



Office of Hon Chester Borrows

Minister for Courts
Associate Minister of Justice
Associate Minister for Social Development

29 MAY 2014

Dear Mr Slavich

By email: jks22@hotmail.com

On 26 March 2014 I wrote to you in response to your allegations of unacceptable delays in the determination of applications in the Supreme Court. Upon receiving my letter, you telephoned my office to advise the applications mentioned were not the ones you were referring to.

You advised that these applications are set out in paragraph 5 of your memorandum to the court dated 16 October 2013. For clarity, I have listed them below:

- a) On 17 October 2012 - two leaves to appeal
- b) On 18 February 2013 – "Memorandum Regarding New Evidence Received Subsequent to Filing Leaves to Appeal"
- c) On 27 February 2013 – "Application for Judicial Recusal"
- d) On 8 April 2013 – Recall Application
- e) On 8 April 2013 – affidavit in support of Recall Application
- f) On 14 May 2013 – "Memorandum on Urgency" on all applications
- g) On 1 July 2013 – "Memorandum Requesting Reasons for Delay of Decision and Expected Timetable"
- h) On 24 July 2013 – "Memorandum on Solution to Impasse Between all Justices of All Courts and the Appellant" [that is, a compromise offer which also avoids the Recusal matter (c) above]
- i) On 13 August 2013 – "Memorandum (No 2) on Urgency".

My officials advise that these applications are all currently before the Court and will be dealt with in due course. I note that you have been waiting some time for these applications to be heard. As a general rule, I do not consider it appropriate that there are unacceptable delays in the justice system. The Ministry of Justice is working to reduce the amount of time taken for a case to progress through the court system.

While I cannot comment on the specifics of your case and the causes for the delay, I understand there are particular circumstances around your applications that you have discussed with the Court; I encourage you to continue to raise any concerns you have directly with the Court.

Yours sincerely

Hon Chester Borrows
Minister for Courts