

## Office of Hon Judith Collins

**MP for Papakura**Minister of Justice

Minister for ACC

Minister for Ethnic Affairs

21 July 2014

Grace Haden grace@verisure.co.nz

Dear Ms Haden

On behalf of Hon Judith Collins, Minister of Justice, thank you for your request for information received in the Minister's office 22 May 2014. Under the Official Information Act 1982 (the Act) you requested the following:

- "1. Why criminal judgements confidential when all civil judgements are published, are both not equally accountable to the public records act.
- 2. Why convictions in the criminal jurisdiction are not a matter of public record and accessible to all yet civil matters gets full and permanent publicity
- 3. Criminals have advantage of the clean slate act yet those in the civil jurisdiction are accountable to the decisions for ever, this appears to be a disparity has this been considered and discussed if not why not
- 4. What the threshold for perjury is and to what degree that drifting from the truth is acceptable before any one is prosecuted, and who prosecutes when the police are under resourced and overburdened?
- 5. What consideration the minister of justice has given to the use of the civil jurisdiction to pervert the course of justice in the criminal jurisdiction? To this end, those engaged in crime tend to have more funds than whistle-blowers. Any one coming across a crime has a choice of becoming an accessory by concealing it or speaking up. When they speak up they find themselves under attack from the "would be" criminal and legal tactics rather than truth and evidence are used to financially cripple them. Law is not affordable to the average person and the costs of being taken to court is crippling it is a tool by which the rich and the corrupt can beat up those who are trying to survive. An hour for a lawyer is a weeks wages for the average New Zealander. Law has got out of hand.
- 6. If the minister of Justice has no way of delivering justice has the minister considered ways to put justice in place or otherwise renaming the ministry."

The Minister is considering your request in accordance with the Act and will respond in due course.

Regards

Ashleigh Muir

Office of Hon Judith Collins