



Office of Hon Amy Adams

Member of Parliament for Selwyn

Minister of Justice

Minister for Courts

Minister of Broadcasting

Minister for Communications

- 5 NOV 2014

Mr Anthony Jordan

mailto:fyi-request-1989-f6273d5d@requests.fyi.org

Dear Mr Jordan

Ex-Accident Compensation Corporation Staff in Justice System

Thank you for your correspondence dated 4 September 2014 regarding ex-ACC employees in the justice system. Your questions are answered below:

1) Are there currently staff working within the justice system who have previous employment by the ACC that hold positions whereby decisions in ACC or any Medico-legal decisions are made?

Decisions on appeals about accident compensation are made by members of the judiciary or the Accident Compensation Appeal Authority. As independent judicial officers, appointed by the Governor-General on the recommendation of either the Attorney-General or the Minister of Justice, they are not employees of the Ministry of Justice. I am not aware of members of the Authority or the judiciary who deal with appeals about accident compensation who have previously been employed by ACC.

2) If so, how many in the past fifteen years (15) have stood at the bar either in District, High, or Supreme Court whereby decisions have been made in ACC and Medico-legal matters?

Please refer to the answer to question one.

3) Names of the above mentioned Judges, Adjudicators, Reviewers etc

Please refer to the answer to question one.

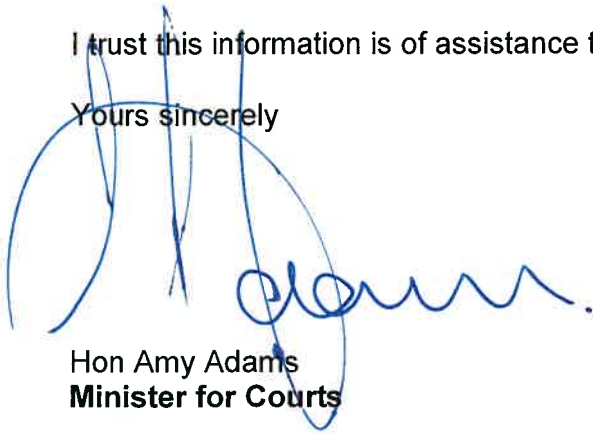
4) What policy does the Courts of NZ have to ensure no conflict of interest with any hearing or possibility of what could be seen as corrupt practice or decisions favouring ACC in what could be seen as a "Questionable Practice"?

Members of the judiciary are governed by the *Guidelines for Judicial Conduct*. The Guidelines address conflicts of interest and include a section on where members of the judiciary should disqualify themselves from making decisions in a particular case. The Guidelines are publicly available at the link below:

<https://www.courtsofnz.govt.nz/business/guidelines/guidelines-for-judicial-conduct/Guidelines-for-Judicial-Conduct-March-2013.pdf>

I trust this information is of assistance to you.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Amy Adams', with a large, stylized initial 'A' on the left side.

Hon Amy Adams
Minister for Courts