

7 November 2024

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D Maclure

OIA 29744

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Tēnā koe D Maclure

Thank you for your email of 9 October 2024 in which you request the following under the Official Information Act 1982 (OIA):

"Can you provide table on list of past and current diplomats who were involved incidents during their trouble on New Zealand soil."

Your request is refused under section 6(a) of the OIA, as making this information available would be likely to prejudice the international relations of the Government of New Zealand, and section 9(2)(a), to protect the privacy of individuals. Where the information has been withheld under section 9 of the OIA, no public interest in releasing the information has been identified that would override the reasons for withholding it. For your information, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade (the Ministry) publishes an aggregate list of alleged serious criminal offences committed by foreign representatives and accredited family members, along with requests for waivers of foreign diplomatic immunity, in the Ministry's Annual Report, which is publicly available on the Ministry's website (see page 194): [Read the MFAT Annual Report 2022-23 | New Zealand Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade](#)

I would note that the dates of incidents and the names of countries involved are not published. Given the small number of cases and the small size of the Diplomatic Corps resident in New Zealand (refer to p.131 for more information), releasing further information on immunity cases could lead to the identification of the individual(s) concerned (including the alleged victims).

Regarding waivers of immunity related to offending, I would also note that in many cases waivers are requested to enable New Zealand Police to interview members of the Diplomatic Corps when they are witnesses to or victims of crime in New Zealand.

Please note that it is our policy to proactively release our responses to official information requests where possible. Therefore, our response to your request (with your personal information removed) may be published on the Ministry website: www.mfat.govt.nz/en/about-us/contact-us/official-information-act-responses/

If you have any questions about this decision, you can contact us by email at: DM-ESD@mfat.govt.nz. You have the right to seek an investigation and review by the Ombudsman of this decision by contacting www.ombudsman.parliament.nz or freephone 0800 802 602.

Nāku noa, nā

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'SC', written in a cursive style.

Sarah Corbett
for Secretary of Foreign Affairs and Trade