



Media release from Crown Law on Levy report into the convictions of Alan Hall

The Solicitor-General, Una Jagose KC, has referred the report from Nicolette Levy KC on the Crown's role in the Alan Hall case to the Police.

The report concerning the miscarriage of justice arising from Alan Hall's conviction, in 1986, for the murder of Arthur Easton was received by the Solicitor-General on 17 November 2022.

Among other things, Ms Levy investigated how and why the prosecution failed to disclose certain material information to Mr Hall's defence team.

Ms Jagose says that Ms Levy's independent inquiry was a necessary step because at the time of the Supreme Court hearing, when the Crown acknowledged a miscarriage of justice had occurred in part because of the material non-disclosure, very little was known about how that occurred.

Ms Jagose thanked Ms Levy for her independent expert report into how the non-disclosure occurred, and her analysis of the role of various Crown lawyers in relation to the case from 1985 to 2022.

"Ms Levy has undertaken extensive investigations and followed a thorough process. I have taken time to carefully consider her report and I have now referred aspects of the matter to the Police. In New Zealand the Police are the appropriate body to undertake any further investigative work that might be required and decide if any offence may have been committed."

Ms Jagose said that her office has kept the families of Mr Hall and Mr Easton informed since she received the report.

"We owe it to Alan Hall, Mr Easton, and both their families to follow through on matters raised in Ms Levy's report. I recognise that referring the matter to the Police will add more time to an already lengthy process for them but it is an important step to take."

Ms Jagose thanked all those who had participated in Ms Levy's inquiry.

"It is important for public trust and confidence in the justice system that we seek to understand and remedy any failings. The next step in this process is for the Police to consider the Levy report."

The report is not being released at this time, to avoid jeopardising any Police investigation. A redacted copy may be published when it is appropriate to do so.

In the meantime, the Crown Law Office will not be commenting further.

ENDS