

15 August 2023

Ref: OIA-2022/23-1027

Tēnā koe

Official Information Act request: Correspondence from 22 August 2022 - 31 May 2023 relating to Private David Stewart's NZ Cross nomination

Thank you for your Official Information Act request received on 19 June 2023. You requested:

"I would like to make an Official Information Act request for the following:

All correspondence from within the Department of Prime Minister and Cabinet, between the dates of August 22, 2022 and May 31, 2023, on the subject of Private David Stewart being nominated for a New Zealand Cross.

And all correspondence between the Department of Prime Minister and Cabinet and the Minister of Defence on the same subject over the same time frame?"

In response to your request, please find enclosed all relevant correspondence which falls within scope. I have decided to withhold some information from the attached under the following sections of the Act:

- section 9(2)(a), to protect the privacy of individuals;
- section 9(2)(ba)(i), to protect information which is subject to an obligation of confidence, where the making available of the information would be likely to prejudice the supply of similar information, or information from the same source and it is in the public interest that such information should continue to be supplied;
- section 9(2)(f)(iv); to maintain the confidentiality of advice tendered by or to Ministers and officials
- section 9(2)(g)(i), to maintain the effective conduct of public affairs through the free and frank expression of opinions by or between or to Ministers of the Crown or members of an organisation or officers and employees of any public service agency or organisation in the course of their duty; and
- section 9(2)(k), to prevent disclosure or use for improper gain or advantage.

Please note that duplicated email correspondence and attachments have been removed from my response.

You have the right to ask the Ombudsman to investigate and review my decision under section 28(3) of the Act.

This response will be published on the Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet's website during our regular publication cycle. Typically, information is released monthly, or as otherwise determined. Your personal information including name and contact details will be removed for publication.

Nāku noa, nā		

Rachel Hayward

Clerk of the Executive Council

From: David Williams [DPMC]

Sent: Thursday, 1 September 2022 10:00 am

To: Shane Arndell

Subject: RE: MT RUAPEHU BRAVERY MEDAL HUI OUTCOME

[IN-CONFIDENCE]

Hi Shane

Thank you for the update.

We will be in touch once the submission is heading our way.

Kind regards David



### David Williams Senior Advisor (Honours)

Cabinet Office, Executive Wing, Parliament Buildings, Wellington 6011, New Zealand

DDI: \$9(2)(a)

Email: david.williams@dpmc.govt.nz

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From: Shane Arndell <Shane.Arndell@parliament.govt.nz>

Sent: Thursday, 1 September 2022 9:22 am

To: David Williams [DPMC] <David.Williams@dpmc.govt.nz>
Subject: MT RUAPEHU BRAVERY MEDAL HUI OUTCOME

You don't often get email from shane.arndell@parliament.govt.nz. Learn why this is important

Morning David, I hope this finds you well.

I would have popped up to see you, but \$9(2)(a) As previously discussed, the Minister met with Bernard Isherwood, Bob Davies and Jo Harawira last evening to hear their request for support for a submission to the PM to review the upgrading Pvt Stewart's NZBM to a NZC. John McLeod from NZDF was present in support of the Minister. Suffice to say, on hearing the evidence presented by three very passionate supporters, the Minister has agreed to support their submission going forward but gave no indication of likely outcome (as he stated it was not for him to decide).

They walked away appreciative and satisfied that he took the time to meet with them and understand that the outcome may not be what they are seeking. Once the submission is received, I will get it over to NZDF for advice on the supporting letter to the PM and then forward it once he has signed it.

Ngā Mihi/ Thanks,

Shane

Captain Shane Arndell, RNZN (he/him)

Military Secretary to the Minister of Defence | Office of Hon Peeni Henare Minister of Defence | Minister for Whānau Ora

Associate Minister of Health | Associate Minister of Tourism | Associate Minister of Housing (Māori Housing) |

 $DDI: s9(2)(a) \hspace{0.5cm} |\hspace{0.1cm} \text{Extn:} \\ \hspace{0.1cm} s9(2)(a) \hspace{0.5cm} |\hspace{0.1cm} \text{Mobile:} \\ \hspace{0.1cm} s9(2)(a) \hspace{0.5cm} |\hspace{0.1cm} \text{Private Bag 18041, Parliament Buildings, Wellington 6160, New Zealand 18041} \\ \hspace{0.1cm} |\hspace{0.1cm} \text{Private Bag 18041, Parliament Buildings, Wellington 6160, New Zealand 18041} \\ \hspace{0.1cm} |\hspace{0.1cm} \text{Private Bag 18041, Parliament Buildings, Wellington 6160, New Zealand 18041} \\ \hspace{0.1cm} |\hspace{0.1cm} \text{Private Bag 18041, Parliament Buildings, Wellington 6160, New Zealand 18041} \\ \hspace{0.1cm} |\hspace{0.1cm} \text{Private Bag 18041, Parliament Buildings, Wellington 6160, New Zealand 18041} \\ \hspace{0.1cm} |\hspace{0.1cm} \text{Private Bag 18041, Parliament Buildings, Wellington 6160, New Zealand 18041} \\ \hspace{0.1cm} |\hspace{0.1cm} \text{Private Bag 18041, Parliament Buildings, Wellington 6160, New Zealand 18041} \\ \hspace{0.1cm} |\hspace{0.1cm} \text{Private Bag 18041, Parliament Buildings, Wellington 6160, New Zealand 18041} \\ \hspace{0.1cm} |\hspace{0.1cm} \text{Private Bag 18041, Parliament Buildings, Wellington 6160, New Zealand 18041} \\ \hspace{0.1cm} |\hspace{0.1cm} \text{Private Bag 18041, Parliament Buildings, Wellington 6160, New Zealand 18041} \\ \hspace{0.1cm} |\hspace{0.1cm} \text{Private Bag 18041, Parliament Buildings, Wellington 6160, New Zealand 18041} \\ \hspace{0.1cm} |\hspace{0.1cm} \text{Private Bag 18041, Parliament Buildings, Wellington 6160, New Zealand 18041} \\ \hspace{0.1cm} |\hspace{0.1cm} \text{Private Bag 18041, Parliament Buildings, Wellington 6160, New Zealand 18041} \\ \hspace{0.1cm} |\hspace{0.1cm} \text{Private Bag 18041, Parliament Buildings, Wellington 6160, New Zealand 18041} \\ \hspace{0.1cm} |\hspace{0.1cm} \text{Private Bag 18041, Parliament Buildings, Wellington 6160, New Zealand 18041} \\ \hspace{0.1cm} |\hspace{0.1cm} \text{Private Bag 18041, Parliament Buildings, Wellington 6160, New Zealand 18041} \\ \hspace{0.1cm} |\hspace{0.1cm} \text{Private Bag 18041, Parliament Buildings, Wellington 6160, New Zealand 18041} \\ \hspace{0.1cm} |\hspace{0.1cm} \text{Private Bag 18041, Parliament Buildings, Wellington 6160, New Zealand 18041} \\ \hspace{0.1cm} |\hspace{0.1cm} \text{Private Bag 18041, Parliament Buildings, Wellington 6160, New Zealand 18041, New Zealand 18041, New Zealand 18$ 

From: Rachel Hayward [DPMC]

Sent: Thursday, 1 September 2022 2:10 pm

To: McLeod, John

Cc: David Williams [DPMC]; Woods, Andy, AIRCDRE; 'Shane Arndell'

Subject: RE: Seemail In Confidence Ruapehu Gallantry Awards

[IN-CONFIDENCE]

Kia ora John,

Thanks very much for those updates - both very helpful. We'll keep an eye out for the Ruapehu submission.

Ngā mihi maioha,

Nāku, nā Rachel



Rachel Hayward (she/her)
Acting Secretary of the Cabinet
Cabinet Office, Executive Wing,
Parliament Buildings, Wellington 6011, New Zealand

DDI: \$9(2)(a) Mobile \$9(2)(a) Email: Rachel.hayward@dpmc.govt.nz

From: McLeod, Johns9(2)(k)

Sent: Thursday, 1 September 2022 12:17 pm

To: Rachel Hayward [DPMC] < Rachel. Hayward@dpmc.govt.nz>

Cc: David Williams [DPMC] <David.Williams@dpmc.govt.nz>; Woods, Andy, AIRCDRE s9(2)(k) 'Shane Arndell' <Shane.Arndell@parliament.govt.nz>

Subject: Seemail In Confidence Ruapehu Gallantry Awards

\*\*\* [SEEMAIL] This message may contain classified information \*\*\*

#### Hi Rachel

Last night I was with the Minister of Defence when he met with Bernie Isherwood, Bob Davies and Joe Harawira regarding the bravery award for David Stewart. The Minister was well-briefed and across the issues. He understands the challenges and issues around the status of the award as well as the implications of any change, but he agreed that he would support the recommendation for an upgrade to the Prime Minister. Bernie Isherwood was proposing to send DPMC direct a recommendation for upgrading of the award but he agreed to send it direct to the Minister who would put a covering note on it to the PM (drafted by me as I understand it). His intention is that this be done well before Christmas.

Out of Scope

#### Out of Scope

Happy to have an off-line conversation with more information. Ngā mihi

John

John McLeod, ONZM
Director
Heritage, Commemorations, and Protocol Group
HQ NZ Defence Force
Mobile: \$9(2)(a)

www.nzdf.mil.nz



From: David Williams [DPMC]

Sent: Friday, 2 September 2022 12:00 pm

To: Stokes Glen, Mr s9(2)(k)

Subject: FW: Seemail In Confidence Ruapehu Gallantry Awards

#### [IN-CONFIDENCE]

From: McLeod, John \$9(2)(k)

Sent: Thursday, 1 September 2022 12:17 pm

To: Rachel Hayward [DPMC] < Rachel. Hayward@dpmc.govt.nz>

Cc: David Williams [DPMC] < David.Williams@dpmc.govt.nz>; Woods, Andy, AIRCDRE s9(2)(k) 'Shane Arndell' < Shane.Arndell@parliament.govt.nz>

Subject: Seemail In Confidence Ruapehu Gallantry Awards

\*\*\* [SEEMAIL] This message may contain classified information \*\*\*

#### Hi Rachel

Last night I was with the Minister of Defence when he met with Bernie Isherwood, Bob Davies and Joe Harawira regarding the bravery award for David Stewart. The Minister was well-briefed and across the issues. He understands the challenges and issues around the status of the award as well as the implications of any change, but he agreed that he would support the recommendation for an upgrade to the Prime Minister. Bernie Isherwood was proposing to send DPMC direct a recommendation for upgrading of the award but he agreed to send it direct to the Minister who would put a covering note on it to the PM (drafted by me as I understand it). His intention is that this be done well before Christmas.

Out of scape

Happy to have an off-line conversation with more information. Ngā mihi

### John

John McLeod, ONZM
Director
Heritage, Commemorations, and Protocol Group
HQ NZ Defence Force
Mobile: \$9(2)(a)

www.nzdf.mil.nz



From: McLeod, John \$9(2)(k)

Sent: Monday, 12 September 2022 9:59 am

To: David Williams [DPMC]

Cc: Stokes, Glen; Anderson, Donald

Subject: FW: PROCESS FOR REVIEW of Nomination for Bravery Award - Pte DEW Stewart -

IN-CONFIDENCE SEEMAIL

Attachments: s9(2)(a), s9(2)(ba)(i)

\*\*\* [SEEMAIL] This message may contain classified information \*\*\*

#### David

The Minister's staff have sent the request from Bernie Isherwood for the upgrade of Pte Stewart's bravery award over to us to produce a covering letter. I was at the meeting with the Minister and his intention is to support it to the Prime Minister. In order to keep the process relatively straight forward I proposed just a covering letter, noting the representations made to the Minister, and his support for the case. Separately, I would provide the Cabinet Office all the material we have collected in relation to this request for a reconsideration.

Are you happy with this approach?

Ngā mihi

John

John McLeod, ONZM
Director
Heritage, Commemorations, and Protocol Group
HQ NZ Defence Force
Mobile: \$9(2)(a)

www.nzdf.mil.nz



From: Shane Arndell [mailto:Shane.Arndell@parliament.govt.nz]

Sent: Friday, 9 September 2022 2:47 p.m.

To: McLeod, John \$9(2)(k)

Cc: Woods, Andy, AIRCDRE s9(2)(k)

Beck, Darren, LTCOL s9(2)(k)

Ministerial Services < ministerial services @nzdf.mil.nz>

Subject: PROCESS FOR REVIEW of Nomination for Bravery Award - Pte DEW Stewart -IN-CONFIDENCE

Team,

Post the meeting with Bernard Isherwood on the 31<sup>st</sup>, the Minister agreed to supporting the attached submission for the NZBM review for upgrade to NZC for Private David Stewart for forwarding to the Prime Minister.

Can you please investigate the process and provide advice to get this submission presented in the appropriate format to ensure the Minister is able to sign it and have it forwarded to the PM through the Cabinet Office.



I am happy to remain the point of contact for Bernhard should there be any ongoing engagement.

Ngā Mihi/ Thanks,

## Shane

Captain Shane Arndell, RNZN (he/him)

Military Secretary to the Minister of Defence | Office of Hon Peeni Henare

Minister of Defence | Minister for Whānau Ora

Associate Minister of Health | Associate Minister of Tourism | Associate Minister of Housing (Māori Housing) |

DDI: s9(2)(a) | Extn: s9(2)(a) | Mobile: s9(2)(a) | Private Bag 18041, Parliament Buildings, Wellington 6160, New Zealand

From: Bernard Isherwood \$9(2)(a)

Sent: Wednesday, 7 September 2022 1:47 PM

To: Shane Arndell < Shane.Arndell@parliament.govt.nz > Subject: Nomination for Bravery Award - Pte DEW Stewart

Good afternoon Shane,

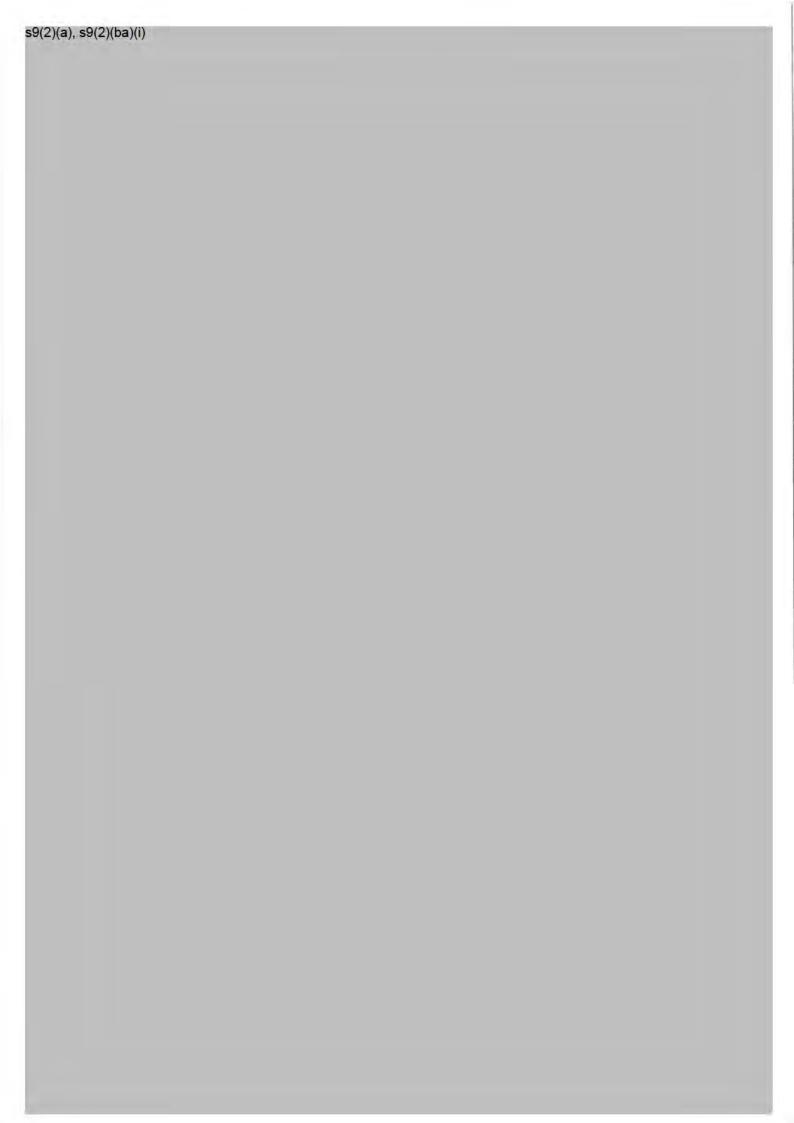
Please find attached the Nomination for the NZ Cross for Pte Stewart, together with five Annexes.

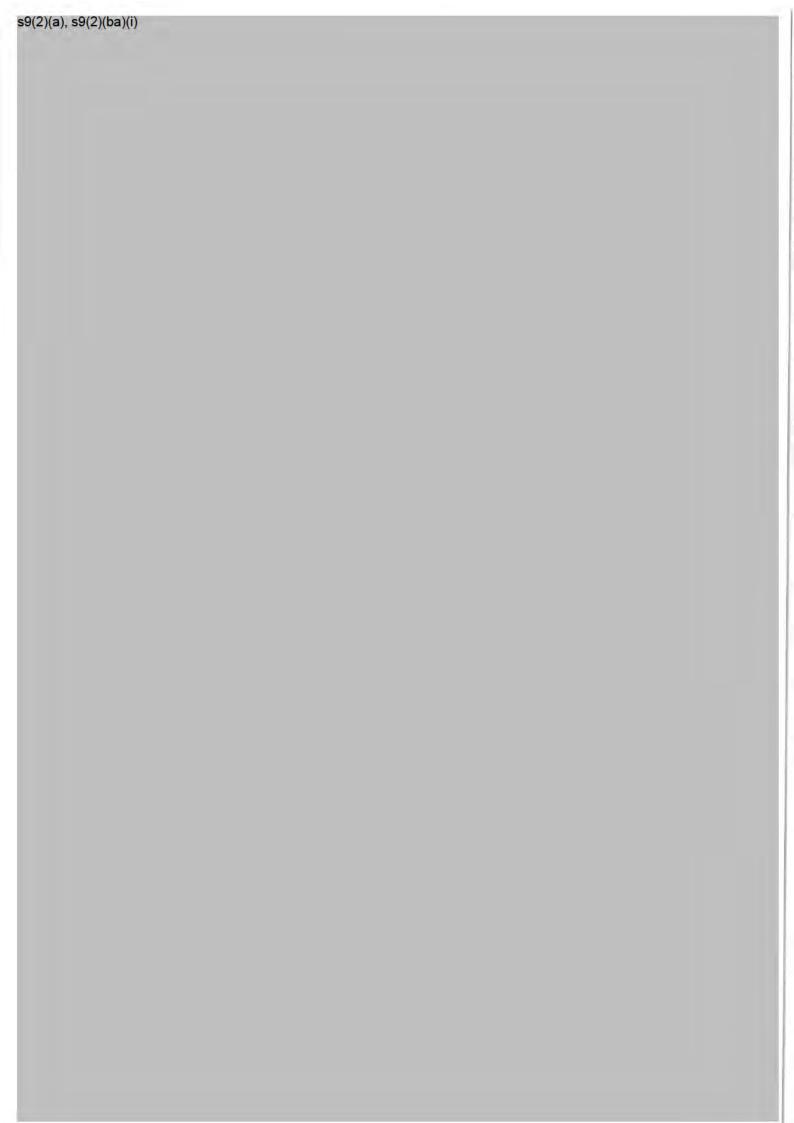
As directed, could you please pass to the Minister for his action.

