

23 February 2018

Bernie D

fyi-request-7244-0b8451cb@requests.fyi.org.nz

Dear Bernie D

I refer to your email dated 11 February 2018 in which you requested, under the Official Information Act 1982:

“details (quantities and primary reason) of any employment related complaints and/or grievances, lodged and/or settled, by current or former employees or their solicitors/advocates, against the Intellectual Property Office of New Zealand (IPONZ) Ministry of Business Innovation and Employment, over the past 4 years where the complaints have;

- 1. alleged workplace bullying, harassment, constructive dismissal, breach of contract or,*
- 2. alleged some other breach of the State Services Commission Code of Conduct.*

Please advise the number of complaints that have resulted in the cessation of employment whether by mutual agreement, as part of a settlement process or by way of resignation or termination.

Please provide this information on a departmental basis (e.g. Trademarks, Biotechnology etc).”

I can advise you that over the past four years, there has been one complaint. This complaint is active and under investigation. I am withholding the primary reason for the complaint and the breakdown on a departmental basis under section 9(2)(a) to protect the privacy of natural persons.

I trust you find this information helpful. You have the right to seek an investigation and review by the Ombudsman of this decision. Information about how to make a complaint is available at www.ombudsman.parliament.nz or Freephone 0200 802 602.

Yours sincerely



Vanessa Horne

National Manager, Intellectual Property Office of NZ