



Ministry
of Justice

Data Access & Compliance Unit
Ministry of Justice
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1 August 2017

Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) Request – 112931

Thank you for your request dated 4 July 2017 in which you asked for the following information from the Ministry of Justice (MoJ):

Full disclosure of the details of the legal aid monies paid during the 2006-2009 extradition case of Vincent Bajinya (Brown), Charles Munyaneza, Emmanuel Nteziryayo and Celestin Ugirashebuja heard at Westminster Magistrates court/ High Court (appeal).

To include:

Which of the above (4) defendants received legal aid and total paid to those who did receive it; total legal aid bill during this case, and which legal chambers/legal representatives were the recipients.

Full disclosure of the details of the legal aid monies paid during the 2013-2017 extradition case of Vincent Bajinya (Brown), Charles Munyaneza, Emmanuel Nteziryayo, Celestin Ugirashebuja and Celestin Mutabaruka heard at Westminster Magistrates court/Court of Appeal.

To include:

Which of the above (5) defendants received legal aid and amount paid to those who did receive it; total legal aid bill during this case, and which legal chambers/legal representatives were the recipients.

Finally, the total legal aid paid out during this extradition case 2006-2017.

Your request has been handled under the FOIA.

I can confirm that the MoJ holds the information that you have requested and I have provided it below. Please note that payments of solicitor profit costs are made to the firm the solicitor belongs to, however payments in respect of advocacy are made directly to the barrister concerned. For that reason such information is organised according to Counsel's name rather than the chambers they may belong to; further information on chamber tenancy may be sought from the Bar Council if required.

The table below represents the total legal aid paid to date to represent each of these defendants during the periods you have enquired about. As your question relates to legal aid paid 'during' these periods, figures include the costs incurred in the extradition proceedings as well as other matters, for example related civil and crime proceedings.

	Pre 2006	2006-2009	2010-2012	2013-2017	Total
Charles Munyaneza		£502,593.88		£320,435.08	£823,028.96
Celestin Ugirashebuja	£895.32	£183,447.57	£40,654.22	£324,470.04	£549,467.15
Celestin Mutabaruka	£756.05	£1,666.23		£331,168.94	£333,591.22
Emmanuel Nteziryayo	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00	£17,131.50	£17,131.50
Vincent Bajinya	£547.49	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00	£547.49

Note above costs include VAT and disbursements, disbursements are expenses incurred which although paid by the LAA directly to the providers, are then paid to other parties involved in the case.

The LAA records data on legal aid awarded at the police station, magistrates court, and under civil legal help on a computer system which does not allow the LAA to uniquely identify individuals, as it records names but does not record full names, dates of birth or any other means to allow the conclusive identification of specific individuals at this stage of the justice process. Therefore figures have been provided for these areas of the legal aid scheme only when the LAA have been able to verify that such claims relate to the individual named in your request.

Details of legal representatives:

It should be noted that representation may only have been for a period of each case and not its full duration. Barristers, for example, may represent a client at a single hearing, rather than representing a client for the duration of a case.

Vincent Bajinya	Solicitor	USMANI KING, ISLINGTON CAB
	Barrister	ALISTAIR POLSON, PIERS REED
Charles Munyaneza	Solicitor	O'KEEFFE SOLICITORS
	Barrister	KALYANI KAUL QC, LORD GIFFORD QC, REBECCA J LEE, GAVIN D IRWIN, GEMMA GILLET, ABDAAH KHAN, SETH L LEVINE, TIMOTHY J MOLONEY QC, IAIN EDWARDS
Emmanuel Nteziryayo	Solicitor	CLIFFORD JOHNSTON & CO
	Barrister	JOANNA EVANS
Celestin Ugirashebuja	Solicitor	HALLINAN BLACKBURN GITTINGS & NOTT, REFUGEE & MIGRANT JUSTICE (LONDON REGION), BIRNBERG PEIRCE LTD, FISHER JONES GREENWOOD LLP
	Barrister	PETER A R JORRO, BENJAMIN T WATSON, KIER R STARMER, EDWARD H FITZGERALD, KATE O'RAGHALLAIGH, RACHEL KAPILA, MALCOLM HAWKES, BENJAMIN T WATSON, PATRICK C HILL, KITTY ST AUBYN, REBECCA J WRIGHT
Celestin Mutabaruka	Solicitor	BINDMANS LLP
	Barrister	MARK WEEKES, NICHOLAS ARMSTRONG, BO-EUN JUNG, HELEN K L MALCOLM QC, VICTORIA AILES, ADAM PAYTER

Legal aid is available for both magistrate and crown court cases, subject to them being means tested. Applicants that meet the relevant means thresholds may still be required to pay a significant contribution to the costs of their defence. The Government has cut the fees paid to lawyers in criminal legal aid cases to ensure legal aid represents better value for the taxpayer.

Appeal Rights

If you are not satisfied with this response you have the right to request an internal review by responding in writing to one of the addresses below within two months of the date of this response.

data.access@justice.gsi.gov.uk

Data Access and Compliance Unit, Ministry of Justice, 10.38, 102 Petty France, London, SW1H 9AJ

You do have the right to ask the Information Commissioner's Office (ICO) to investigate any aspect of your complaint. However, please note that the ICO is likely to expect internal complaints procedures to have been exhausted before beginning their investigation.

Yours sincerely

Information Governance Team
Legal Aid Agency