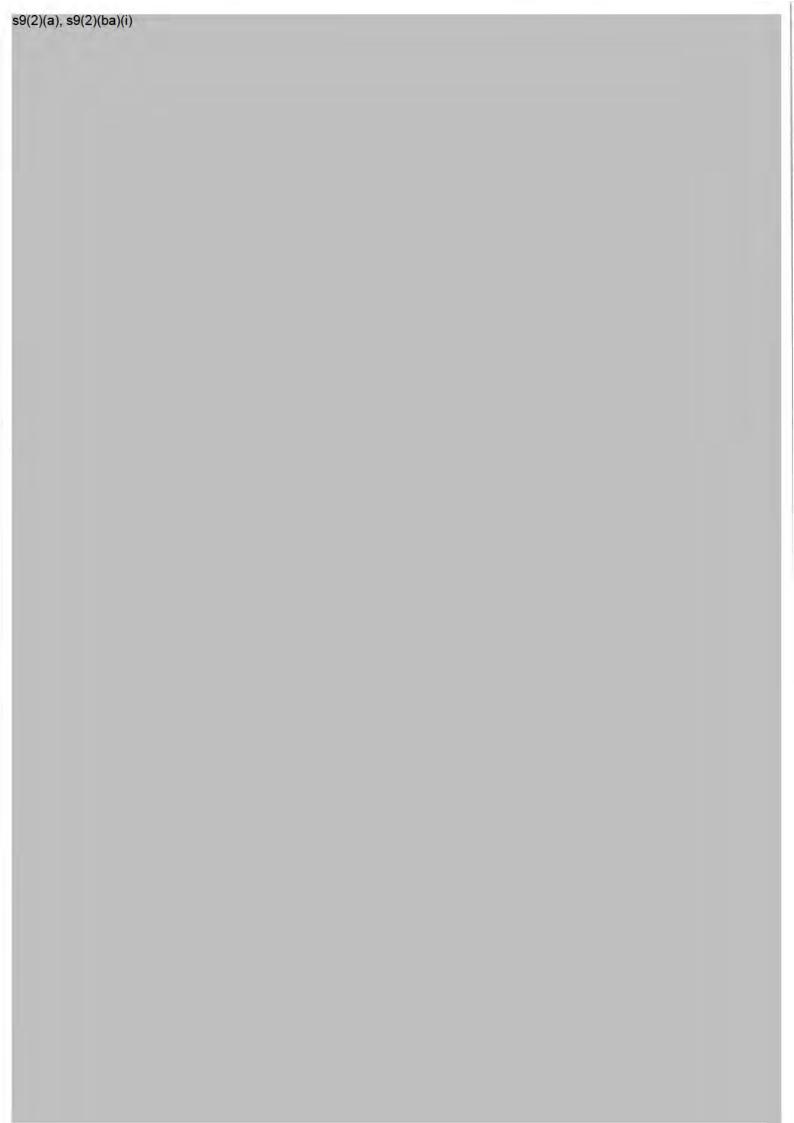
Grateful if you confirm receipt.

