

**WAITANGI TRIBUNAL**

Wai 3060

**CONCERNING**

the Treaty of Waitangi Act 1975

**AND**

Te Rau o te Tika: the Justice  
System Inquiry

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**MEMORANDUM-DIRECTIONS OF THE PRESIDING OFFICER  
CONCERNING THE RESEARCH PROGRAMME AND CONFIRMING MEMBERS  
OF TE RŌPŪ MŌHIOHIO**

28 May 2025

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## **Introduction**

1. This memorandum-directions:

- (a) notifies parties of the researchers to be commissioned for Te Rau o te Tika: The Justice System Inquiry research programme; and
- (b) confirms the members of the research working group, Te Rōpū Mōhiohio.

## **Notification of researchers to be commissioned**

2. On 25 October 2024, I confirmed the researchers for six of the eight proposed reports (Wai 3060, #2.6.32):

- (a) Māori and the Police c.2000 to the present;
- (b) Māori and the Criminal Courts c.2000 to the present;
- (c) Rangatahi Māori and the criminal justice system c.2000 to the present;
- (d) Māori, gangs and the criminal justice system;
- (e) Origins and development of the criminal justice system in New Zealand, 1840 to 1990s; and
- (f) Crown responses to recommendations for criminal justice sector reform since 1961.

3. I can now confirm that the Tribunal intends to commission Michael Roguski for the 'Māori and Prisons, Bail, and Community-Based Sentences c.2000 to the present' report. This research project will be commissioned shortly.

## **Te Rōpū Mōhiohio nominated representatives**

4. On 6 October 2023, I asked Tribunal research staff to assume responsibility for the development of a research working group, to be called Te Rōpū Mōhiohio. The rōpū will bring researchers and parties together to ensure Crown documents and data provision operates smoothly, and resolve any issues as they arise to avoid delays to research (Wai 3060, #2.6.25 at [43]).

5. On 25 October 2024, I asked Crown and claimant counsel to nominate representatives for this group (Wai 3060, #2.6.32 at [10]). The Tribunal has received the following nominations:

- (a) on 15 November 2024, the Crown nominated two representatives (Wai 3029, #3.2.288);
- (b) on 15 November 2024, Tamaki Legal nominated two representatives (Wai 3060, #3.2.289);
- (c) on 23 January 2025, Tamaki Legal nominated one representative (Wai 3060, #3.2.295);

(d) on 29 January 2025, Loader Legal nominated one representative (Wai 3060, #3.2.296);

(e) on 14 February 2025, Bennion Law nominated an unconfirmed number of representatives (Wai 3060, #3.2.311).

6. Following those nominations, Te Rōpū Mōhiohio comprises:

(a) two representatives from Te Kāhui Rau Rikiriki, Crown Response Team;

(b) Violet Nathan (named claimant for Wai 2217);

(c) William McMaster (solicitor at Tamaki Legal);

(d) Dr Liz Gordon (counsel from Loader Legal on behalf of the Wai 3211 and Wai 3138 claims);

(e) Stephanie August (named claimant for Wai 3096); and

(f) representatives from Bennion Law.

I now leave the practical matters that will follow in the hands of the Waitangi Tribunal Unit's Research Services Team.

The Registrar is to send this direction to all those on the notification list for Wai 3060, Te Rau o te Tika: the Justice System inquiry.

He kupu ēnei nāku, otirā nā te Pae-Rukutātari nei.

**DATED** at Wellington this 28<sup>th</sup> day of May 2025



Judge Carrie Wainwright  
Presiding Officer

**WAITANGI TRIBUNAL**