

18 March 2024

Erika Whittome
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Dear Erika

Official Information Act request: Publication of judgments

As far as I am aware, the Ministry has never been involved in or consulted about decisions on publishing judgments. I said the Ministry "is not usually involved or consulted" in case there is something I am unaware of (although I think it unlikely) and because, if the judiciary requested assistance from the Ministry, we would provide it (but again, I am unaware of that happening to date).

Your original request referred to three decisions (two District Court, one High Court). Two of those decisions can be found online:

- *Canaday v Medical Council of New Zealand* [2022] NZDC 4436 is available here: [Canaday v Medical Council of New Zealand \[2022\] NZDC 4436 | The District Court of New Zealand \(districtcourts.govt.nz\)](#) Note that District Court judgments are on the District Court website. Information about where to find judgments of the different courts and tribunals is here: [Judgments — Courts of New Zealand \(courtsofnz.govt.nz\)](#)
- *Reihana v Foran* 2022 [NZHC] 2425 is available here: [2022-NZHC-2425.pdf \(courtsofnz.govt.nz\)](#) You may not have found it searching as you cited it as *Reihana v Air NZ*. That case has since been appealed to the Court of Appeal: [workspace SpacesStore 2707af11 94a8 4f8d 93ff 896a74d54ace.pdf \(justice.govt.nz\)](#) and the Supreme Court: [2024-NZSC-17.pdf \(courtsofnz.govt.nz\)](#) (which declined leave for a further appeal).

The only decision you referred to that is not currently online is the decision in your case. As I said previously, that is awaiting a judge to make a decision on whether it should be published online and, in the interim, it can be requested from the Court under the District Court (Access to Court Documents) Rules 2017.

In respect of the Covid 19 Judgments page, I understand that that page is no longer maintained because there is no longer the heightened public interest that there originally was when the courts were first dealing with Covid 19 matters. However, the judgments are still available online, just not on a dedicated webpage.

Yours sincerely



Chris Hurd
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