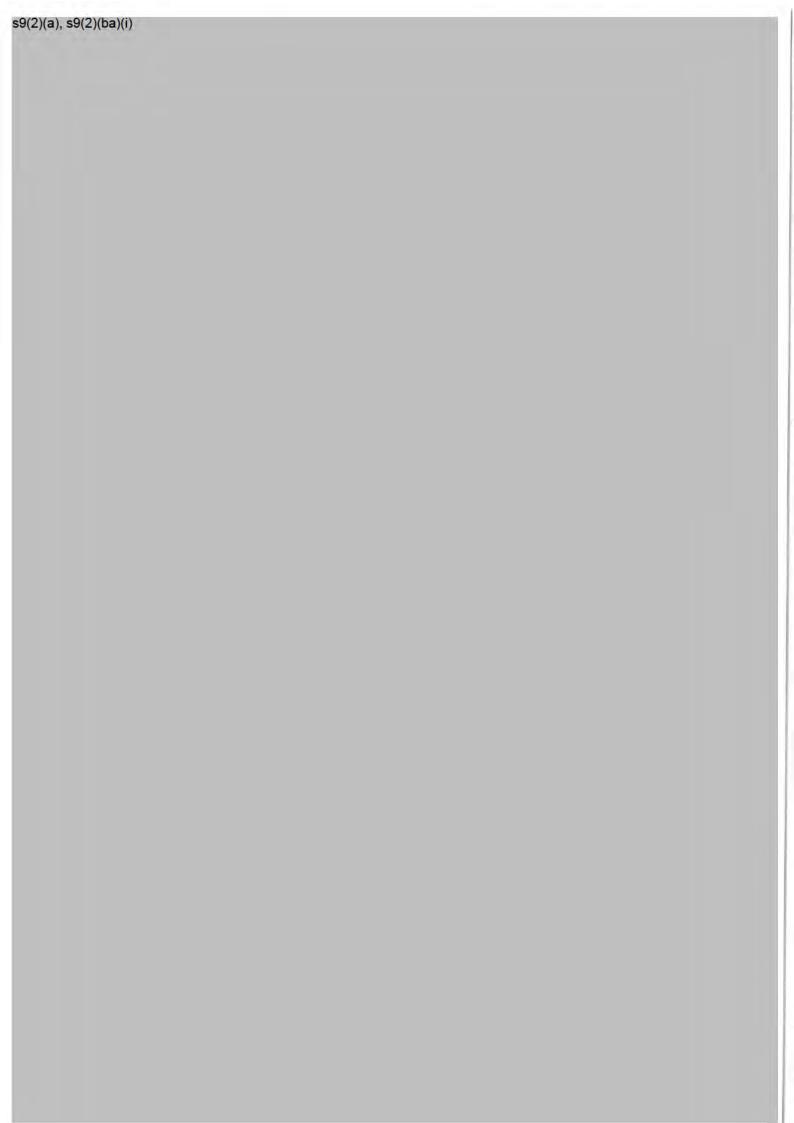
Regards,

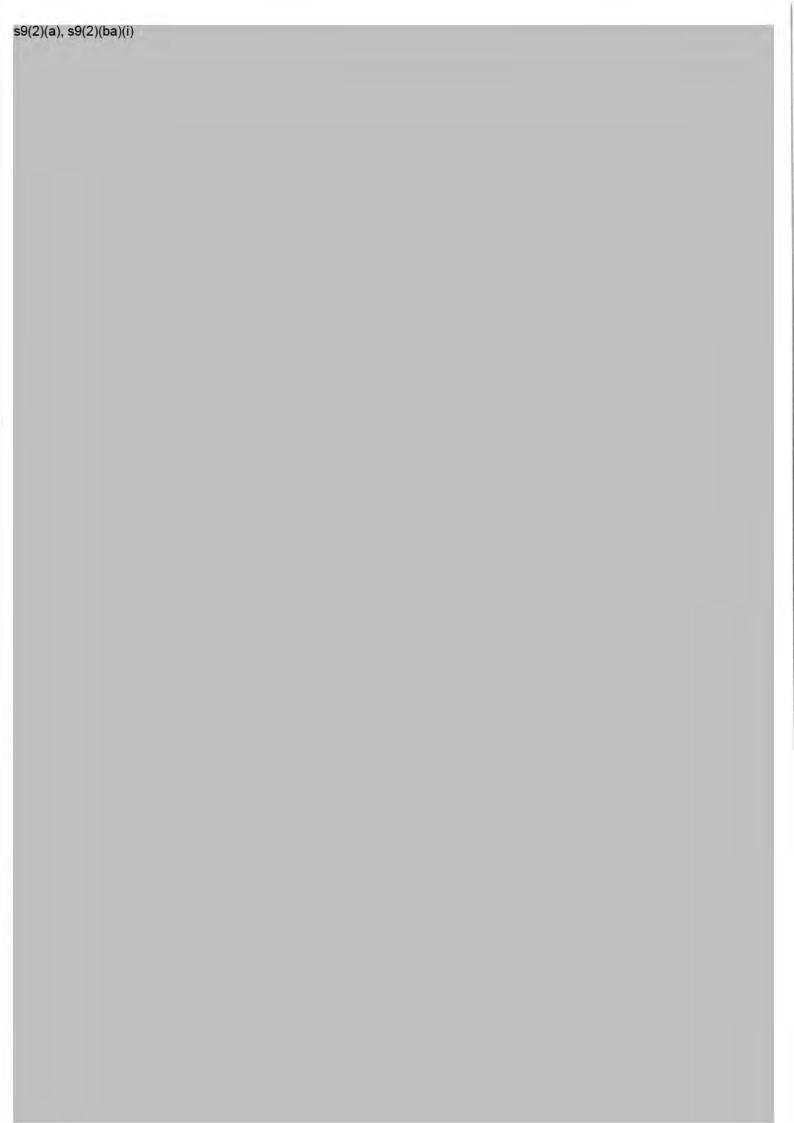
Bernard

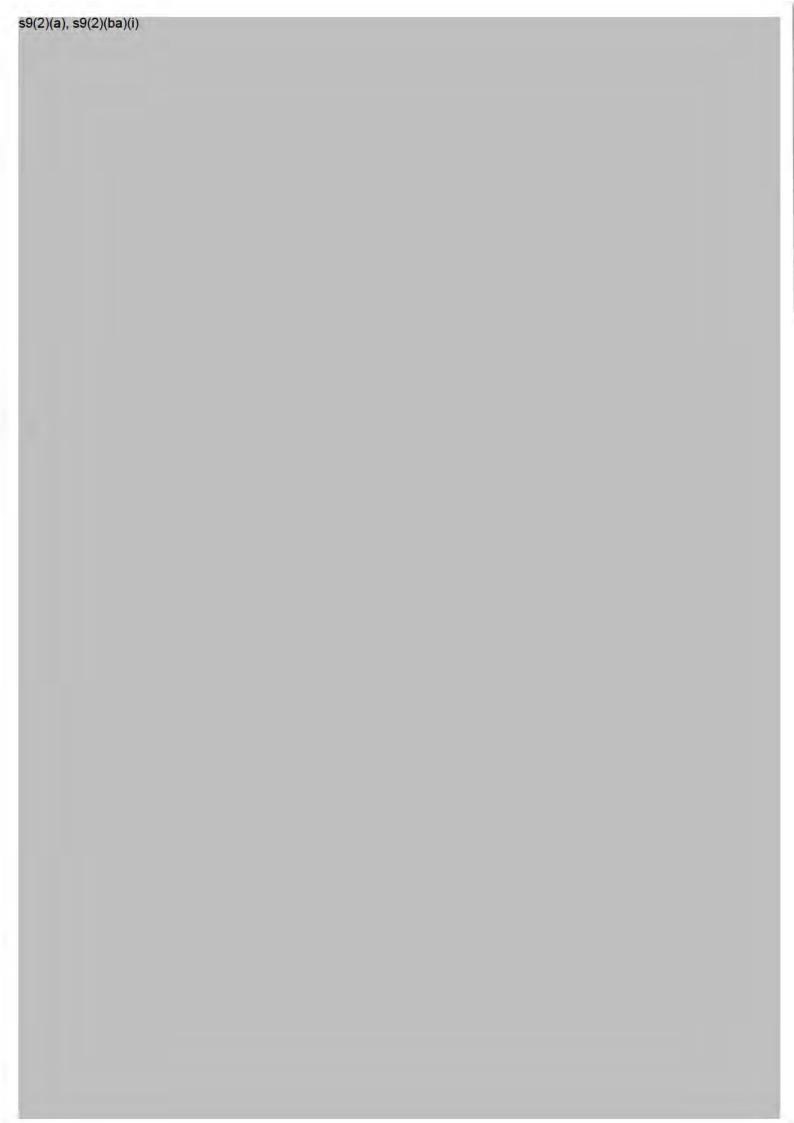


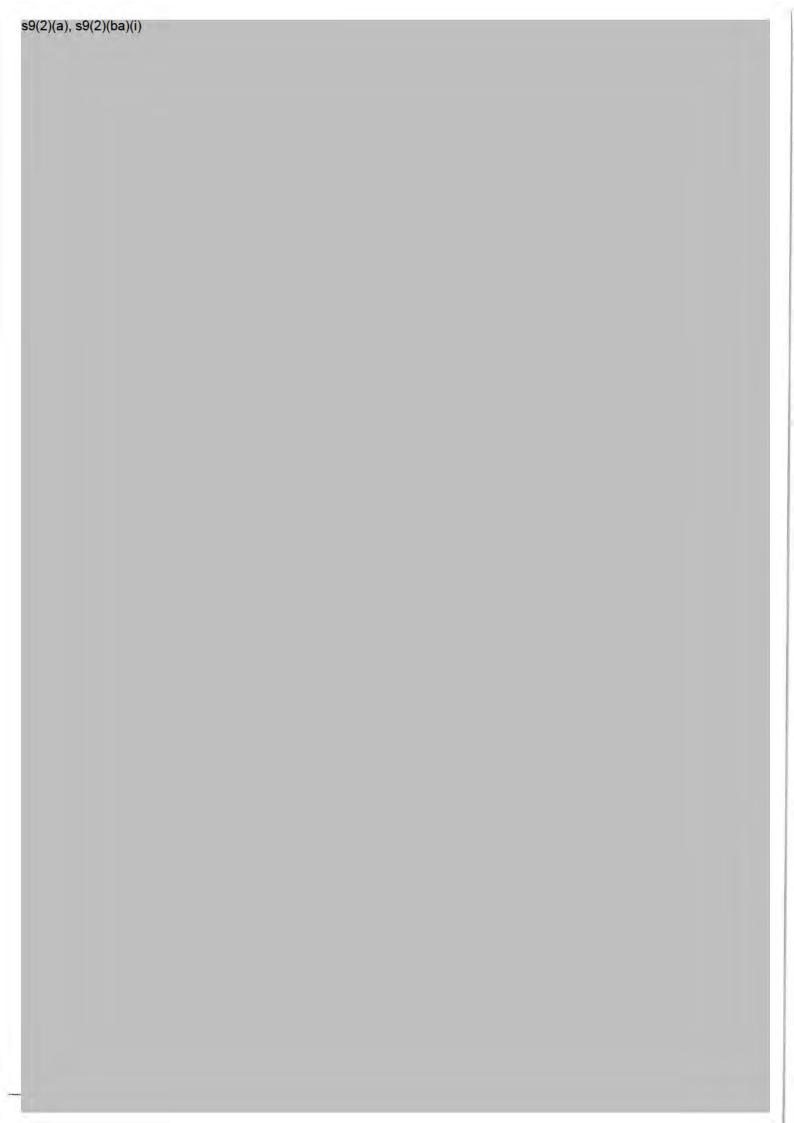


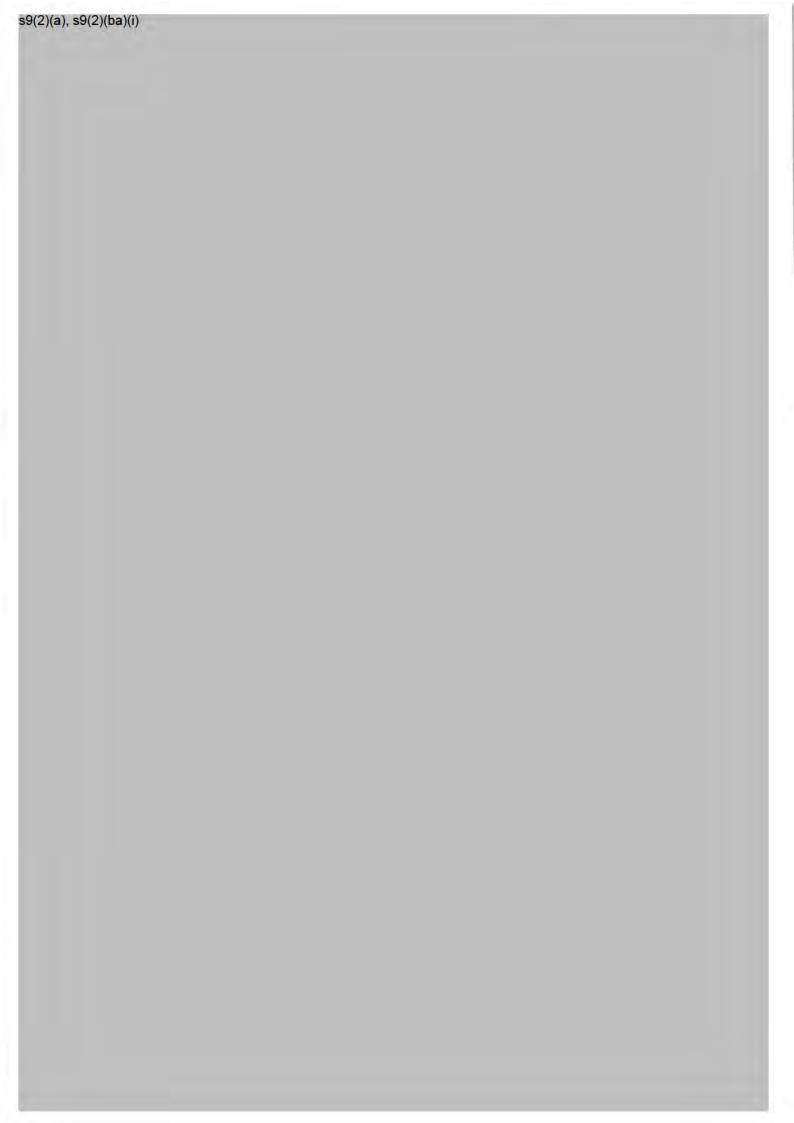


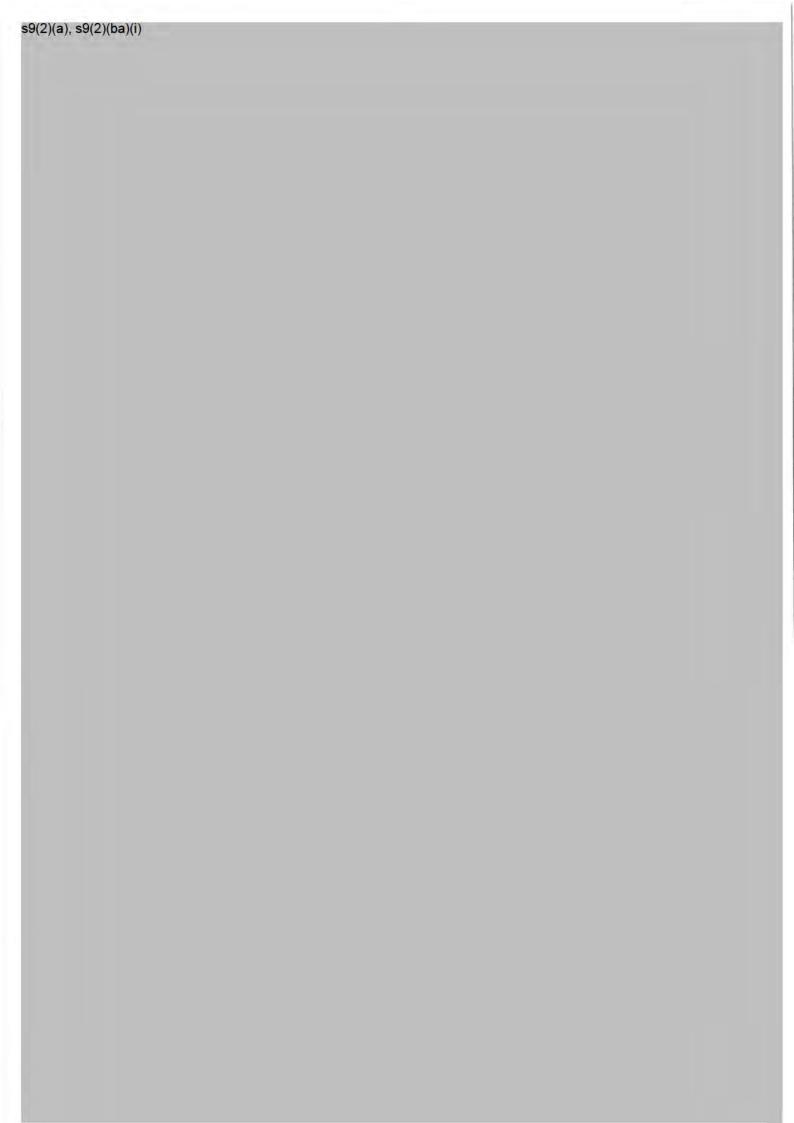


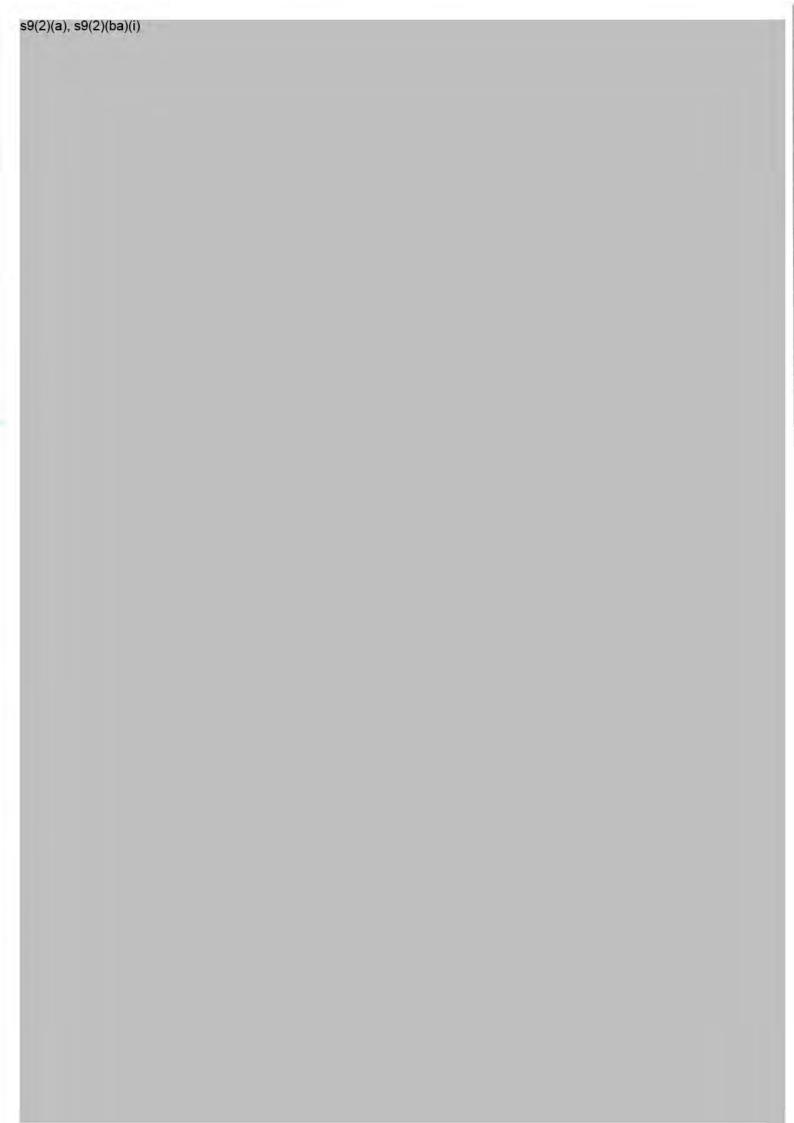


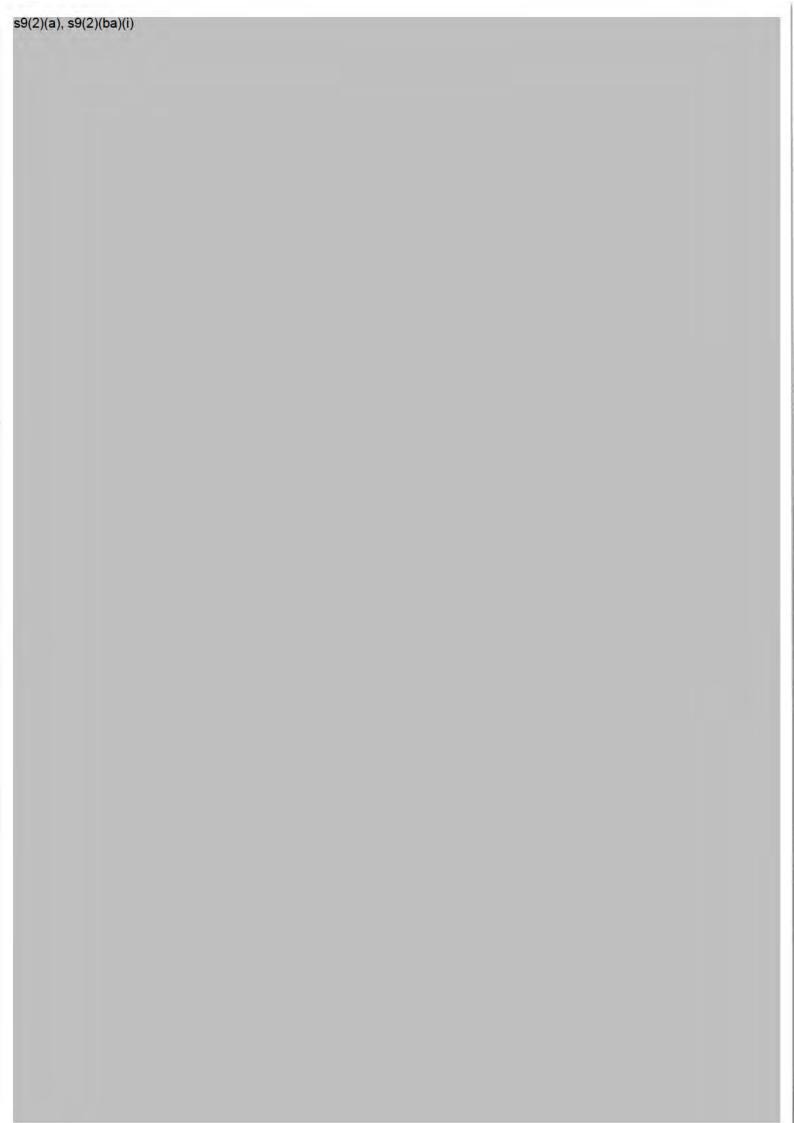


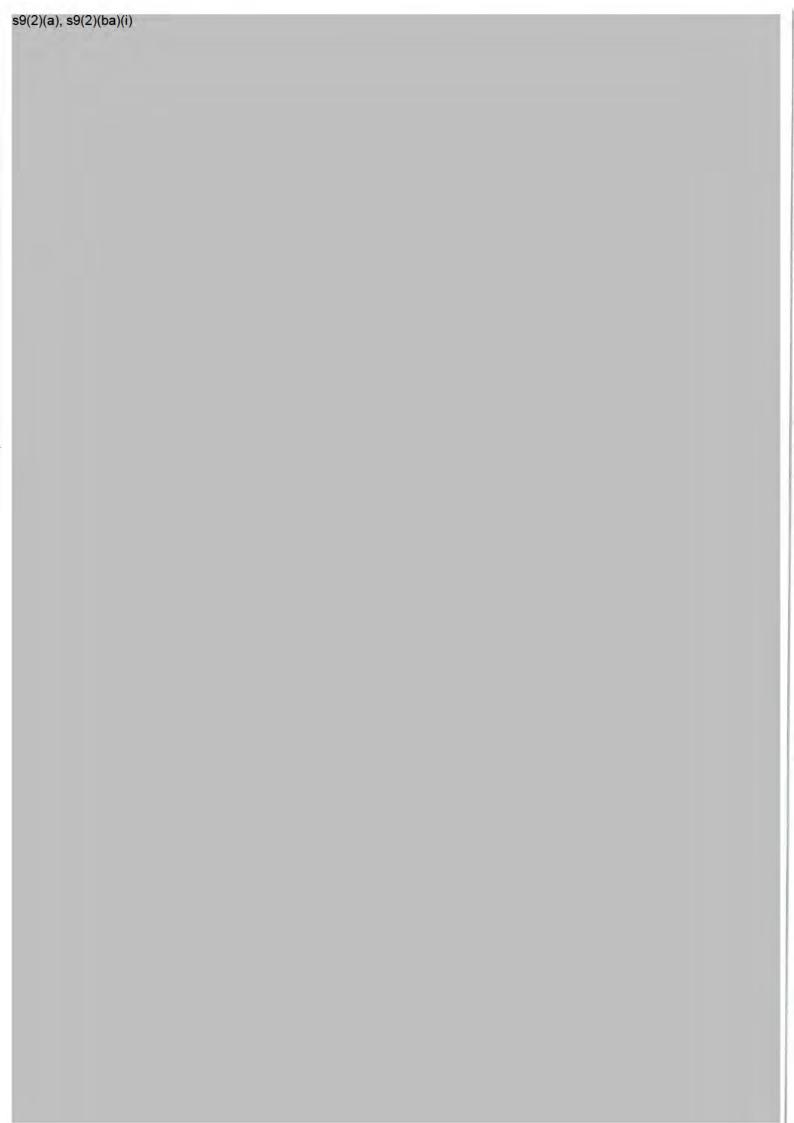


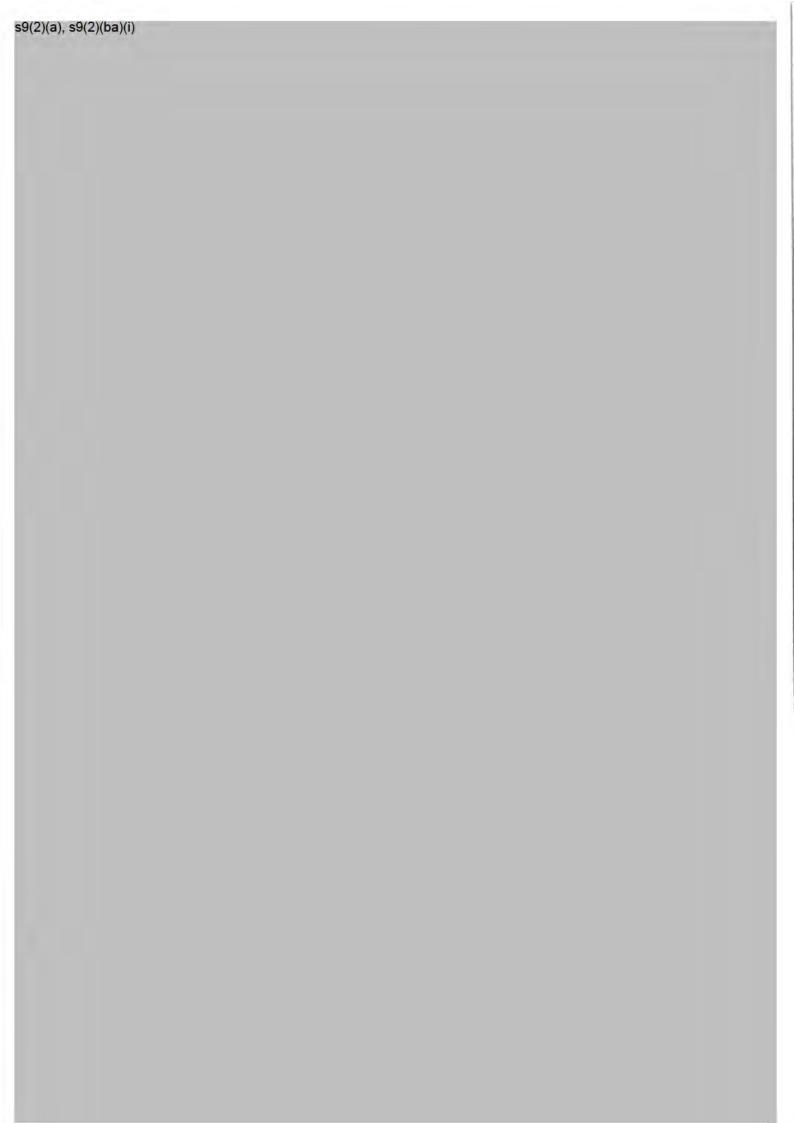


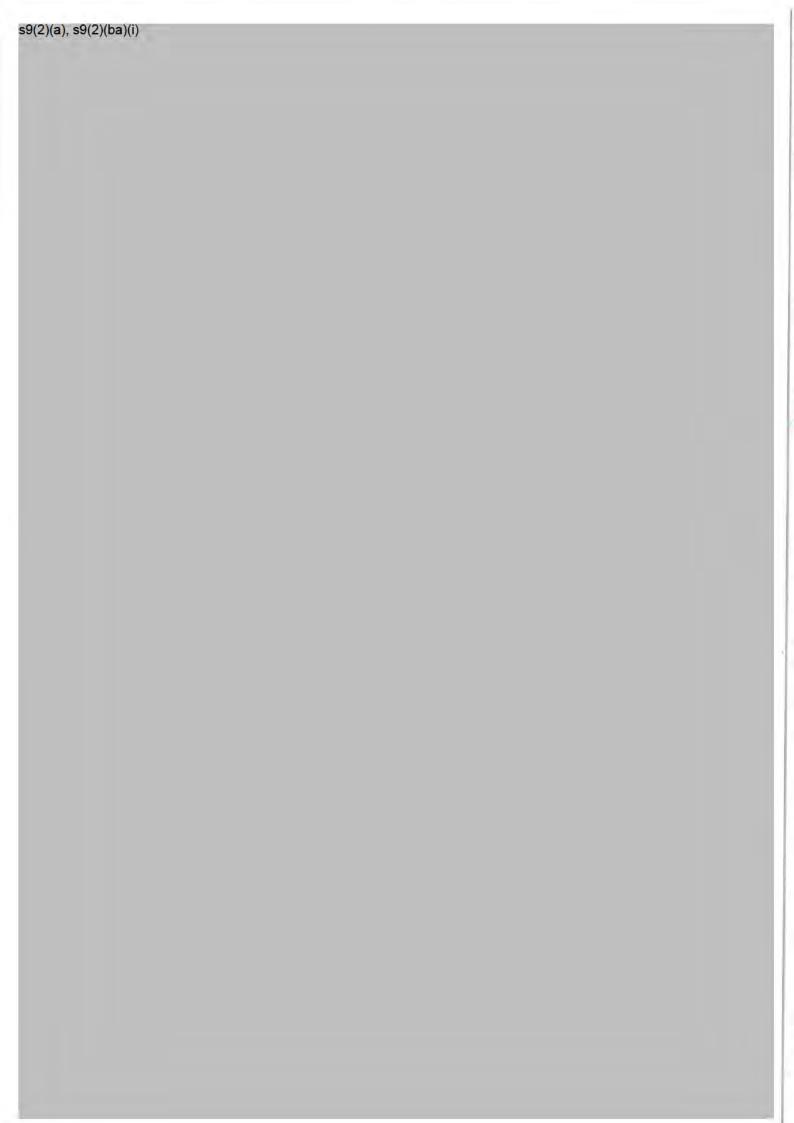


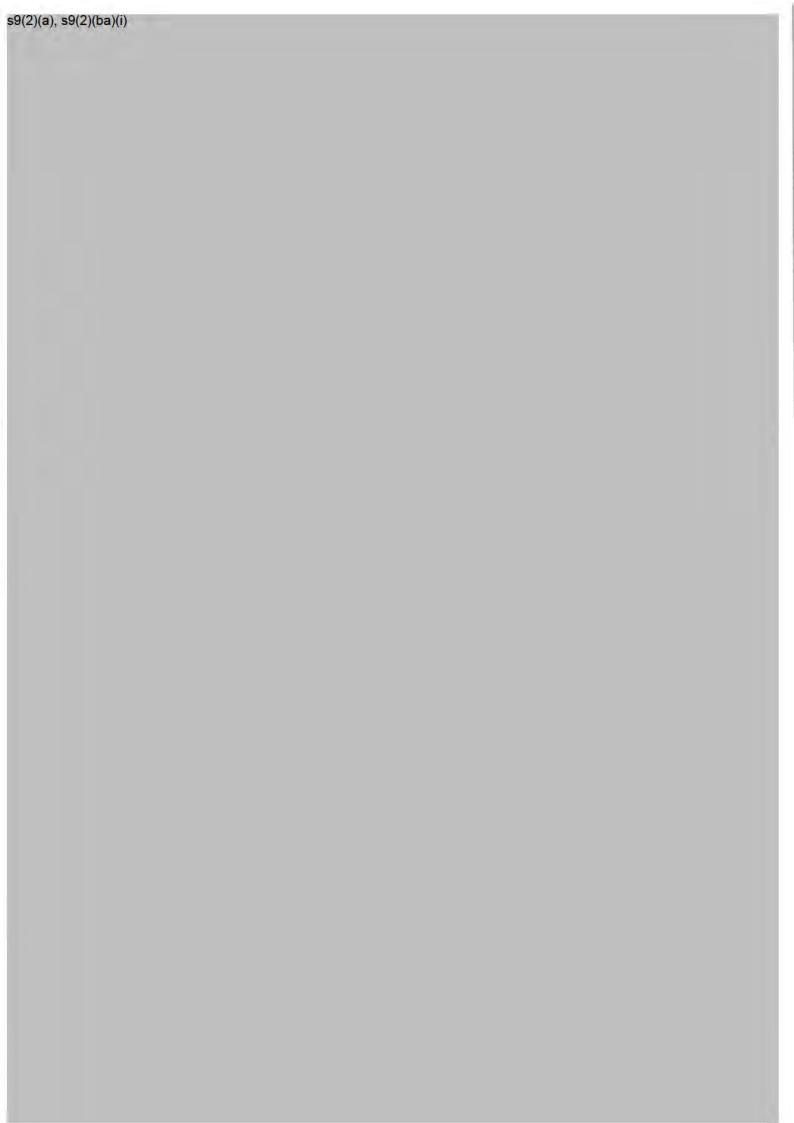


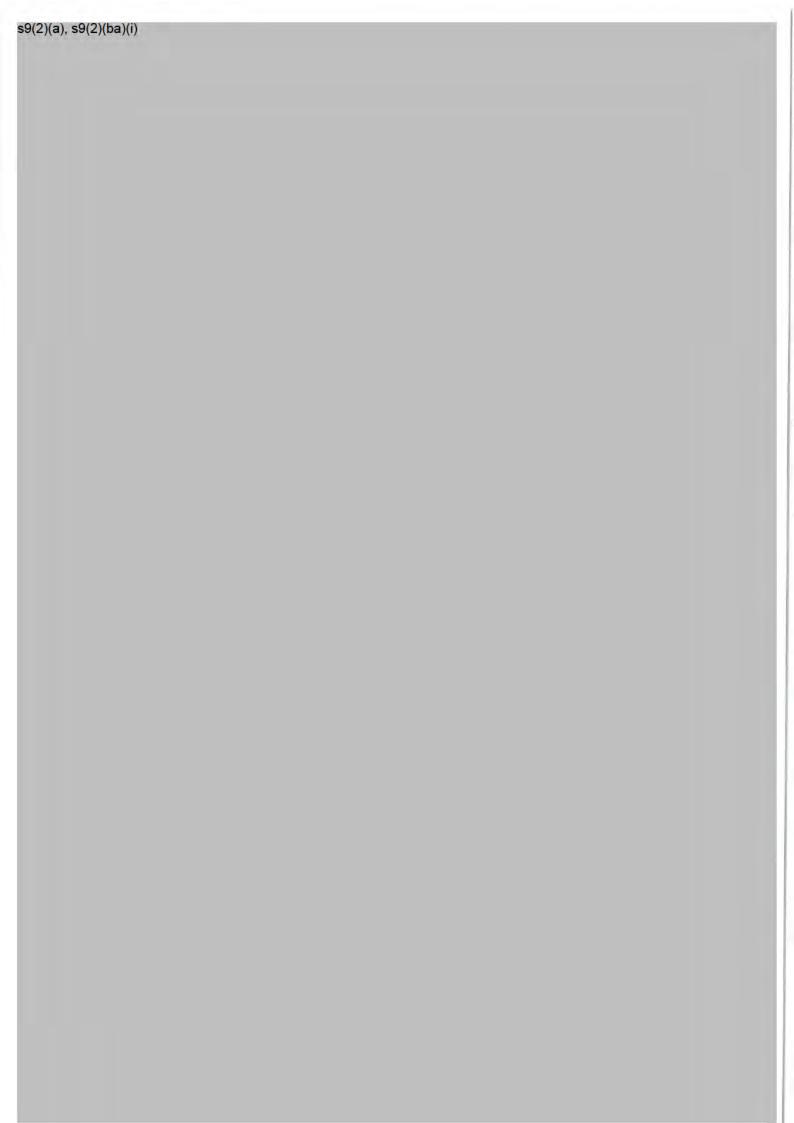












From:

David Williams [DPMC]

Sent:

Thursday, 15 September 2022 5:06 pm

To:

Shane Arndell

Subject:

Bravery Award Pte David Stewart Seemail In Confidence

Attachments:

To PM Re Stewart.docx

[IN-CONFIDENCE]

Hi Shane

Could you in confidence please look at this draft response, in particular para 8-9.

