

Subject: Access to Edinburgh Sheriff Court records from 1984

FOI reference: FOI/18/01178

Date received: 19 April 2018

Date responded: 9 May 2018

Information requested:

Access to Edinburgh Sheriff Court records from 1984

NRS Response:

The case in question sounds as though it would have passed through the Ordinary (Civil) Sheriff Court as what is termed an 'A Process'. This means that a record of the determination of the case should be maintained in the A Process Register for that year. This will be a single line entry with a few details about the case including what the judgment was determined to be.

Unfortunately, these cases are not individually indexed, and to find any information about the case a search of several large volumes which cover the 1984 would have to be carried out. These volumes are held under the following references:

SC39/6/41 Register of Ordinary Actions ('A' Register) 8 Sep 1983-28 May 1984

SC39/6/42 Register of Ordinary Actions ('A' Register) 28 May 1984-15 Oct 1985

There is a small chance that it could have been what is termed as a 'B Process' (although this is somewhat unlikely), but consulting the index and register for these processes may be required too:

SC39/6A/30 Indexes to 'B' Register 1984

SC39/7/56 Register of Summary Applications ('B' Register) - 28 Nov 1983-11 Sep 1984

SC39/7/57 Register of Summary Applications ('B' Register) - 11 Sep 1984-30 Apr 1985

Please note that the information in these registers, if located, will be extremely limited. Only some of the process papers in civil cases such as these are selected for permanent preservation. More information can be found on our website

<https://www.nrscotland.gov.uk/files//record-keeping/nrs-court-and-legal-collection-policy-october-2017.pdf>.

Records for payment, small claims, or damages cases are not among those routinely selected for permanent preservation. Thus there will not be any process papers (initial writ/defences/etc.) held any more for this case.

The registers that have been specified above can be searched and are open for consultation in the Historical Search Room of the National Records of Scotland. To find out more about obtaining a reader's ticket and about our terms and conditions, please see the information at: <https://www.nrscotland.gov.uk/research/visit-us>

Under section 25(1) of FOISA, we do not have to provide information if it is already reasonably accessible by inspection or copying, even if a payment has to be made for it.