



Solicitor-General to investigate Crown's role in miscarriage of justice

9 June 2022

Solicitor-General Una Jagose QC announced today she has commenced an investigation into the Crown's role in the miscarriage of justice surrounding Mr Hall's convictions, which were overturned by the Supreme Court yesterday.

The Crown submitted to the Supreme Court that a substantial miscarriage of justice occurred, and that Mr Hall's convictions should be set aside.

Ms Jagose said she takes this significant miscarriage of justice very seriously: "The Solicitor-General is responsible for the conduct of Crown prosecutions, and I am determined to find out why and how Mr Hall, Mr Easton, and both their families have been so severely let down by the justice system. My focus now is on understanding how the Crown's role in this miscarriage occurred and why the criminal justice system failed to remedy it earlier."

New Zealanders must have trust and confidence in the justice system, Ms Jagose said, which is why she considers an investigation into the prosecution is so important: "Plainly, as the [Crown's submission to the Supreme Court](#) acknowledges, the criminal justice system has failed in this case. Mr Hall, Mr Easton's family, and the public need to understand the factors that led to this miscarriage."

"Accordingly, I have commenced an independent investigation, to be led by Wellington criminal barrister Nicolette Levy QC, into these events.

It is not appropriate to make further comment until the conclusion of that investigation.

ENDS

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