Happy to discuss tomorrow morning.

Kind regards David



David Williams
Senior Advisor (Honours)
Cabinet Office, Executive Wing,
Parliament Buildings, Wellington 6011, New Zealand

DDI: s9(2)(a)

Email: david.williams@dpmc.govt.nz

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From: McLeod, John \$9(2)(k)

Sent: Thursday, 15 September 2022 3:22 pm

To: David Williams [DPMC] <David.Williams@dpmc.govt.nz>
Subject: Bravery Award Pte David Stewart Seemail In Confidence

\*\*\* [SEEMAIL] This message may contain classified information \*\*\*

Hi David,

Attached is a draft letter I have written for the Minister of the Defence to the Prime Minister supporting a review of the New Zealand Bravery Medal awarded to Private David Stewart. While this was not the advice to the Minister, he was very clear that he wished to forward and support the submission to the Prime Minister. This letter reflects the Minister's view. Prior to sending it to the Minister's office I just want to run it past you to make sure there is nothing in it that would be problematic.

I appreciate we all have a lot on but the Minister wants to progress this quickly – at least to the PM. Many thanks

Ngā mihi

John

John McLeod, ONZM
Director
Heritage, Commemorations, and Protocol Group
HQ NZ Defence Force
Mobile: \$9(2)(a)

www.nzdf.mil.nz



s9(2)(a), s9(2)(ba)(i)	

s9(2)(a), s9(2)(ba)(i)	

From:

McLeod, John \$9(2)(k)

Sent:

Friday, 16 September 2022 3:32 pm

To:

David Williams [DPMC]

Subject:

RE: Bravery Award Pte David Stewart Seemail In Confidence

\*\*\* [SEEMAIL] This message may contain classified information \*\*\*

Thanks David. I will check in with the Minister's office. It's a difficult space as this is the Minister's political perspective rather than one where the NZDF can have a view. I'll have another go at the wording to find a more nuanced way.

Ngã mihi

John

John McLeod, ONZM
Director
Heritage, Commemorations, and Protocol Group
HQ NZ Defence Force
Mobile: \$9(2)(a)

www.nzdf.mil.nz



From: David Williams [DPMC] [mailto:David.Williams@dpmc.govt.nz]

Sent: Friday, 16 September 2022 3:04 p.m.

To: McLeod, John s9(2)(k)

Subject: Bravery Award Pte David Stewart Seemail In Confidence

[IN-CONFIDENCE]

Kia ora john

I have an initial look at the draft, my comments (subject to review by Rachel/Pav) would be to note that:

- there needs to be advice included in the letter on NZDF's position on retrospective consideration of honours (in general and in this case).
- clarifying what were the informal enquires undertaken by the Minister?
- confirming with the Minister's office his position (supporting reconsideration).
- what are the implications of reconsideration? (as noted in final para of the draft)
- are there other options for recognition outside of the honours system?

I may have some further comment once I have been able to discuss this within the office, but this will not be available until after the Queen's memorial service at the very earliest.

Hei konā mai, David



David Williams
Senior Advisor (Honours)
Cabinet Office, Executive Wing,
Parliament Buildings, Wellington 6011, New Zealand

DDI: s9(2)(a)

Email: david.williams@dpmc.govt.nz

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From: McLeod, John \$9(2)(k)

Sent: Thursday, 15 September 2022 3:22 pm

To: David Williams [DPMC] < <u>David.Williams@dpmc.govt.nz</u>>
Subject: Bravery Award Pte David Stewart Seemail In Confidence

\*\*\* [SEEMAIL] This message may contain classified information \*\*\*

#### Hi David,

Attached is a draft letter I have written for the Minister of the Defence to the Prime Minister supporting a review of the New Zealand Bravery Medal awarded to Private David Stewart. While this was not the advice to the Minister, he was very clear that he wished to forward and support the submission to the Prime Minister. This letter reflects the Minister's view. Prior to sending it to the Minister's office I just want to run it past you to make sure there is nothing in it that would be problematic.

I appreciate we all have a lot on but the Minister wants to progress this quickly – at least to the PM. Many thanks

Ngā mihi

John

John McLeod, ONZM Director Heritage, Commemorations, and Protocol Group HQ NZ Defence Force Mobile:s9(2)(a)

www.nzdf.mil.nz



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From: Rachel Hayward [DPMC]

Sent: Friday, 9 December 2022 3:35 pm

To: David Williams [DPMC]; Pavan Sharma [DPMC]

Subject: RE: Letter from Hon Peeni Henare - Consideration of upgrade of Bravery Award

Thanks David. Look forward to seeing a draft.

From: David Williams [DPMC] <David.Williams@dpmc.govt.nz>

Sent: Friday, 9 December 2022 12:43 pm

To: Rachel Hayward [DPMC] <Rachel.Hayward@dpmc.govt.nz>; Pavan Sharma [DPMC]

<Pavan.Sharma@dpmc.govt.nz>

Subject: Letter from Hon Peeni Henare - Consideration of upgrade of Bravery Award

[IN-CONFIDENCE]

Kia ora Rachel and Pav

PMO have passed to us a letter from the Minister of Defence to the PM regarding the consideration of an upgrade of a bravery award to Private David Stewart, NZMB (this relates to a bravery event on Mt Ruapehu in 1990).



The PM is seeking our advice on the correspondence. I have advised Dinah in PMO that we will prepare advice to the PM on this matter.

Hei konā mai,

Nāku, nā David



David Williams
Senior Advisor (Honours)
Cabinet Office, Executive Wing,
Parliament Buildings, Wellington 6011, New Zealand

DDI:s9(2)(a)

Email: david.williams@dpmc.govt.nz

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From: Rt Hon Jacinda Ardern < Jacinda Ardern@parliament.govt.nz>

Sent: Friday, 9 December 2022 12:06 pm

To: David Williams [DPMC] < David.Williams@dpmc.govt.nz >

Subject: FW: Letter from Hon Peeni Henare - Consideration of upgrade of Bravery Award

Hi David – the PM has seen this and has asked that it can go to Cabinet Office – which I assume is your team.

Are you the right person to handle it?

Thanks

D

Dinah Okeby
Office of the Prime Minister

From: Ethan Bryant On Behalf Of P Henare (MIN) Sent: Tuesday, 6 December 2022 10:32 AM To: J Ardern (MIN) < j.ardern@ministers.govt.nz>

Subject: FW: Letter from Hon Peeni Henare - Consideration of upgrade of Bravery Award

My apologies, now with attachments.

## Ethan Bryant – Private Secretary (Executive Support) Office of Hon Peeni Henare

Minister of Defence | Minister for Whānau Ora | Associate Minister of Health (Māori) | Associate Minister of Tourism | Associate Minister of Housing (Māori) | MP for Tamaki Makaurau Reception: 04 817 8721 | www.labour.org.nz



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From: Ethan Bryant On Behalf Of P Henare (MIN) Sent: Tuesday, 6 December 2022 10:31 AM To: J Ardern (MIN) < <u>i.ardern@ministers.govt.nz</u>>
Subject: Letter from Hon Peeni Henare - Consideration of upgrade of Bravery Award

Kia ora,

Please see attached letter, and supporting materials regarding the upgrade of Bravery Award for Private David Edward Whawhai Stewart, NZBM.

Ngā mihi,

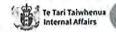
# Ethan Bryant – Private Secretary (Executive Support) Office of Hon Peeni Henare

Minister of Defence | Minister for Whānau Ora | Associate Minister of Health (Māori) | Associate Minister of Tourism | Associate Minister of Housing (Māori) | MP for Tamaki Makaurau Reception: 04 817 8721 | www.labour.org.nz



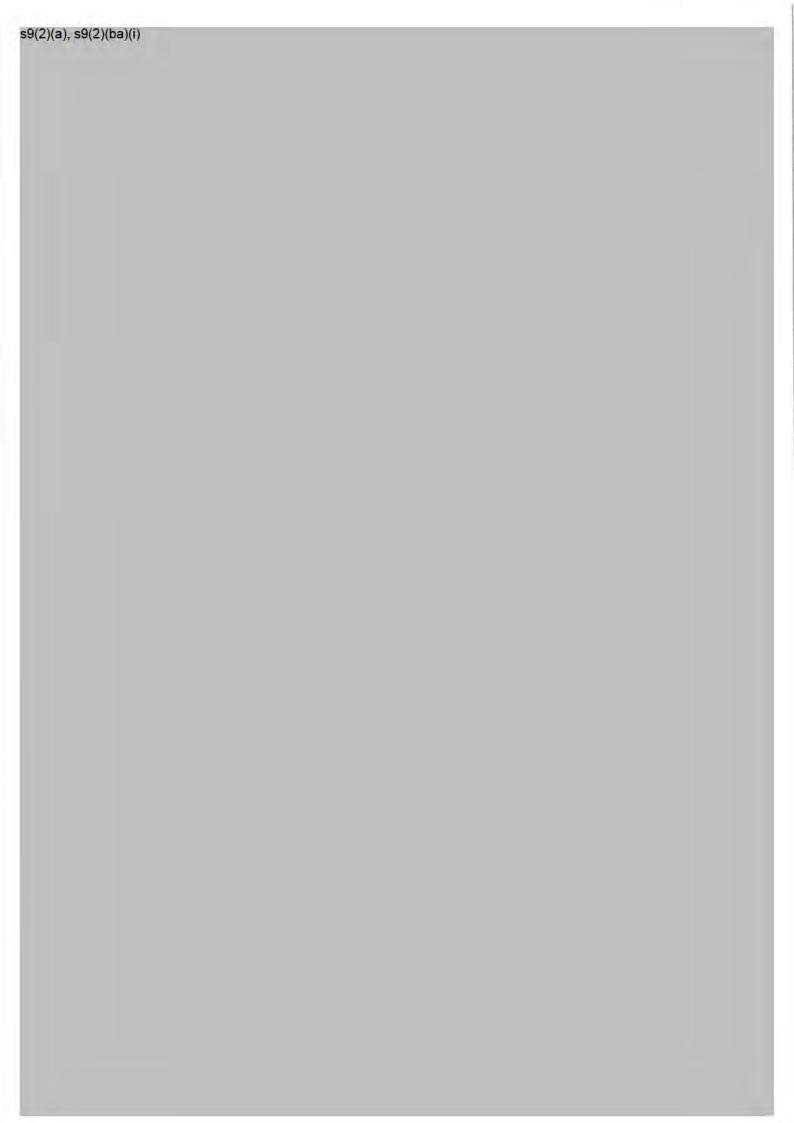
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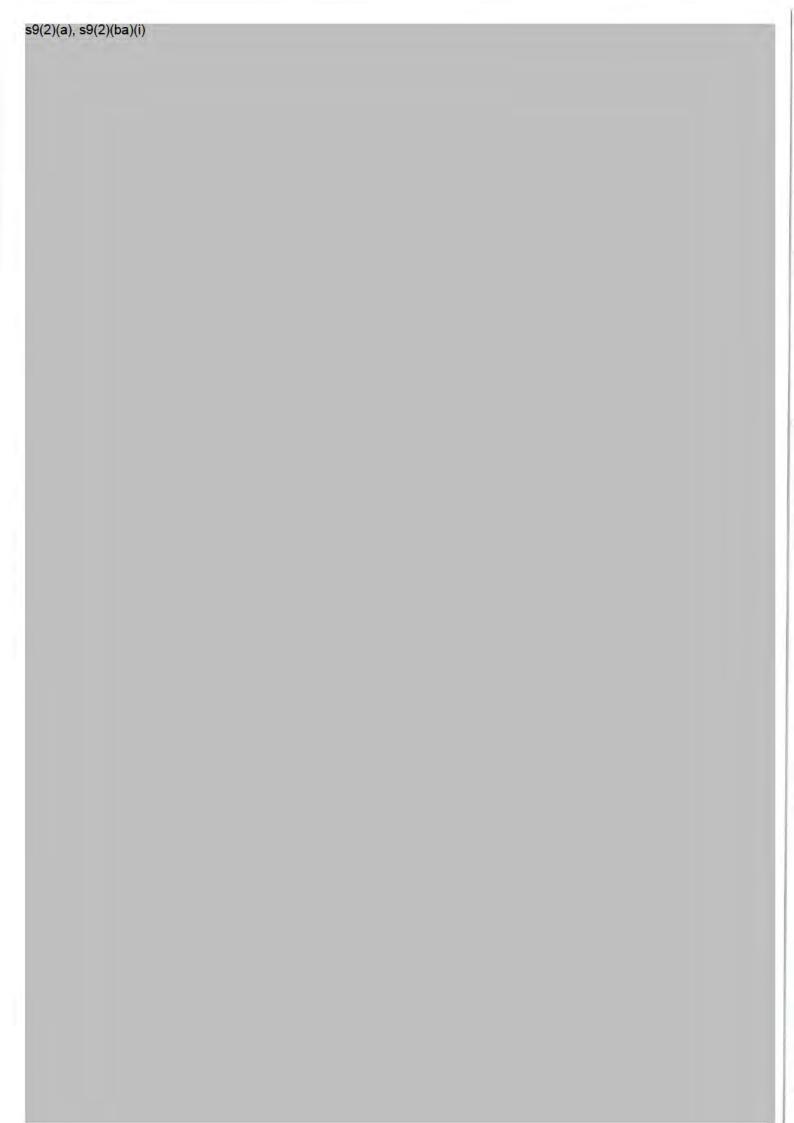
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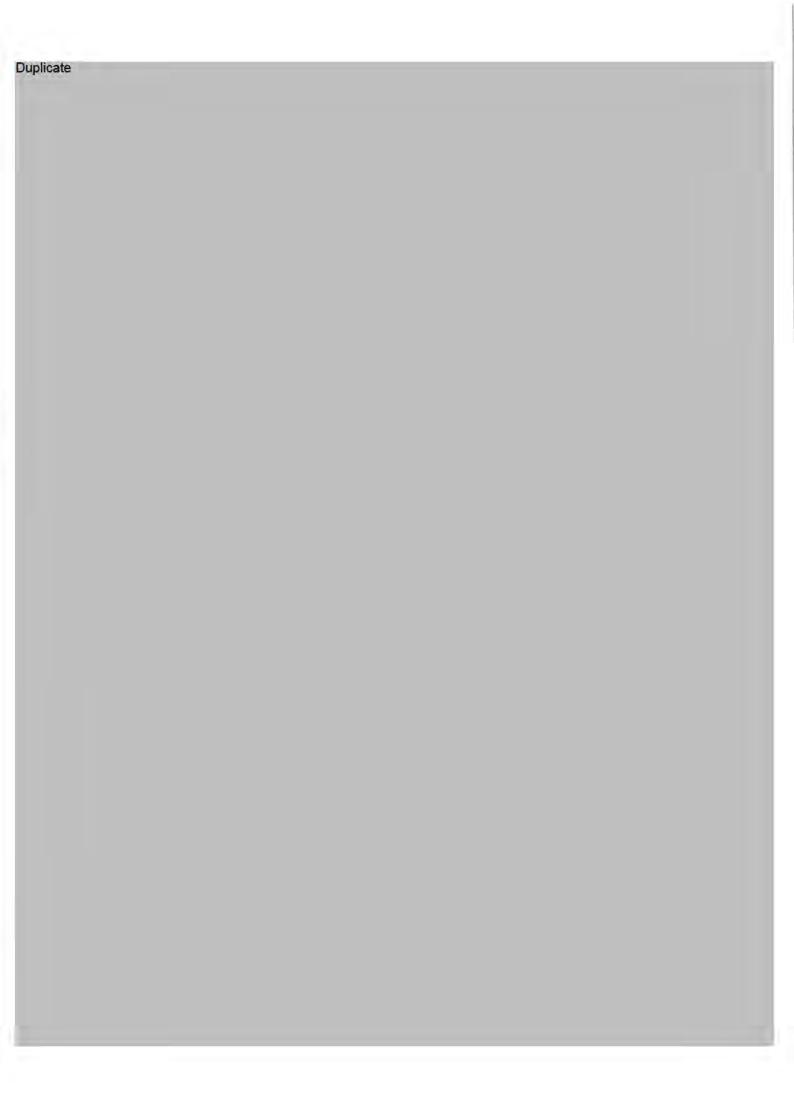


