

31 August 2021

Michael Simpson  
[fyi-request-16277-d4ed6864@requests.fyi.org.nz](mailto:fyi-request-16277-d4ed6864@requests.fyi.org.nz)

Dear Michael

Thank you for your email of 3 August 2021 to the Ministry of Justice requesting information regarding Criminal Conviction History checks. Specifically, you have asked *“How many times since January 2016 has the Ministry of Justice sent a criminal conviction history to the wrong email address?”*

Your request has been referred to me for a response, as it falls within my responsibilities as Manager, Centralised Services and is being managed under the provisions of the Official Information Act 1982 (the Act).

Please find the requested data in the attached appendix. Please note a recorded privacy breach can be as a result of a Ministry error or from the information provided to us by a third party.

Our Criminal Records team receives approximately 516,000 requests for a criminal record check annually. In May this year we launched a new online service for criminal record checks which has meant the email address for the check result to be sent to is now entered by the person making the request. You can find more information about the new online service on the Ministry website at: [justice.govt.nz/criminal-records/](http://justice.govt.nz/criminal-records/)

If you require any clarification of the information contained in this response please contact the Media and External Relations team emailing [media@justice.govt.nz](mailto:media@justice.govt.nz)

If you are not satisfied with the provided response, you have the right to complain to the Ombudsman under section 28(3) of the Official Information Act. 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)

Thank you for taking the time to write to me, I trust this information is of assistance.

Yours sincerely



Reuben Lewthwaite  
**Manager, Centralised Services**

**Table 1: Privacy breach recorded via email**

Year	Total
2016	6
2017	9
2018	15
2019	25
2020	17
2021	22

RELEASED UNDER THE OFFICIAL INFORMATION ACT 1982