

1 December 2015

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Amelia East
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6e3d07e8@requests.fyi.org.nz

Dear Ms East

Request for information under the Official Information Act 1982

I refer to your email of 13 November 2015 requesting:

"in the last five years how many cases there have been where the Minister has granted citizenship to applicants under section 8(7) of the Act and reduced the presence requirements".

Where the applicant does not meet the presence requirement, the Minister of Internal Affairs may approve the grant of citizenship under section 8 with a reduced period of presence under section 8(7), or under section 9 of the Citizenship Act 1977.

A submission is provided to the Minister which specifies that he may refuse the application, or use his discretion to approve a reduced presence requirement under section 8(7) or grant citizenship under section 9 of the Act. As the Department does not record the reason electronically, we are unable to provide you with the breakdown of under which provision citizenship has been granted. We can advise that since 1 November 2010 the Minister has granted citizenship to 127,772 applicants, of whom 634 did not meet the presence requirement (section 8(2)(b)) of the Act.

If you require more detail on individual cases, substantial collation would be required which may incur a cost to process. Please advise if further information is needed to enable us to provide an estimate of the cost.

You have the right to seek a review of this response by the Ombudsman. The address to write to is:

The Ombudsman
Office of the Ombudsman
PO Box 10 152
Wellington 6143.

Yours sincerely



Briget Ridden
Manager Business Improvement and Support
Births, Deaths, Marriages, Citizenship, Authentications and Translations