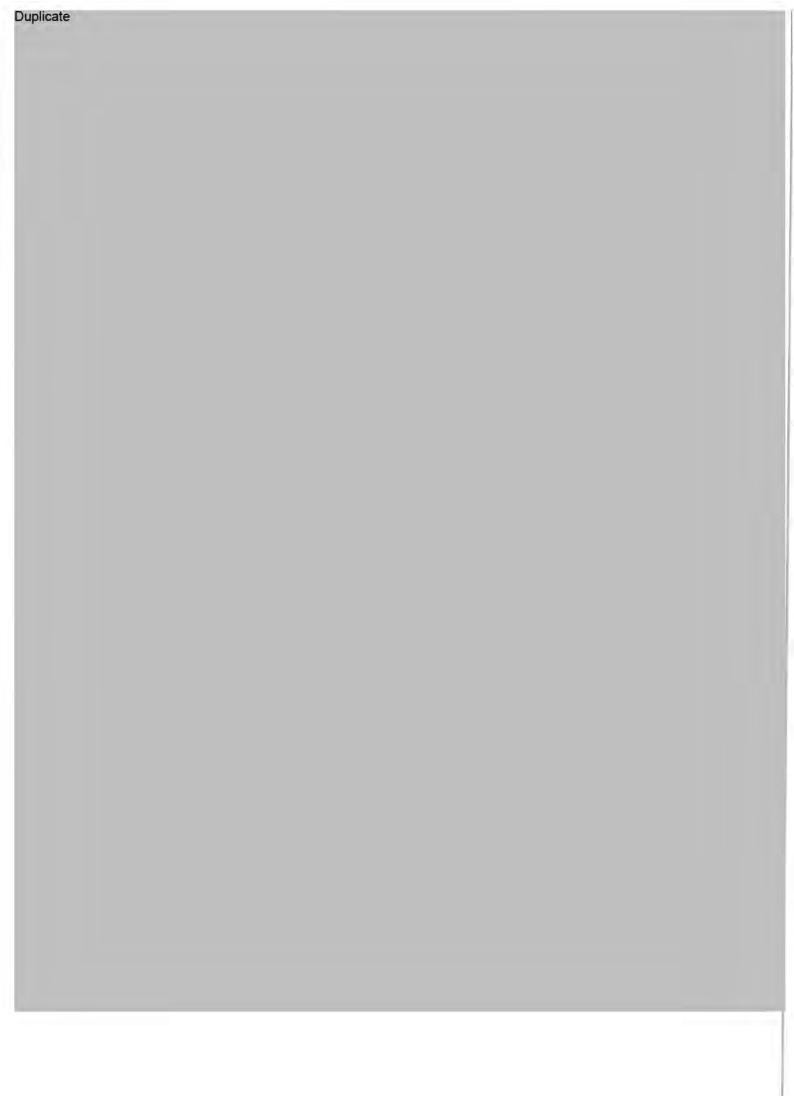


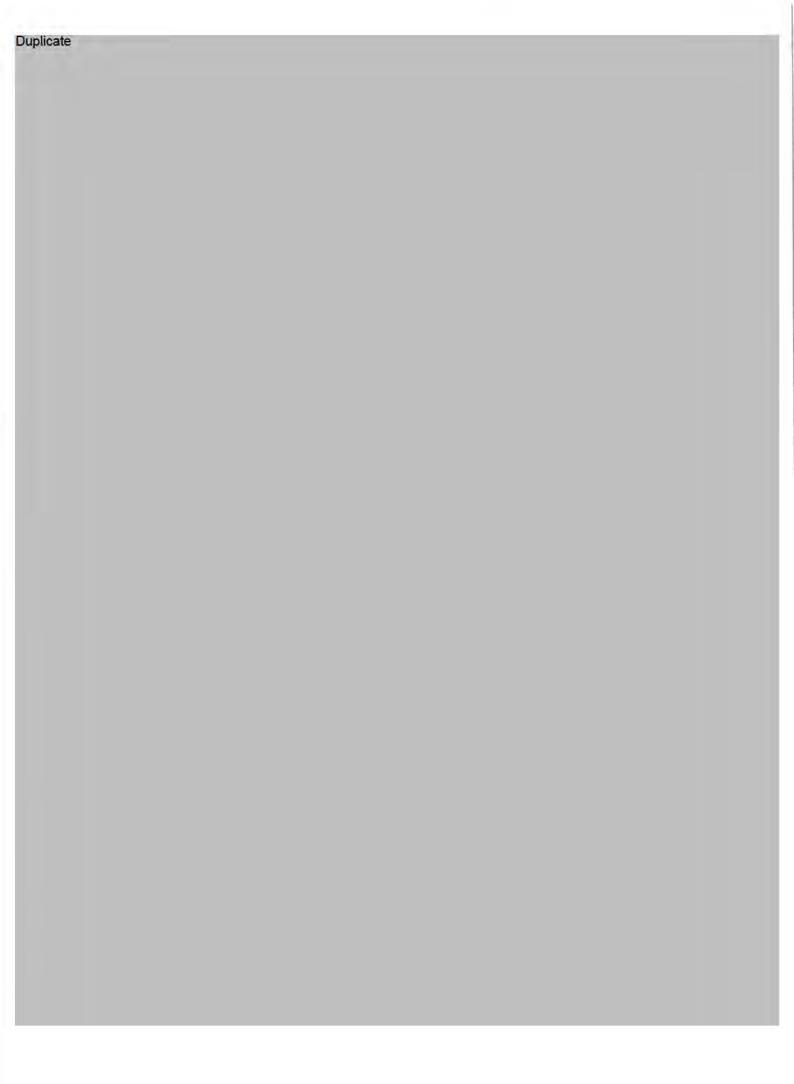


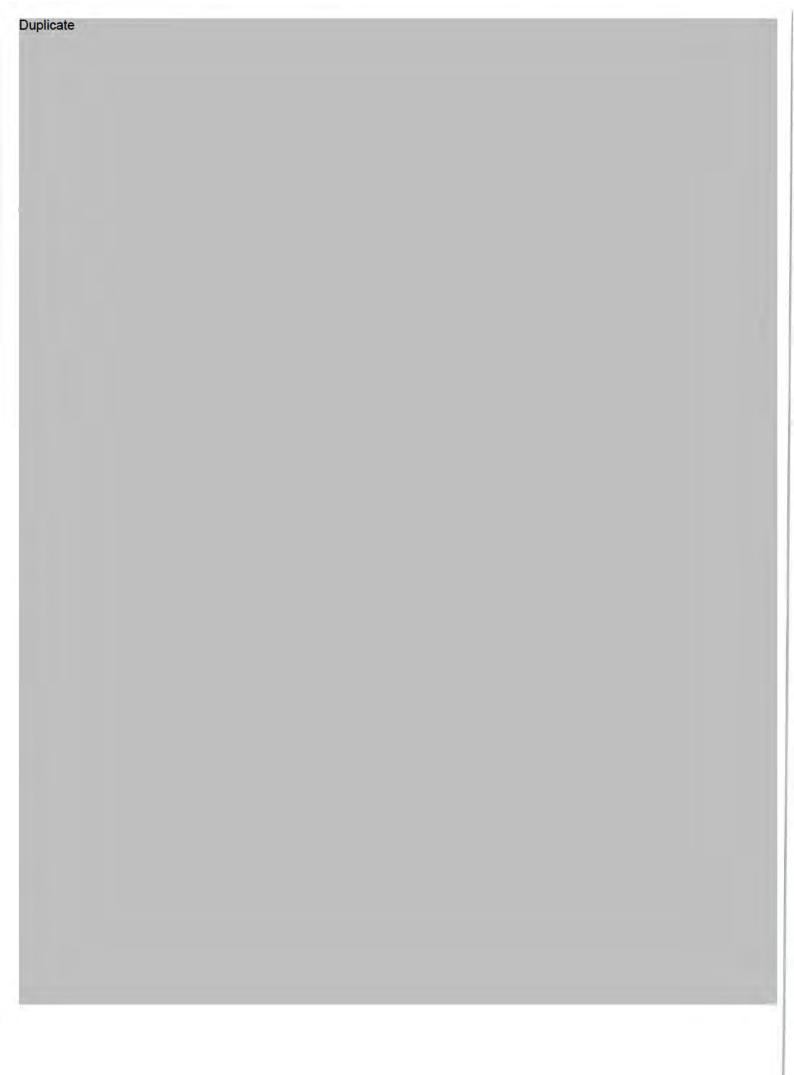


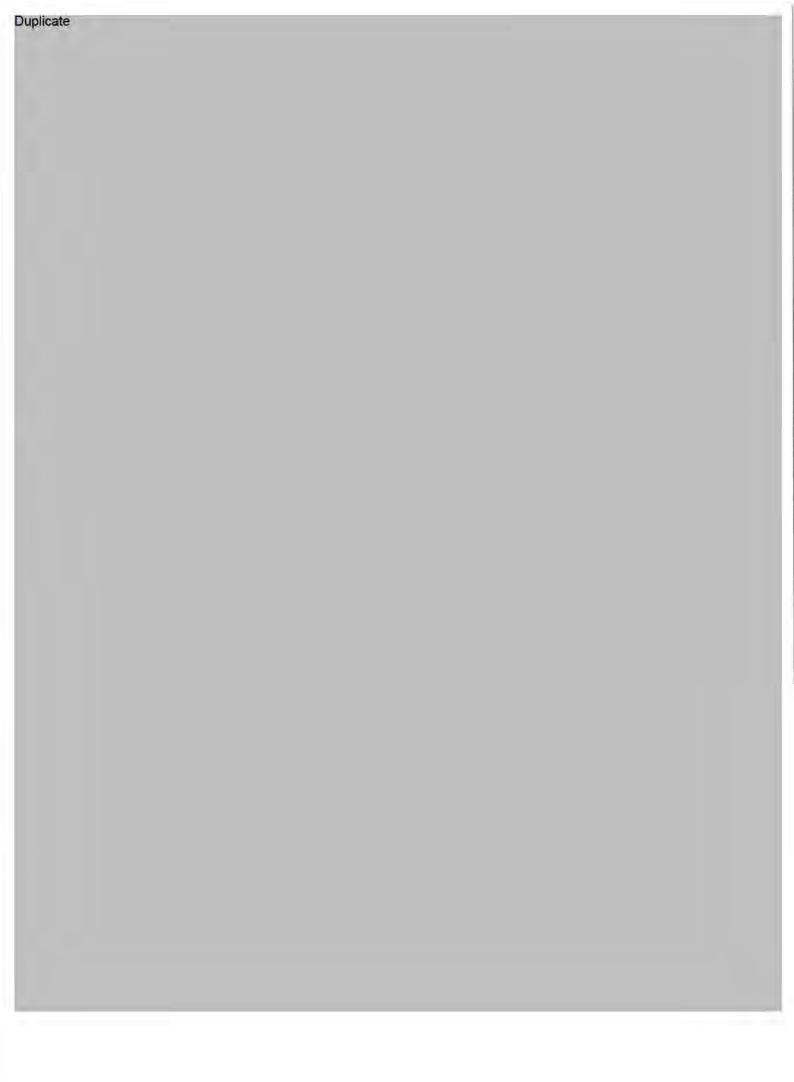


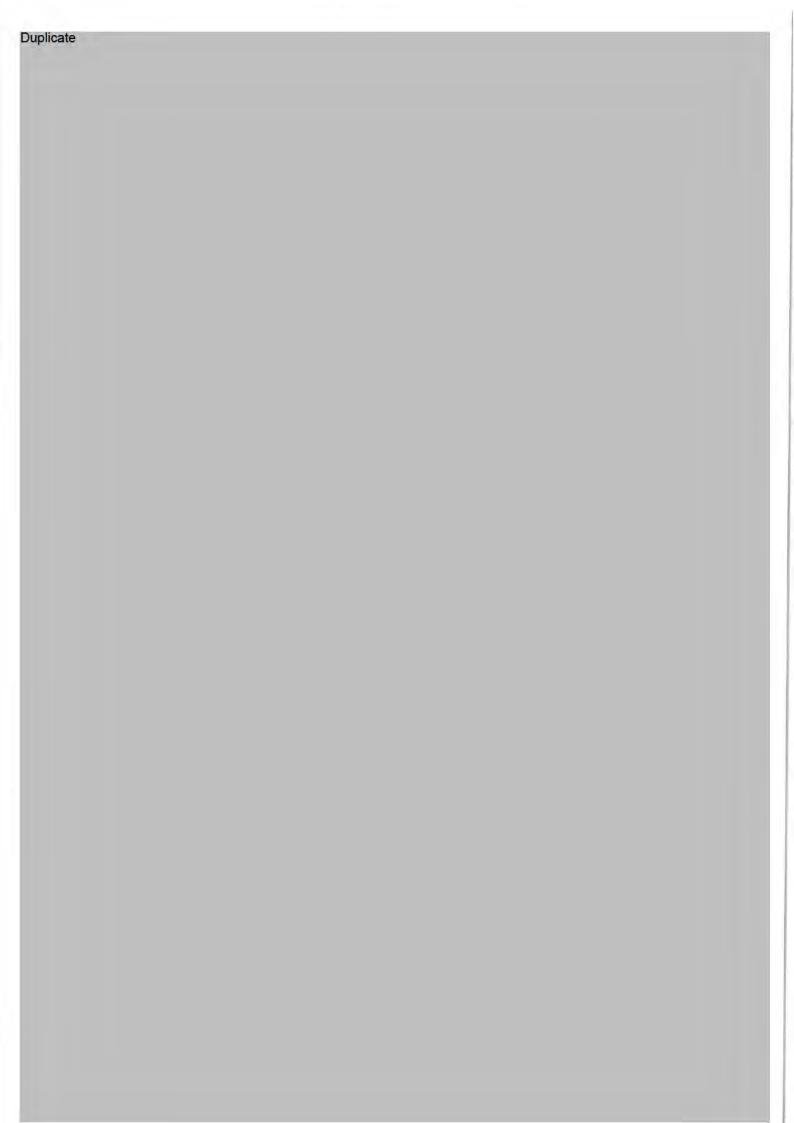


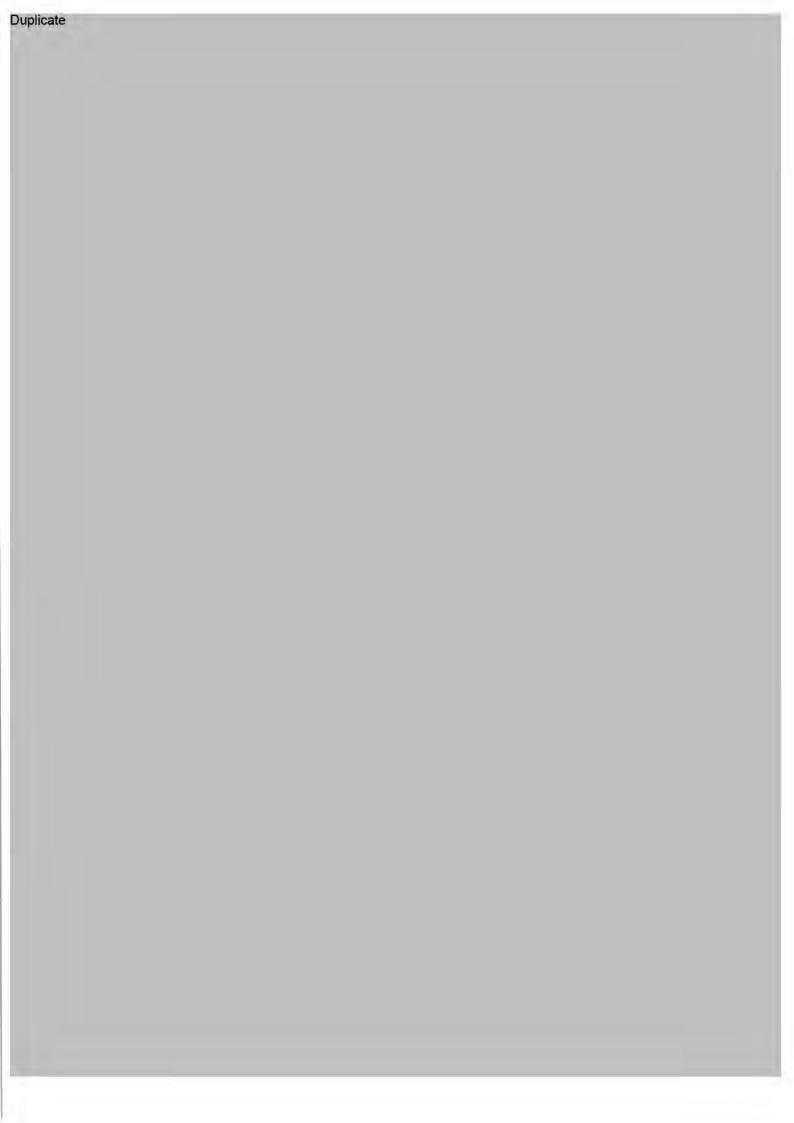


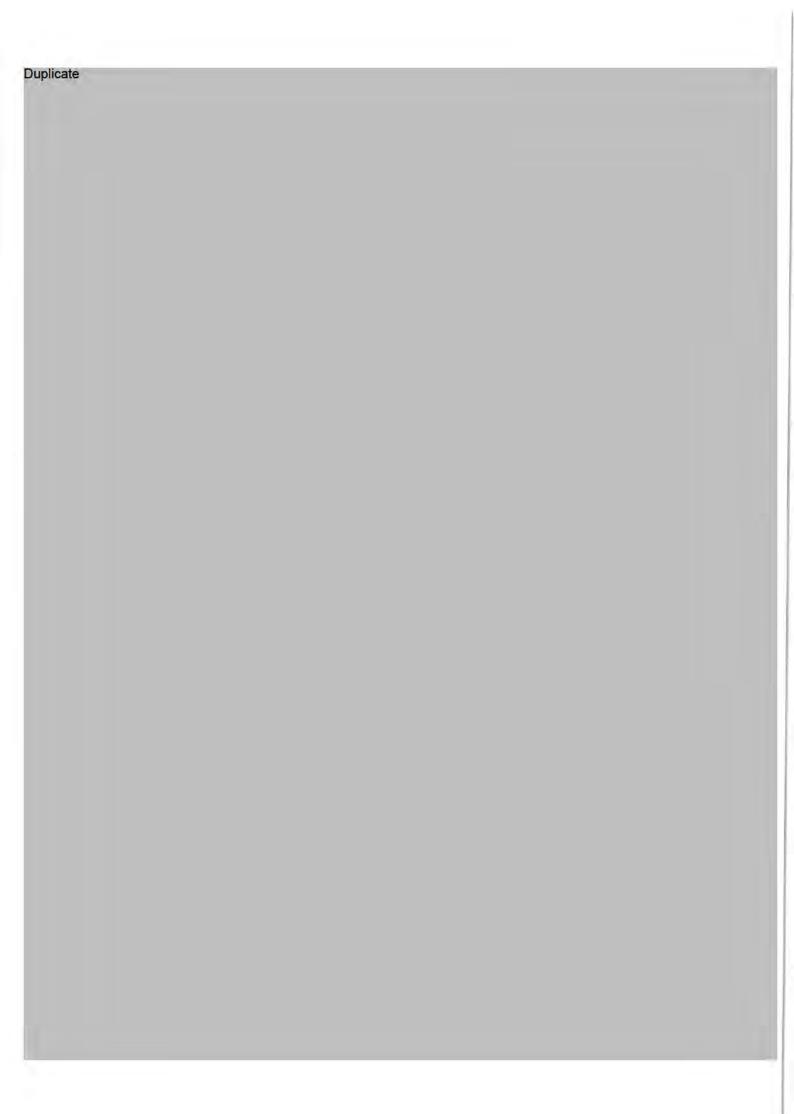


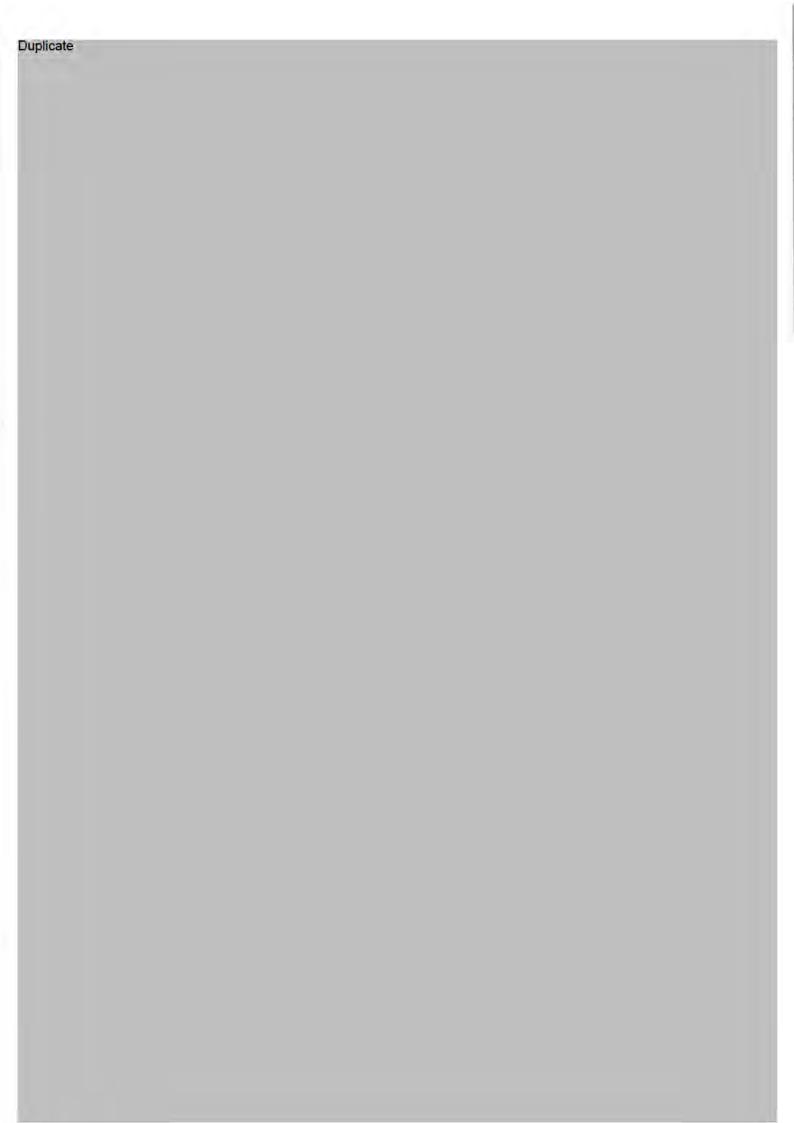


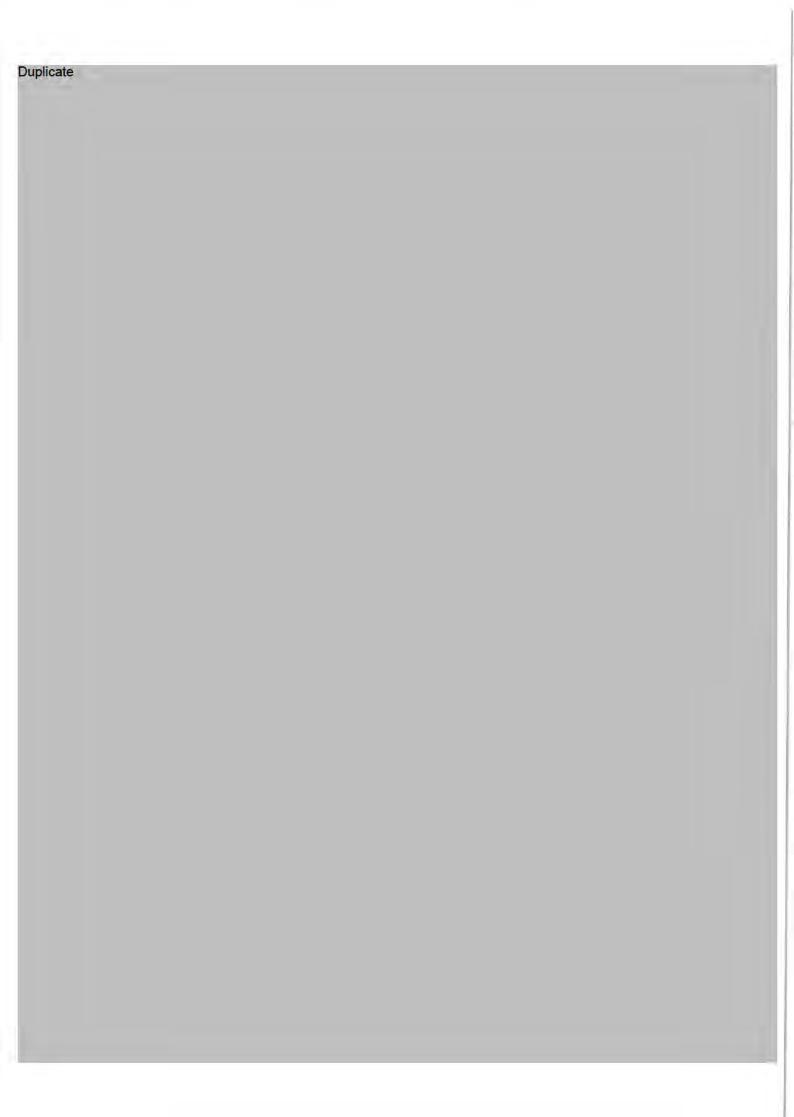


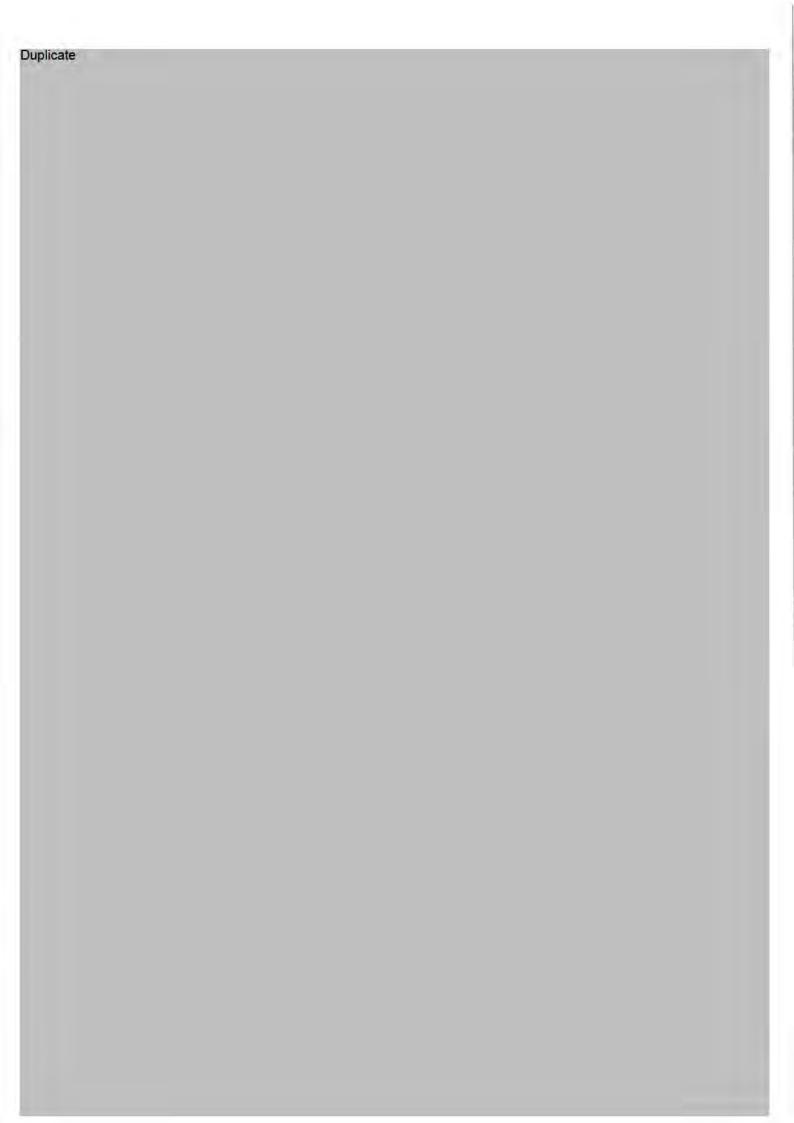




