

**Senate Finance and Public Administration Legislation Committee**  
**ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE**  
**ADDITIONAL ESTIMATES 2015**

Prime Minister and Cabinet Portfolio

**Department/Agency:** Office of the Registrar of Indigenous Corporations

**Outcome/Program:** 2 – Indigenous

**Topic:** Registrar of Indigenous Corporations

**Senator:** Nick Xenophon

**Question reference number:** 87

**Type of question:** Written

**Date set by the committee for the return of answer:** 10 April 2015

**Number of pages:** 2

**Question:**

How many cases have been successfully prosecuted by the Registrar of Indigenous Corporations since the *Corporations (Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander) Act 2006* (CATSI Act) detailing both "civil" and "criminal" and at what cost to the Australian Government for each of these cases?

**Answer:**

The Registrar of Indigenous Corporations does not prosecute criminal offences. All criminal prosecutions are undertaken by the Commonwealth Director of Public Prosecutions (CDPP).

The outcomes of all criminal or civil litigation initiated by the Registrar are publicly reported on the Registrar's website under 'Prosecution outcomes' at <http://oric.gov.au/prosecution-outcomes>. The outcomes for each financial year are publicly reported in the Registrar's yearbooks, which are available at <http://oric.gov.au/news/oric-publications/yearbooks>.

From 1978 until 1 July 2007 the Registrar initiated nil criminal prosecutions or civil penalty litigation. A summary of the concluded criminal and civil penalty litigation initiated by the Registrar since 1 July 2007 is set out in the following table:

<b>Financial year</b>	<b>Minor criminal litigation</b>	<b>Major criminal litigation</b>	<b>Major civil litigation</b>
2007-08	0	0	0
2008-09	0	0	0
2009-10	0	0	0
2010-11	4	0	0
2011-12	22	0	3
2012-13	32	4	5
2013-14	30	2	2
2014-15	19	0	2

The Registrar of Indigenous Corporations does not prosecute criminal offences. All criminal prosecutions are undertaken by the Commonwealth Director of Public Prosecutions (CDPP). The cost of criminal prosecutions is borne by the CDPP and not the Registrar.

The Registrar of Indigenous Corporations reports legal expenditure by firm and financial year and not by matter. The Registrar's legal expenditure for each financial year is publicly reported in the Registrar's yearbooks, which are available at <http://oric.gov.au/news/oric-publications/yearbooks>.

A summary of the Registrar's legal expenditure by firm since 1 July 2007 is set out in the following table:

<b>Financial year</b>	<b>AGS</b>	<b>Minter Ellison</b>	<b>Other law firms</b>	<b>Counsel</b>
2007-08	no data	no data	no data	no data
2008-09	110,818.00	22,885.00	25,806.00	0
2009-10	35,841.00	130,426.00	0	12,058.00
2010-11	72,926.98	32,610.16	0	59,672.20
2011-12	253,113.09	54,035.52	5,423.00	120,355.24
2012-13	100,647.47	110,000.00	13,222.00	55,414.25
2013-14	95,284.72	121,485.80	0	53,320.91