any of these documents you would like Customs to provide a list of the individuals and/or organisations that provided them.

Your request has been treated as a request for information under the Official Information Act 1982 (the Act).

In response to your request I can advise that the information is withheld under section 6(c) of the Act as the release of this information would be likely to prejudice the maintenance of the law, including the prevention, investigation, and detection of offences. In this case the release of the information would reveal investigative techniques used by Customs to detect offences at the border. Some of the content includes information about identifiable individuals and is therefore also withheld under section 9(2)(a) in order to protect the privacy of those individuals.

A list of individuals and organisations will not be supplied as this would reveal information about current operational matters, and would be likely to compromise Customs' ability to investigate crime in the future.

If you are dissatisfied with this response you have the right under section 28(3) of the Act, by way of complaint to the Office of the Ombudsman, to seek an investigation and review of this decision.

Yours sincerely

Chris Howley
Group Manager
Intelligence, Investigations and Enforcement