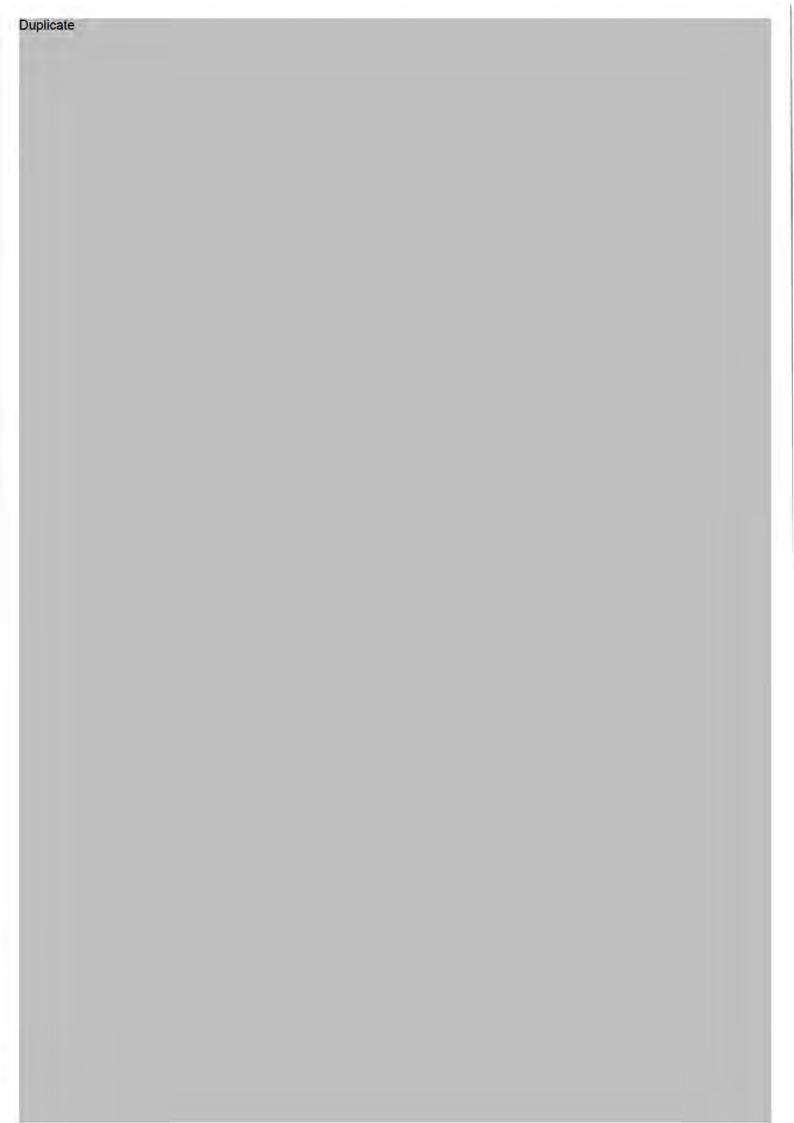


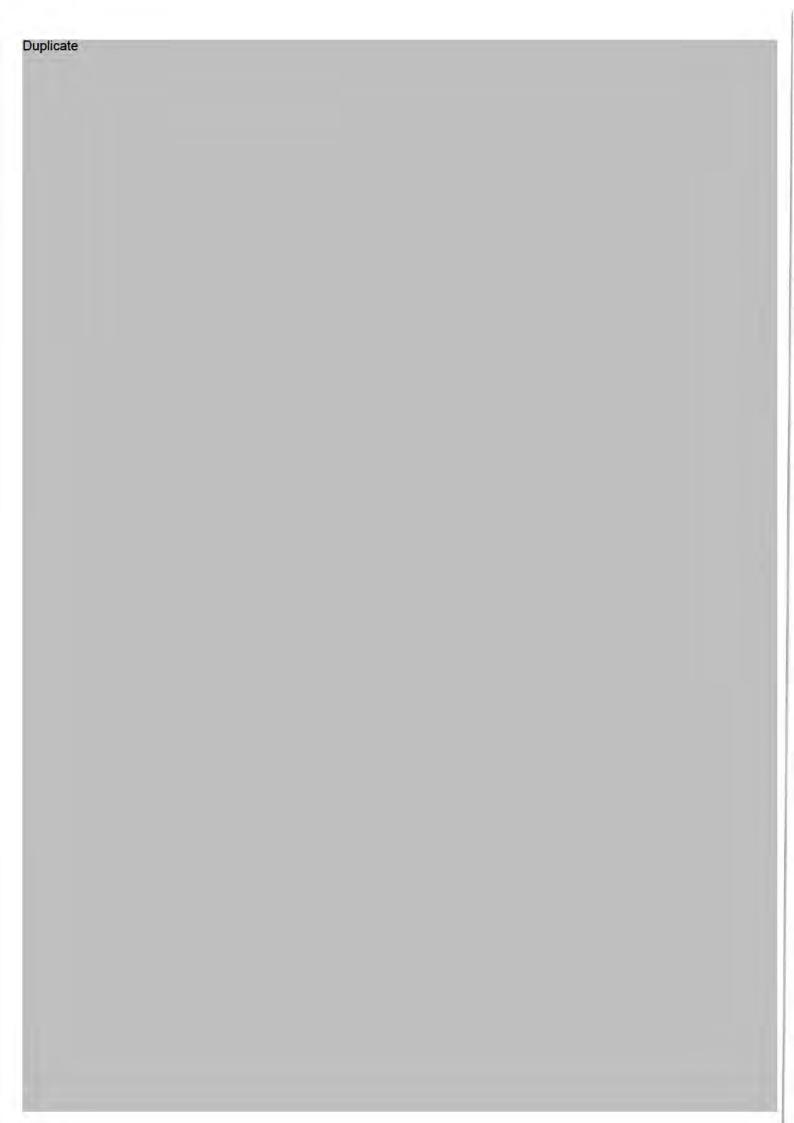


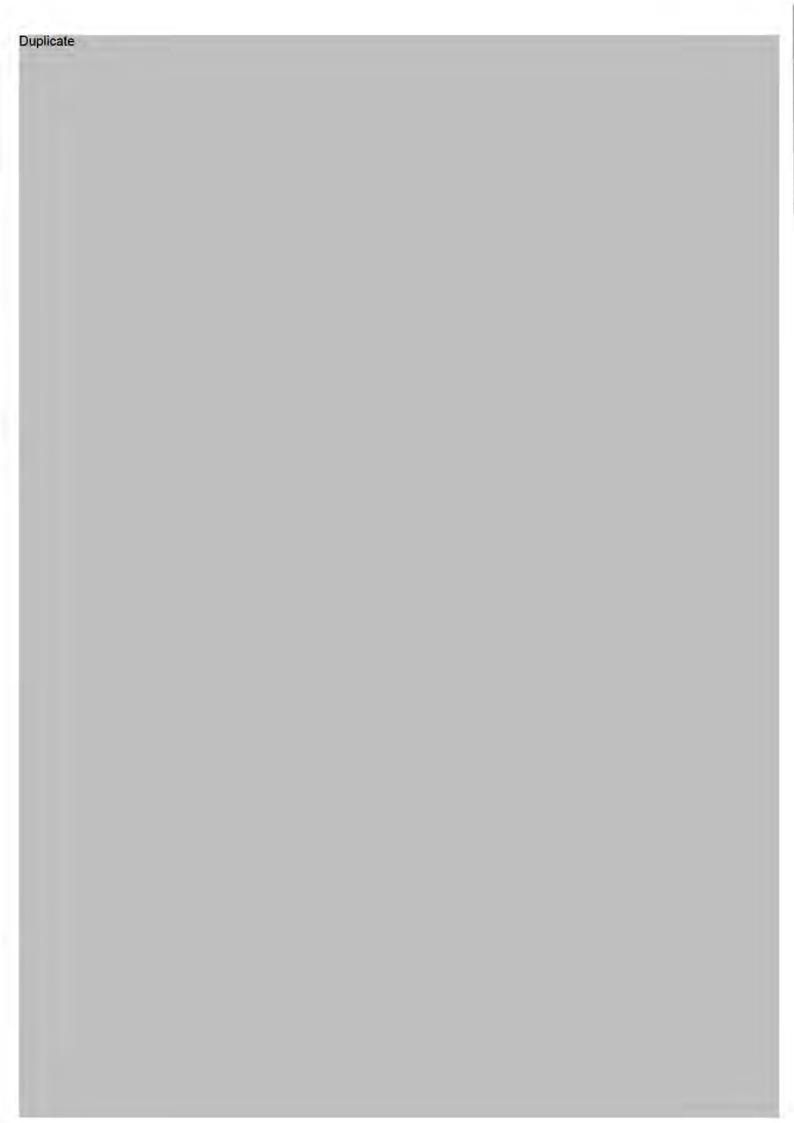


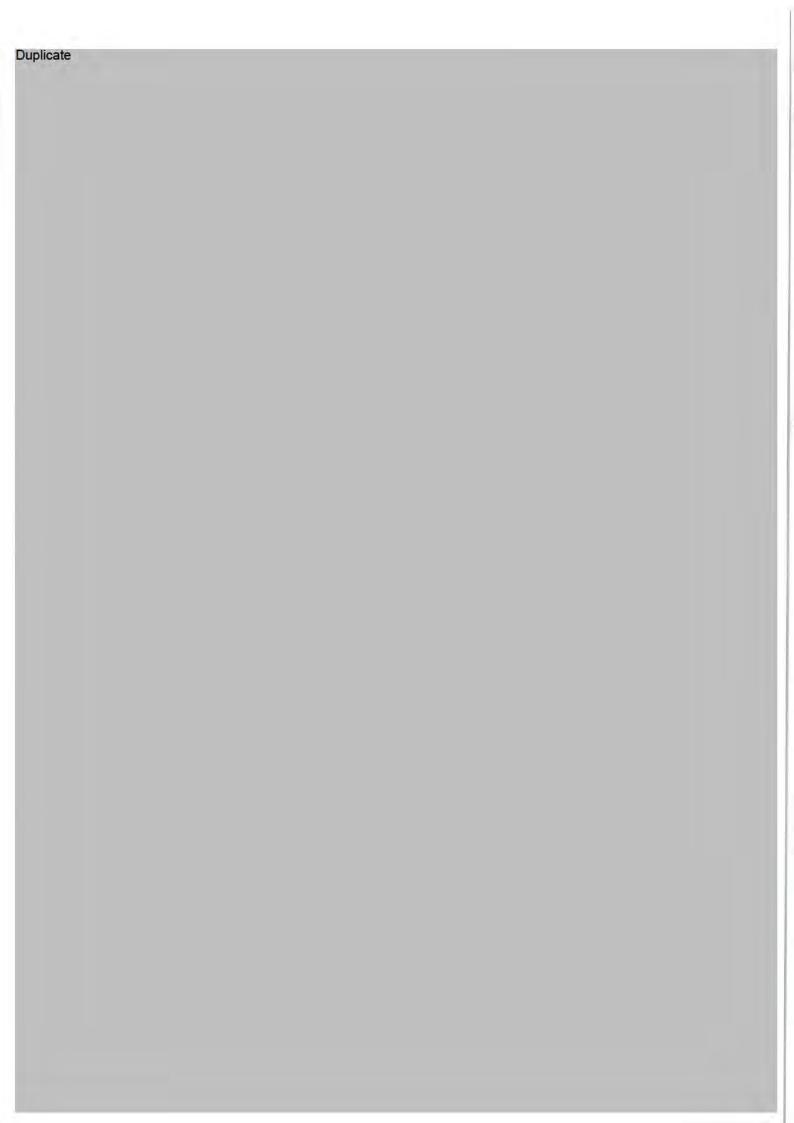


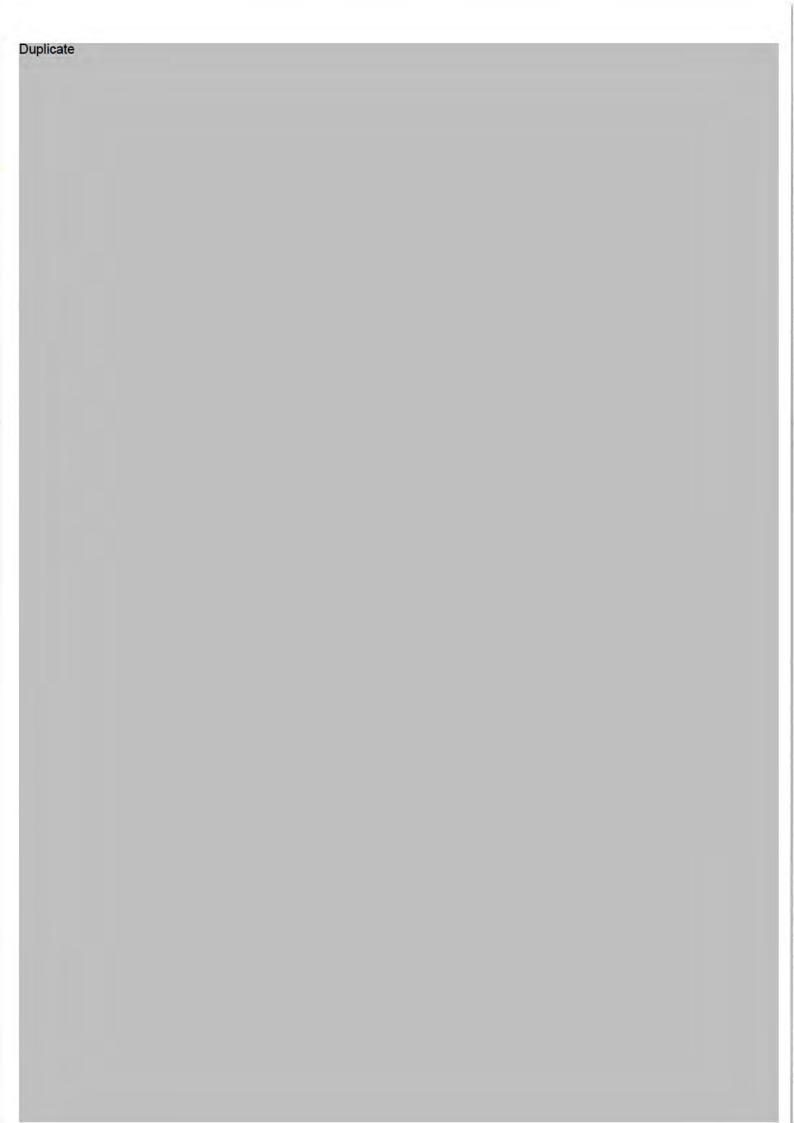
Duplicate











From:

Shane Arndell <Shane.Arndell@parliament.govt.nz>

Sent:

Thursday, 23 February 2023 9:21 am

To:

David Williams [DPMC]

Subject:

RE: MEET MY REPLACEMENT AND DISCUSS TO ISSUES ON THE BOIL

By all means, mate. Locked in.

