

6 September 2021

Reference: IR-01-21-26955

William Smith
Email: fyi-request-16619-6d62e5af@requests.fyi.org.nz

Dear William

I am writing in response to the request you submitted 4 September 2021 in which you sought:

In the police manual section "Charging Decisions" released under a previous FYI official information request there were some underlined links under the heading "has an offence been committed?"

1. "legislation commentary" and 2. "charge precedents"

The links do not work in the version of the manual you released. Please could you provide these documents in full.

Your request has been considered under the Official Information Act 1982 (OIA).

Neither of the links lead to documents, or material that is easily extractable to provide to you.

The "legislation commentary" link leads Police staff to instructions on how to use Westlaw NZ, an online legal research service and proprietary database for lawyers and legal professionals. It also includes a list of statutes and case law.

Visit the [Westlaw Legal database](#)

- **Tip:** click on the "Sign in by IP Access" link (see screenshot at right); you don't need to create an account to access Westlaw.



The screenshot shows a 'OnePass Sign In' form. It has a title bar with 'OnePass Sign In' and a yellow highlight on the right side. The form contains two input fields: 'Username' and 'Password'. Below the 'Username' field is a link that says 'Forgot username?'. Below the 'Password' field is a link that says 'Forgot password?'. There are three checkboxes: 'Save my Username', 'Save my Username and Password', and 'Remember Me on this Computer [?]', all of which are currently unchecked. At the bottom of the form is a 'Sign In' button.

New Zealand Key Statutes

[Arms Act 1983](#)

[Bail Act 2000](#)

[Coroners Act 2006](#)

[Crimes Act 1961](#)

[Criminal Disclosure Act 2008](#)

[Criminal Investigations \(Bodily Samples\) Act 1995](#)

Police National Headquarters

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Telephone: 04 474 9499. Fax: 04 498 7400. www.police.govt.nz

The “charge precedents” links leads to a Legislative Reference Database, a search tool relating to offence classification codes and statutes.

LEGISLATIVE REFERENCE QUERY CRITERIA

[Link to Intranet Help](#)

QUERY

By Offence Classification (ANZSOC)
Type Offence / Incident / Task Code or Description here

By Offence Classification (TPOC)
Type Offence / Incident / Task Code or Description here

By Statute
Type Offence code or description here, or the name of the Act or number of the section you are searching for

SEARCH

Text Search
Type keywords here - including partial words e.g. Burg

Charge Narrative Legislation Name Offence Description

You have a right under section 28(3) of the OIA to ask the Ombudsman to seek an investigation and review of my decision.

Yours sincerely

Susan Roberts

Susan Roberts

Advisor – Police Prosecutions
