

PO Box 343  
West Perth,  
**Western Australia 6872**

RexWiderstrom@hotmail.com  
0061 [REDACTED]

13 March 2011

Duty Inspector  
Auckland Central Police  
Private Bag 92 002  
Auckland City  
**New Zealand**

Via facsimile 0011 64 9 375 4650

Dear Sir:

**Possible offence under the Summary Proceedings Act 1957**

I write as a New Zealand citizen – albeit one currently domiciled overseas – to raise with you a matter I view as a potential breach of the Summary Proceedings Act 1957, section 6, which includes amongst its provisions the subclause:

(2) A Court presided over by a District Court Judge shall have summary jurisdiction in respect of the following indictable offences, and proceedings in respect of any such offence may accordingly be taken in a summary way in accordance with this Act, namely—

(bb) attempting to commit any summary offence, or inciting, counselling, or attempting to procure the commission of a summary offence ...

Read in conjunction with the Summary Offences Act 1981 which, at section 9, creates the summary offence of assault, it would seem to me that any person “inciting, counselling or attempting to procure” the commission of an assault is, prima facie, in breach of the law.

I therefore draw your attention to the publication today of the Sunday Star Times newspaper and in it a column by Michael Laws which says, referring to the injuries sustained by an alleged “looter”, inter alia:

In the end, justice has been done, blackened eye and all. Now let's similarly identify the other Christchurch looters and mete out similar justice.

An online version can be found here: <http://www.stuff.co.nz/sunday-star-times/opinion/4758359/A-black-eye-for-liberal-bleaters>

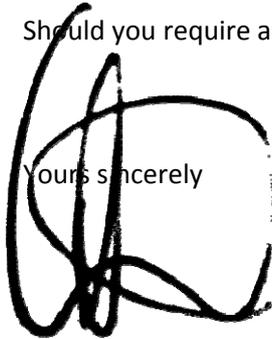
This is clearly an incitement to others to commit common assault. I therefore wish to lay a complaint against Mr Laws and ask that you investigate it expeditiously and report to me the outcome.

I appreciate that police have a great deal more serious crime on which to spend their time and were such a sentiment to be expressed in a social setting, or even by a caller on talkback radio, it certainly wouldn't warrant a complaint.

But, for whatever reason, the editor of the *Sunday Star Times* chooses to offer Mr Laws a significant platform from which to express his ideas. As such, the likelihood of someone acting upon such sentiments, and using the column as justification, is at least well within the bounds of probability.

I have made this complaint to the Auckland Central police station simply because the publication of the material took place in a newspaper based in that city. You are welcome to refer this on to whomever you consider appropriate, but I would like to be kept apprised of the outcome, which you can do by email or phone as above.

Should you require any further information from me, don't hesitate to get in touch.

A large, stylized handwritten signature in black ink, consisting of several overlapping loops and lines.

Yours sincerely

Rex Widerstrom