Ngā mihi

# Shane



Captain Shane Arndell

Military Secretary DDI:s9(2)(a)

E:shane.arndell@parliament.govt.nz IM:s9(2)(a)

Office of Hon Andrew Little MP

Minister of Defence

Minister for the Public Service

Minister for Treaty of Waitangi Negotiations

Minister Responsible for the New Zealand Security Intelligence Service

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Lead Coordination Minister for the Government's Response to the Royal Commission's Report into the Terrorist Attack on I

Christchurch Mosques

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From: David Williams [DPMC] [mailto:David.Williams@dpmc.govt.nz]

Sent: Thursday, 23 February 2023 9:15 AM

To: Shane Arndell <Shane.Arndell@parliament.govt.nz>

Cc: Jason Cox < Jason.Cox@parliament.govt.nz>

Subject: RE: MEET MY REPLACEMENT AND DISCUSS TO ISSUES ON THE BOIL

[UNCLASSIFIED]

Hi Shane, how about 3pm up here in the Cabinet Office.

Out of Scope Out or Scope

and I'm keen to discuss Mt Ruapehu, and Out of Scope

# Hei konā mai, David



David Williams Senior Advisor (Honours)

Cabinet Office, Executive Wing, Parliament Buildings, Wellington 6011, New Zealand

DDI: s9(2)(a)

Email: david.williams@dpmc.govt.nz

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From: Shane Arndell < Shane. Arndell@parliament.govt.nz>

Sent: Thursday, 23 February 2023 9:09 am

To: David Williams [DPMC] < David.Williams@dpmc.govt.nz>

Cc: Jason Cox < Jason.Cox@parliament.govt.nz>

Subject: MEET MY REPLACEMENT AND DISCUSS TO ISSUES ON THE BOIL

Hi David,

Do you still want to meet to discuss the Mt Ruapehu Medallic recognitions review? Out of Scope Out of Scope

Is there a chance we could meet this afternoon or tomorrow, late morning or afternoon?

Ngā mihi

s9(2)(a)



s9(2)(a)

Military Secretary

DDI: s9(2)(a)

IM: s9(2)(a)

E:shane.arndell@parliament.govt.nz

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From:

Nicola Purvis [DPMC]

Sent:

Tuesday, 18 April 2023 8:17 am

To:

Rachel Hayward [DPMC]

Cc:

David Williams [DPMC]; Griffen Ritchie [DPMC]

Subject:

RE: TVNZ query

Yes, David has talked to me about this, will dig out the latest.

From: Rachel Hayward [DPMC] < Rachel. Hayward@dpmc.govt.nz>

Sent: Monday, 17 April 2023 10:23 pm

To: Nicola Purvis [DPMC] < Nicola. Purvis@dpmc.govt.nz>

Cc: David Williams [DPMC] <David.Williams@dpmc.govt.nz>; Griffen Ritchie [DPMC]

<Griffen.Ritchie@dpmc.govt.nz>

Subject: FW: TVNZ query

### [IN-CONFIDENCE]

Hi there — has David talked to you about this? Could we have a chat this morning about how to respond to this inquiry — we've got a new PM and a new Minister of Defence — I'm not sure if NZDF have briefed their new Minister on this.

From: PMOmedia < PMOmedia@parliament.govt.nz>

Sent: Monday, 17 April 2023 9:26 pm

To: Rachel Hayward [DPMC] <Rachel.Hayward@dpmc.govt.nz>

Cc: Catherine Delore [DPMC] < Catherine.Delore@dpmc.govt.nz >; PMOmedia < PMOmedia@parliament.govt.nz >

Subject: FW: TVNZ query

You don't often get email from pmomedia@parliament.govt.nz, Learn why this is important

Hello Rachel

I recall something on this coming up last year.

Any advice on how to respond would be appreciated.

I'll go back to reporter and let them know we will come back to her tomorrow.

Andrew

Andrew Campbell | Chief Press Secretary

Office of the Prime Minister of New Zealand

Mobile s9(2)(a) | Landline s9(2)(a)

| Email Andrew.Campbell@parliament.govt.nz

From: Laura Frykberg [mailto:Laura.Frykberg@tvnz.co.nz]

Sent: Monday, 17 April 2023 5:24 PM

To: PMOmedia < PMOmedia@parliament.govt.nz>

Subject: TVNZ query

Kia ora,

I'm wondering if there's an update on whether the late Private David Stewart's medal will be upgraded to an NZ Cross?

It was a request made last year by retired army colonel Bernard Isherwood.

Stewart was the soldier who died saving fellow soldiers in the Ruapehu tragedy 32 years ago.

I think it was being considered before there was a cabinet reshuffle after Jacinda Ardern stood down.

Hope to hear back soon.

Thanks very much,

Laura

Laura Frykberg Wellington Reporter

d. +64 4 914 5088 m. +64 021 216 6341



From:

Nicola Purvis [DPMC]

Sent:

Tuesday, 18 April 2023 10:26 am

To:

David Williams [DPMC]

Subject:

FW: TVNZ query

Hi David

Could you please progress this when you're back? See that Rachel has said \$9(2)(f)(iv)

s9(2)(f)(iv)

Thanks

Nicola

From: Rachel Hayward [DPMC] <Rachel.Hayward@dpmc.govt.nz>

Sent: Tuesday, 18 April 2023 9:20 am

To: Andrew Campbell <andrew.campbell@parliament.govt.nz>

Cc: Catherine Delore [DPMC] <Catherine.Delore@dpmc.govt.nz>; Nicola Purvis [DPMC]

<Nicola.Purvis@dpmc.govt.nz>

Subject: RE: TVNZ query

[IN-CONFIDENCE]

Hi Andrew

No update – advice hasn't gone to the PM yet. We will check in with NZDF given the Minister of Defence has also changed, but I don't imagine they will need to go back to the new Minister to check it with him, s9(2)(f)(iv) s9(2)(f)(iv)

Happy to discuss

Cheers

Rachel

From: PMOmedia < PMOmedia@parliament.govt.nz >

Sent: Monday, 17 April 2023 9:26 pm

To: Rachel Hayward [DPMC] < Rachel. Hayward@dpmc.govt.nz>

Cc: Catherine Delore [DPMC] < Catherine. Delore @dpmc.govt.nz >; PMOmedia < PMOmedia @parliament.govt.nz >

Subject: FW: TVNZ query

You don't often get email from pmomedia@parliament.govt.nz. Learn why this is important

Hello Rachel

I recall something on this coming up last year.

Any advice on how to respond would be appreciated.

I'll go back to reporter and let them know we will come back to her tomorrow.

Andrew

Andrew Campbell | Chief Press Secretary

# Office of the Prime Minister of New Zealand

Mobile \$9(2)(a)

Landlines9(2)(a)

| Email Andrew.Campbell@parliament.govt.nz

From: Laura Frykberg [mailto:Laura.Frykberg@tvnz.co.nz]

Sent: Monday, 17 April 2023 5:24 PM

To: PMOmedia < PMOmedia@parliament.govt.nz>

Subject: TVNZ guery

Kia ora,

I'm wondering if there's an update on whether the late Private David Stewart's medal will be upgraded to an NZ Cross?

It was a request made last year by retired army colonel Bernard Isherwood.

Stewart was the soldier who died saving fellow soldiers in the Ruapehu tragedy 32 years ago.

I think it was being considered before there was a cabinet reshuffle after Jacinda Ardern stood down.

Hope to hear back soon.

Thanks very much,

Laura

Laura Frykberg Wellington Reporter

d. +64 4 914 5088 m. +64 021 216 6341



From:

Jason Cox <Jason,Cox@parliament.govt.nz>

Sent:

Thursday, 27 April 2023 9:16 am

To:

David Williams [DPMC]

Subject:

RE: Ruapehu Bravery Awards

Perfect.

I'll also bring the Military Private security from Veteran affairs.

Ngā mihi



Jason Cox (WGCDR, RNZAF) Private Secretary, NZDF

DDI: s9(2)(a) | M: s9(2)(a)

| E: jason.cox@parliament.govt.nz

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From: David Williams [DPMC] < David. Williams@dpmc.govt.nz>

Sent: Thursday, 27 April 2023 9:07 AM

To: Jason Cox < Jason.Cox@parliament.govt.nz>

Subject: RE: Ruapehu Bravery Awards

10th floor

From: Jason Cox < Jason.Cox@parliament.govt.nz>

Sent: Thursday, 27 April 2023 8:32 am

To: David Williams [DPMC] < David. Williams@dpmc.govt.nz>

Subject: RE: Ruapehu Bravery Awards

That works. Refresh my memory... 8 floor?

Ngā mihi



Jason Cox (WGCDR, RNZAF) Private Secretary, NZDF

DDI:s9(2)(a) | M:s9(2)(a)

| E: jason.cox@parliament.govt.nz

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From: David Williams [DPMC] < David.Williams@dpmc.govt.nz>

Sent: Wednesday, 26 April 2023 4:54 PM

To: Jason Cox < Jason.Cox@parliament.govt.nz>

Subject: RE: Ruapehu Bravery Awards

[IN-CONFIDENCE]

Hi Jason, how about popping up at 9.30 tomorrow?

Cheers David

From: Jason Cox < Jason.Cox@parliament.govt.nz>

Sent: Wednesday, 26 April 2023 4:51 pm

To: David Williams [DPMC] < David.Williams@dpmc.govt.nz>

Subject: RE: Ruapehu Bravery Awards

Afternoon David,

I'm back in the office and can make time Thursday or Friday to come up and see you?

Ngā mihi



Jason Cox (WGCDR, RNZAF)
Private Secretary, NZDF

DDI: s9(2)(a) | M: s9(2)(a)

| E: jason.cox@parliament.govt.nz

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Minister for the Public Service
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From: David Williams [DPMC] < David. Williams@dpmc.govt.nz>

Minister of Defence

Sent: Monday, 24 April 2023 1:16 PM

To: Jason Cox < Jason.Cox@parliament.govt.nz>

Subject: Ruapehu Bravery Awards

[IN-CONFIDENCE]

Kia ora Jason

We have missed catching up with each other about the issue of the Ruapehu Bravery Awards. I want to get on with preparing a briefing for the PM on this, and would like to have a chat with you about this matter. Are you able to give me a call later this afternoon or meet on Wednesday?

Hei konā mai,

Nāku, nā David



David Williams
Senior Advisor (Honours)
Cabinet Office, Executive Wing,
Parliament Buildings, Wellington 6011, New Zealand

DDI: s9(2)(a)

Email: david.williams@dpmc.govt.nz

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From: David Williams [DPMC]

Sent: Thursday, 27 April 2023 10:12 am

To: Jason Cox

Subject: FW: 130 - [HIC] Bravery Honours Awarded to NZDF Personnel As A Consequence of

the 1990 Tragedy on Mt Ruapehu [SEEMAIL] [RESTRICTED]

Attachments: 130 - Bravery Honours Awarded to NZDF Personnel As A Consequence of the 1990

Tragedy on Mt Ruapehu.pdf

[SEEMAIL][RESTRICTED]

fyi

From: McLeod, Johns9(2)(k)

Sent: Friday, 23 April 2021 2:55 pm

To: Rachel Hayward [DPMC] < Rachel. Hayward@dpmc.govt.nz >; Catherine Delore [DPMC]

<Catherine.Delore@dpmc.govt.nz>

Subject: FW: 130 - [HIC] Bravery Honours Awarded to NZDF Personnel As A Consequence of the 1990 Tragedy on Mt

Ruapehu [SEEMAIL] [RESTRICTED]

\*\*\* [SEEMAIL] This message may contain classified information \*\*\*

This is the final copy of CDF's note to the two Ministers

Ngã mihi

John

John McLeod, ONZM
Director
Heritage, Commemorations, and Protocol Group
HQ NZ Defence Force
Mobile: \$9(2)(a)

www.nzdf.mil.nz



A FORCE FOR New Zealani

From: Curac, Nicola

Sent: Friday, 23 April 2021 2:34 p.m.

To: alice.courtenay s9(2)(a) s9(2)(a) s9(2)(a)	s9(2)(a)	
s9(∠)(a)		
Cc: Short, Kevin AM s9(2)(k) Davies, Tony AVM s9(2)(k) MAJ s9(2)(k)	; Smith, Colleen CDR <b>s9</b> (2)(k) James, Jo (Ms) <b>s9</b> (2)(k) Proctor, David RADM <b>s9</b> (2)(k)	) Wright, Wendy ; Robertson,
Susies9(2)(k) s9(2)(k) s9(2)(k)	Pereyaslavets, Alex LT Sherley, Kathryn LTCDR Boswell, John MAJGEN \$9(2)(k)	Suluvave,
Tinas9(2)(k) s9(2)(k) s9(2)(k)	Vink, David MAJ s9(2)(k) Forrest, Claire s9(2)(k)	Clark, Andrew AVM Chipman, Karina SQNLDR
Melinda s9(2)(k) Mark WO1 s9(2)(k)	Gilmour, James RADM s9(2)(k)  Hunt, Andy LTCDR s9(2)(k)  ellick, Monique CPO s9(2)(k)	Bulman, Mortiboy,
Woods, Andy AIRCDRE \$9(2)(k) Taylor, Kevin \$9(2)(k)	Ford, Melissa \$9(2)(k) Nicholas, Michael MAJ \$9(2)(k)	()
Beck, Darren LTCOL \$9(2)(k)	Young, Dominic \$9(2)(k)	Vale,
Tony s9(2)(k) ,s9(2)(k) s9(2)(k)	Berry, Greens9(2)(k)  McLeod, John s9(2)(k)  Mitc	hell. Al LTCOL Anderson, Donald

**Subject:** 130 - [HIC] Bravery Honours Awarded to NZDF Personnel As A Consequence of the 1990 Tragedy on Mt Ruapehu [SEEMAIL] [RESTRICTED]

### Nicola Curac

Executive Manager to Air Marshal Kevin Short, Chief of Defence Force

NEW ZEALAND DEFENCE FORCE

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A FORCE FOR NEW ZEALAND

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# NEW ZEALAND DEFENCE FORCE

# SUBMISSION TO MINISTER OF DEFENCE AND MINISTER FOR VETERANS COVER SHEET

Title	BRAVERY HONOURS AWARDED TO NEW ZEALAND DEFENCE FORCE PERSONNEL AS A CONSEQUENCE OF THE 1990 TRAGEDY ON MT RUAPEHU						
Tracking No	NZDF Tracking # 2021-130				Minister's Tracking #		
Importance of the Issue	High	V	Moderate		Routine		
Urgency for Attention/Sign-off	URGENT			Request ministerial response by: Not required.			
Contacts	John McLeod		Tel: s9(2)(a)				
Purpose	On 20 April 2021, Sir Wira Gardiner emailed you both about likely Anzac Day publicity in the media and on Māori TV regarding the level of the bravery awards made to three soldiers as a consequence of the 1990 tragedy on Mt Ruapehu. Five soldiers and one sailor died on the mountain. A number of veterans are lobbying to have the level of the awards upgraded. This note provides you with a background to the events and an update on the current situation.						
Recommendations	<ul> <li>It is recommended that you:</li> <li>a. Note that that the level of the bravery awards made to Army personnel as a result of the 1990 Ruapehu tragedy remains an issue of concern for a group of Army veterans and that they will make a public case for a review over Anzac Day weekend.</li> <li>b. Note the media lines and the next steps will be based on advice from the Cabinet Office.</li> </ul>						
MoD/NZDF Consultation	Not required.						
Minister's Comments							
Minister's Action	Signed/Noted/Agreed/Approved/Declined/Discussion required						
	Referred to:						
				Date:			

KR SHORT Air Marshal

Chief of Defence Force

23 April 2021



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New Zealand Defence Force
Defence House
Private Bag 39997
Wellington Mail Centre
Lower Hutt 5045
NEW ZEALAND

NTM 2021-130

23 April 2021

Minister of Defence Minister for Veterans

# BRAVERY HONOURS AWARDED TO NEW ZEALAND DEFENCE FORCE PERSONNEL AS A CONSEQUENCE OF THE 1990 TRAGEDY ON MT RUAPEHU

### **Purpose**

- 1. On 20 April 2021, Sir Wira Gardiner emailed you both about likely Anzac Day publicity in the media and on Māori TV regarding the level of the bravery awards made to three soldiers as a consequence of the 1990 tragedy on Mt Ruapehu. Five soldiers and one sailor died on the mountain. A number of veterans are lobbying to have the level of the awards upgraded.
- 2. This note provides you with a background to the events and an update on the current situation.

