

QUESTION TAKEN ON NOTICE

ADDITIONAL ESTIMATES HEARINGS: 11 February 2013

IMMIGRATION AND CITIZENSHIP PORTFOLIO

(AE13/0180) PROGRAM – OMARA

Senator Cash (Written) asked:

How many registered migration agents have been taken to court or to tribunals by the Office of the MARA for breaches of the Code of Conduct in the last five years? What were the particulars and the outcome in each of those instances?

Answer:

The Office of the MARA does not “take migration agents” to courts or to tribunals. It is open for agents to lodge review applications to the court or tribunal if they are not satisfied with a disciplinary decision that has been made.

Over the past five years, 63 agents have been sanctioned by the Office of the MARA.

Of these 63 agents, 11 agents have lodged appeal applications to the AAT. Of these 11 review applications, 3 applications were withdrawn by the review applicant, 1 application was dismissed by the AAT and 1 application was finalised by way of the AAT affirming the Authority’s decision. 6 appeal applications are currently ongoing. Of the 6 appeal applications, 2 have been heard before the AAT and are awaiting a decision.