

04 NOV 2020

Kylie J  
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Tēnā koe Kylie

### Official Information Act 1982 request

Thank you for your Official Information Act 1982 (OIA) request of 13 October 2020 to Hon Andrew Little, Minister of Justice. On 27 October 2020, your OIA request was transferred to the Ministry of Justice (the Ministry) for a response. Your request was for the following:

*I would like to have access to the audio recording from a final parenting order that was made. As what came out as the judges minutes was far from what was actually said and we are complaining about her.*

In response to your request, the information relating to an individual court case is classified as a court record, and court records are not subject to the OIA under sections 2(6)(a). Therefore, I am refusing your request under section 18(g)(i) of the OIA as there are no grounds for believing that the information is held by another department, Minister of the Crown, organisation, or local authority.

Access to Court records is governed by legislation and there are specific rules around how this information can be released. Generally speaking, the person seeking information from the court record will need to contact, in writing, the Registrar of the court at which the case was heard. You will need to identify the particular records you wish to access and give reasons for your application.

Your application will be considered by either a Registrar or, if necessary, a Judge. Any decision relating to the release of court information is a judicial decision, and the Ministry cannot intervene or comment on this process.

More information can be found at the following links:

- [court contact details justice.govt.nz/contact-us/find-us](http://justice.govt.nz/contact-us/find-us)
- [how to access Court records districtcourts.govt.nz/media-information/identification-guidelines-and-accessing-court-documents](http://districtcourts.govt.nz/media-information/identification-guidelines-and-accessing-court-documents)

If you wish to make a complaint about a Judge's conduct, you may want to contact the Office of the Judicial Conduct Commissioner in the first instance. Any complaint about a Judge's conduct should be directed to the Commissioner using the contact information at the following link: [jcc.govt.nz/makeacomplaint.html](http://jcc.govt.nz/makeacomplaint.html)

If you require any clarification of the information contained in this response please contact Julia Goode, Media Manager, Communication Services, by calling (04) 918 8836 or 021 636 416; or emailing [media@justice.govt.nz](mailto:media@justice.govt.nz)

If you are not satisfied with this response, you have the right to complain to the Ombudsman under section 28(3) of the OIA. You can contact the Office of the Ombudsman by writing to PO Box 10152, Wellington 6143; calling 0800 802 602; or emailing [info@ombudsman.parliament.nz](mailto:info@ombudsman.parliament.nz)

Nāku noa, nā

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to be 'JS', followed by a horizontal line extending to the right.

Jacquelyn Shannon  
**Group Manager, Courts and Tribunals, Regional Service Delivery**

Ref: 84154