



Background information

What is *'Our Courts'*?

It is a 9-minute video about the New Zealand courts. It has been produced in three languages – English, Te reo Māori and Mandarin.

Who produced the video *'Our Courts'*?

The video has been produced by the Judicial Office Communications Unit of the Judicial Office for Senior Courts: Te Tari Kaiwhakawā mo ngā Kōti Mātāmua

Why was the *'Our Courts'* produced?

The video was produced in part as a response to the lack of easily understood information about the courts as a separate and independent branch of government.

It is also hoped the video will make the courts more accessible to, and better understood by, the increasingly diverse communities they serve.

What does the video cover?

The video explains the importance of judicial independence, the role of our courts and how our courts function together. It also explains the key principles on which our courts are based - the presumption of innocence, right to a fair trial, openness and transparency.

Who narrates the videos?

There are three versions – English, Te reo Māori and Mandarin. Justice Joe Williams introduces the video and the narrator for the Te reo Māori version is Adrian Tangaroa Wagner (Te Ati Awa, Whanganui, Ngāti Apa, Ngāti Hauti, Te Whānau A Apanui).

The Te reo Māori version will have full caption/subtitles for Adrian’s dialogue and for what the judges say. However, there has been a delay in having that work completed so it is expected to have the captioned version available later this year.

Ann Ping narrates the video in Mandarin.

Arrun Soma narrates the video in English.

How will people be able to view the video?

The video is available to view on www.courtsofnz.govt.nz and will be able to be seen in courthouses with public screens.

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