

QUESTION TAKEN ON NOTICE

BUDGET ESTIMATES HEARING: 21-22 MAY 2012

IMMIGRATION AND CITIZENSHIP PORTFOLIO

(BE12/0433) Program 4.3: Offshore asylum seeker management

Senator Cash (L&CA Page 120) asked:

Provide what information you can about the three people who have been returned to detention and the criminal charges they faced. In relation to the other 39 revocations, where possible, provide specific details about their community housing being revoked.

Answer:

Three clients were arrested and held in custody by police on drug related charges in March and April 2012. All three had separately absconded from community detention prior to being arrested. In each case, the Minister had revoked the residence determinations due to breaches of community detention conditions prior to their respective arrests. In the interests of protecting the privacy of clients, it would not be appropriate to provide further information as this could identify the individuals concerned.

Of the remaining 39 revocations approved, the majority related to a breach of community detention conditions:

- 9 clients absconded;
- 1 client was considered a high risk of absconding;
- 7 clients were involved in aggressive, inappropriate behaviour or physical altercations. One of these clients absconded from community detention prior to being notified in writing of his revocation;
- 4 clients were involved in protest action on the rooftop of their community detention property;
- 6 clients were charged by police;
- 1 client requested to be returned to a detention facility until their application for a visa was decided;
- 1 client requested to return to her home country;
- 5 clients comprising two families were revoked after the adults were issued with adverse security assessments;

- 4 members of a family refused to comply with their conditions (residing at a place specified by the Minister); and
- 1 client exhausted all outstanding avenues to remain in Australia.