### **Background**

- 3. On 9 to 12 August 1990, a group of 13 New Zealand Defence Force (NZDF) personnel (two instructors, 10 soldiers and one naval rating) were involved in an Army Adventurous Training Centre mountaineering course on Mt Ruapehu. The weather deteriorated significantly while the group was on the mountain. They were unable to reach shelter and were left exposed to the extreme weather conditions. An instructor and a soldier volunteer left the group to seek help and made a perilous descent at night in appalling conditions. Six of those remaining on the mountain died before assistance was able to reach them. It remains the heaviest one-day loss of life for the NZDF since the Second World War.
- 4. The Army Court of Inquiry identified significant issues with the operation of the Army Adventurous Training Centre. The then Chief of General Staff, Major General Bruce Meldrum (now deceased), accepted full responsibility for the tragedy on behalf of the Army.
- 5. The Court of Inquiry noted the "outstanding courage and bravery" of three members of the group Private David Stewart (deceased), Private Sonny Te Rure (now known as Tavake), and Private Brendon Burchell. Colonel Phillip Maguire, the Commander of the Army Training Group Waiouru, raised recommendations for Private Stewart to be awarded a posthumous George Cross and for Privates Te Rure and Burchell to be awarded Queen's Gallantry Medals.
- 6. It is understood (my staff are still looking for the original citations) that Major General Meldrum downgraded the recommendation for Private Stewart to a Queen's Gallantry Medal. All three recommendations for Queen's Gallantry Medals were forwarded to the Honours Secretariat in the Cabinet Office. They were then put on hold while the review of the New Zealand Honours System was undertaken and then implemented. As a result, it was 1999 and under a new system before awards were made.

- 7. One of my predecessors, Air Marshal Carey Adamson (now deceased), had the opportunity to review the proposed award level under the new system and, based on staff advice, accepted the awards were at an appropriate level. There was a desire to ensure that all three were recognised and received the same level of award. The awards were then approved by the Prime Minister and all received the New Zealand Bravery Medal (see Enclosure 1).
- 8. The New Zealand Bravery Medal is a Level 4 award roughly equivalent to the Queen's Commendation for Bravery under the Imperial system. The Queen's Medal for Gallantry was a Level 3 award and is equivalent to the New Zealand Bravery Decoration. The Level 2 award is the New Zealand Bravery Star and the New Zealand Cross is the equivalent to the George Cross.

### **Current Situation**

- 9. The 30<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the tragedy and a sense of unfinished business is the catalyst for challenging decisions made 30 years ago. It is still a very emotional and raw issue for those involved. The two veterans fronting the campaign are Bernie Isherwood (who has a complete copy of the Court of Inquiry) and Bob Davies, a former Sergeant-Major of the Army.
- 10. At Mr Davies' request, I met with him on 20 April. Dave Samuels, Te Tumu Whakarae mō Te Puni Kōkiri, was in attendance, while Sir Wira Gardiner was unable to attend. I took no position regarding their case and indicated that it was not a matter that I wished to engage on. I did offer to make available any material we might find that could be put in the public domain.
- 11. I also made Mr Davies aware that there was a very thorough process in consideration of the award level and all information was available to the decision-makers. There would be a need, as a starting point, to provide some additional information supporting their case rather than simply arguing that it was the wrong decision.
- 12. I also suggested to Mr Davies that he and his group might like to consider other recognition options should their case not be successful. The existing recognition already acknowledges the bravery of the three individuals and that there might be other ways of creating a legacy to their bravery.
- 13. I pointed out that under the New Zealand Honours system, the appropriate time for actions to be considered for bravery awards is close to the event, and generally not more than five years afterwards. The underpinning principle is that decisions should be made while all the relevant information is readily available, recall of the events is clear, and the actions concerned can be considered against the standards and values of the time and other contemporary examples.

### **Next Steps**

14. As Sir Wira notes, the veterans' group is seeking to leverage off Anzac Day to gain some momentum for their case. The main focus is likely to be on Private Stewart given he was recommended for the George Cross. The group is likely to criticise the NZDF, particularly focusing on Major General Meldrum's decision to downgrade the recommendation. While there is some speculation as to why he made this decision, the original documentation including advice he received has not yet been found. My staff have approached Colonel (Rtd) Raymond Seymour, who was Major General Meldrum's Military Secretary at the time and

would have advised him on the recommendations, to ascertain whether he can provide any more information.

15. My staff are working with the Cabinet Office to work up a media response and ensure that the Prime Minister is briefed. I will ensure your offices are aware of any agreed media lines. We will also take advice from the Cabinet Office on any follow-up action as a result of the forth-coming publicity.

### Recommendations

- 16. It is recommended that you:
  - a. Note that that the level of the bravery awards made to Army personnel as a result of the 1990 Ruapehu tragedy remains an issue of concern for a group of Army veterans and that they will make a public case for a review over Anzac Day weekend.
  - b. **Note** the media lines and the next steps will be based on advice from the Cabinet Office.

**KR SHORT** 

Air Marshal

Chief of Defence Force

### **Enclosure**

1. Special Honours List 1999 (Bravery Awards)



Cabinet Office » Honours Unit » Honours Lists

## Special Honours List 1999 (Bravery Awards)

Issued 23 October 1999

#### NEW ZEALAND BRAVERY AWARDS

The Queen has been graciously pleased to approve the following New Zealand Bravery Awards:

### THE NEW ZEALAND CROSS (N.Z.C.)

Jacinda Margaret AMEY Citation

On 24 April 1992 Ms Amey was one of five members of a Meteorological Service team, stationed on the remote sub-Antarctic Campbell Island, who were snorkelling when one of them, Mr Mike Fraser, was attacked by a shark, believed to be a white pointer. The other swimmers, apart from Ms Amey, swam to shore. Ms Amey waited until the shark moved away from Mr Fraser and then went to his aid and towed him to shore. Mr Fraser had lost his right forearm and his left forearm was severely lacerated and appeared to be broken. He was having trouble breathing and required urgent medical treatment. Having got him to shore, Ms Amey then joined the rest of the team in doing what they could for Mr Fraser until he could be flown to New Zealand. Ms Amey displayed great courage and bravery with complete disregard for her own safety in going to Mr Fraser's assistance.

## Reginald John DIXON (Deceased) Citation

On 9 June 1995, Mr Dixon, aged 47, and his wife were passengers on Ansett Flight 703 when the aircraft crashed in the Tararua Ranges near Palmerston North. Mr Dixon escaped from the wreckage with fractures. However, despite his injuries, he returned to the aircraft to help other passengers trapped in the wreckage. As a result of this selfless action, he was critically burned when a flash fire broke out on the left wing of the aircraft near a hole in the fuselage from which he was helping passengers escape. He was hospitalised and underwent surgery and skin grafts. Mr

Dixon remained in a coma, and although he made some initial improvement, his condition worsened and he died two weeks later, the fourth victim of the crash.



The situation in which Mr Dixon found himself was extremely dangerous and he displayed great bravery in returning to the aircraft, although injured, to help other passengers which subsequently resulted in the loss of his own life. His bravery undoubtedly ensured that the loss of life was not greater.

### THE NEW ZEALAND BRAVERY STAR (N.Z.B.S.)

Robert Edwin (Rob) HALL, M.B.E. (Deceased) Citation

On Friday 10 May 1996, Mr Hall was descending from the summit of Mt Everest, in the Himalayas, following his 11-strong expedition's attempt on the peak, when a blizzard developed. From the Hillary Step, just below the summit, Mr Hall called on the radio for oxygen and assistance for an American climber in the party who had collapsed. Other parties on the descent were unable to reascend due to the storm, yet Mr Hall refused entreaties to descend without the stricken climber. Fellow New Zealand mountaineer, Mr Andrew Harris, did attempt to reach them, but the American climber died during the night. Mr Hall made his way down to the South Summit where early on 11 May he contacted Base Camp by radio. Exhausted and frostbitten, he was unable to descend further. When informed of a failed rescue attempt later that day he responded with dignity and courage. His last communication by radio and satellite link was to give encouragement to his expectant wife in New Zealand. Out of oxygen, he succumbed to the cold some time during the Saturday night. Mr Hall understood that by remaining behind with the American climber he reduced greatly his own chances of survival. His selflessness in deciding to remain with him was an outstanding act of bravery.

Andrew Michael HARRIS (Deceased)
Citation

On 10 May 1996 Mr Harris, a guide in an expedition on Mount Everest, in the Himalayas, attempted to go to the aid of Mr Robert Edwin Hall and an American climber who were stranded on the Hillary Step below the summit, and shortly afterwards perished in a blizzard. Mr Harris, hearing by radio Rob Hall's calls for help, turned from the safety of descending the mountain to go back up towards the summit ridge of Everest to assist Mr Hall and the other climber. Despite his own exhaustion, and knowing that his only chance of survival lay in descending, Mr Harris chose to go back up the mountain to try to help Mr Hall. Mr Harris was not heard of again although Mr Hall reported in a radio message that "Andy was with me last night..." and Mr Harris' ice axe and jacket were later found on the South Summit next to Mr Hall's body. To go to the aid of a fellow guide in the face of the most appalling conditions was an outstanding act of bravery.

Walter Bruce BUTLER Citation

n the morning of 7 December 1998, Mr Butler, aged 76, heard screams for help from a neighbour, a sixteen year old girl, who was being attacked by a young male wielding a large knife. The youth appeared intent on sexually violating the girl and had stabbed her several times in the upper back. Mr Butler rushed to the girl's aid and in doing so was himself savagely attacked by the youth who left the scene when passengers from a passing car stopped to assist. Mr Butler received wounds to his face and body which required over 400 stitches. Mr Butler's actions may well have saved the girl's life and he was fortunate not to have lost his own. He displayed outstanding bravery.

## THE NEW ZEALAND BRAVERY DECORATION (N.Z.B.D.)

Arerence Albert HOOD Citation

> On the evening of 4 July 1989 Mr Hood, a security guard, accompanied an electrician as he carried out routine tests on newly installed 11,000 volt oil circuit breakers in the MED substation located in an area under construction at the Defence Department Building, Stout Street, Wellington. The electrician noticed there was a serious problem as one of the circuits breakers had been installed with no oil in the contact chamber. As he switched off the circuit breaker it exploded throwing out molton copper and flames. It also threw the electrician against a wall opposite the exit and blasted Mr Hood backwards out of the door. However, hearing the cries from the electrician, who was on fire he came back into the room past the burning equipment and dragged the electrician to safety and used his bare hands to extinguish the man's burning hair and clothes. Mr Hood's actions saved the life of the electrician.

Allan Donald CANTLEY Sergeant, New Zealand Police Citation

At Morrinsville on 29 July 1993, a mentally deranged man with a number of explosive devices strapped to his body, entered the Police Station. He held both the Police and three members of the public hostage and threatened to detonate bombs attached to his body. Sergeant Cantley entered the building and confronted the man and was able to facilitate most of the hostages' escapes, including his own. Sergeant Cantley then re-entered the building in an attempt to release the remaining hostage and overpower the man. Together with two other members of the Police he was able to achieve the release of the hostage but during this another Police Constable was wounded and the offender was fatally shot by Police. Throughout the incident Sergeant Cantley showed complete disregard for his own safety.

Christopher Michael CREAN (Deceased) Citation

On 13 March 1996 Mr Crean witnessed a confrontation between two gangs in the New Plymouth suburb of Marfell where he lived. A young man was severely beaten in front of a number of people. Mr Crean was the only witness to this brutal assault who was prepared to testify against the assailants. Despite enormous intimidation, including verbal death threats made by gang

members at the Court, Mr Crean did not waver and he insisted on giving evidence against the gar members involved. His performance of his civic duty encouraged other witnesses to come forward, as a result of which gang activity in the area was curtailed and successful prosecution of two of the three defendants ensued. However, on 6 October 1996, Mr Crean, then aged 27, answering a knock at the front door of his home, was gunned down in the presence of his wife and young children. Four members of a gang are now serving life sentences for his murder. Mr Crean's performance of his civic duty undoubtedly placed his life in danger, with subsequent tragic consequences.

Graeme James HUNT Citation

At Flaxmere on 21 April 1996 Mr Hunt was at his home when he heard a noise like a gun shot. Going outside, he saw a police car on the street in front of his house. He ran to the vehicle, accompanied by his two daughters, aged 12 and 10 years, where they discovered a shot police officer lying by the car. As Mr Hunt attempted to assist the officer, another bullet travelled in front of Mr Hunt, lodging in the driver's door of the car. Looking up, he saw a man in another car pointing a rifle at him through the vehicle's window, only some 5 to 6 metres in from of the police car. At this time Mr Hunt was with the constable between the two doors of the police car, the eldest daughter was standing in front of the car and the youngest behind her father. Mr Hunt moved quickly to the rear corner of the police car, before a further shot was fired, which also lodged in the driver's door. The other car then left the scene, after which Mr Hunt returned to the constable, whose wounds were unfortunately fatal. Mr Hunt placed his own life at risk to help the fatally wounded police officer.

Warren Gilbert SLOSS Constable, New Zealand Police Citation

On 12 October 1996, Constable Sloss responded to a call from a woman about the presence of her former boyfriend at her house. After accompanying her there from another address, he followed her inside. The boyfriend appeared from behind a door and attacked the woman with a large knife. Constable Sloss intervened and was himself attacked with the knife. The woman, who had suffered repeated blows from the knife in an attempt to kill her, was able to leave the house to get help, convinced that the Constable was about to be killed. Constable Sloss was then engaged in a fight for his life, being stabbed three times in the back, once in the abdomen, once in the right forearm, and a serious injury to his left hand. However, he succeeded in overpowering and handcuffing the man, before calling for assistance. The Constable's actions saved the life of the intended victim at the cost of his own severe injuries.

Hakihana Jackson POMARE (Deceased)
Citation

At Matauri Bay, on the evening of 21 June 1997, Hakihana Pomare, aged 11 years, rescued his younger brother from their burning temporary accommodation. He re-entered the burning structure, amid thick smoke and intense heat, to rescue another brother and his sister but all three tragically died in the fire. He displayed exceptional bravery.

### THE NEW ZEALAND BRAVERY MEDAL (N.Z.B.M.)

Brendon Drew BURCHELL (N5201'5)
Private, Royal New Zealand Infantry Regiment (Retired)
David Edward Whawhai STEWART (S5360'6)
Private, Royal New Zealand Infantry Regiment (Deceased)
Sonny Wayne TERURE (Y53819')
Private, Royal New Zealand Infantry Regiment (Retired)
Citation

Privates Burchell, Stewart and Terure were members of an Army Adventurous Training Course which became trapped near the summit of Mount Ruapehu by extremely adverse weather conditions on 11 August 1990. The next morning the party decided to move from the shelter of snow caves to the Dome Shelter, a distance of approximately 400 metres. They had covered approximately 250 metres when weather conditions forced them to stop and seek temporary shelter on an exposed feature. After some time in this location, two of the party succumbed to hypothermia and the others began to make the casualties comfortable. In the afternoon, two members of the party left to attempt to get assistance. As more of the party began to show signs of hypothermia, they were placed in their sleeping bags in what shelter there was.

Despite the continuing high winds and windblown snow, Privates Stewart and Terure maintained a continual vigil over their companions throughout most of the night, providing what assistance they could. When it became obvious that assistance was required, Private Burchell, although he had no previous mountaineering experience, volunteered to accompany one of the instructors to descend the mountain. The weather conditions were still extreme with windblown snow, limited visibility, darkness and a high wind chill factor.

The pair were continually blown off course by the winds and, as a result, had to traverse treacherous terrain including several steep bluffs with limited direction finding assistance. Some eleven hours later, they eventually managed to raise the alarm to enable a full search and rescue operation to be mounted. Private Burchell not only had to cope with the most extreme conditions but, because of his lack of experience, had no knowledge of how to adequately overcome them. His courage, determination and perseverance to continue in the face of extraordinary adversity not only brought great credit on himself, but certainly assisted in the rescue of five survivors from Mount Ruapehu the next day.

When a rescue party arrived at the scene about midday on 13 August, Private Stewart was found to have died during the night. Private Stewart would have been fully aware that his actions in continually moving out of shelter and the warmth of his sleeping bag to assist those of the party who were affected by hypothermia, meant that he had an increased chance of also becoming a casualty. He was also aware that he was becoming increasingly exhausted by the continual battling of the elements. Privates Stewart and Terure displayed selfless care of the casualties and their sense of responsibility to their companions testify to their bravery.

Keith Desmond TROON Ross William McEWAN Citation On 22 January 1991 Mr Troon and Mr McEwan, employees of the Alliance Freezing Company, were alerted by a Sub-foreman that two contractors were in real trouble in a stickwater tank at the Alliance Rendering Plant at Kaiapoi. Both men were very experienced at rescue work. The contractors, a father and son, were cleaning the tank when they were overcome by lack of oxygen and toxic fumes. Mr Troon and Mr McEwan entered the tank and did their very best to lift the men through the manhole opening in the hope that they might be resuscitated. Their efforts were unsuccessful and the men died. Both Mr Troon and Mr McEwan were admitted to hospital for observation following the incident.

Mrs Anne Michele FRANCIS (formerly Miss Holdsworth)

Citation

Mrs Francis, while an Ambulance Officer with the Wellington Free Ambulance, on the evening of 2 September 1991, attended an incident involving a man who had taken an overdose of drugs. The patient confronted her with a loaded firearm. During a period of some 30 minutes Mrs Holdsworth persuaded the patient to put the weapon down and talked to him until the Police arrived. Her calmness and patience in an extremely difficult situation almost certainly prevented injury to a colleague, Police Officers and herself.

Mrs Tracey Lee-Anne CHAPMAN Mrs Karen Ruth FOSTER Mrs Jan Yvonne McCREA Citation

In the early evening of 4 January 1992 a fire broke out in Otipua Block at Talbot Hospital, Timaru. Mrs Chapman, a hospital aide, Mrs Foster and Mrs McCrea, both staff nurses, calmly ensured that all patients were safely evacuated. Mrs Chapman and Mrs McCrea were on duty in Otipua Block when the fire broke out. With no regard for personal safety, Mrs Chapman and Mrs McCrea removed the three patients in the room where the fire started. Immediately after the patients were removed, the windows exploded. Black smoke in the room was down to eye-level at this time. Mrs Chapman continued to remove patients, while Mrs McCrea advised Mrs Foster, on duty in the other building, of the fire, and closed smoke stop doors. Eleven patients were evacuated by the three women before the fire brigade and police arrived. They then assisted with the evacuation of the remainder of the 35 patients by repeatedly entering the smoke-filled building until all were safely removed. All three women were in danger from smoke-inhalation. Mrs Chapman and Mrs McCrea, in the initial stages of the rescue, were in danger of being burnt by the flames, lacerated by shattering glass, and trapped by possible ceiling collapse. The actions of Mrs Chapman, Mrs Foster and Mrs McCrea, helped avert what could have been a major tragedy.

William John FUNNELL, M.B.E. Citation

On the evening of 24 April 1992 Mr Funnell, chief pilot of the Taupo-based New Zealand Rail rescue helicopter, a Squirrel, made a flight to uplift from the remote Campbell Island a man, Mr Mike Fraser, who had been attacked by a shark. Mr Funnell was accompanied by another pilot and a paramedic. The rescue operation successfully carried Mr Fraser to Invercargill Hospital, and he made a good recovery from his ordeal. The Squirrel touched down again at Taupo 25 hours after

e request to make the trip. The flight over some 1200 kilometres of ocean was believed to be unprecedented anywhere in the world in terms of single-engine helicopter operations and was undertaken at considerable risk to those on board. Mr Funnell displayed bravery in undertaking this flight without which the shark attack victim would not have survived.

Stephen Robert GIBB Citation

On the morning of 27 June 1992 Mr Gibb was the pilot of a helicopter taking six teenage Australian tourists on a scenic flight over the Fox Glacier. While flying up the Glacier, at about 2,500 feet, his helicopter faced an oncoming fixed wing aircraft. The wing of the aircraft embedded itself in the nose cone of the helicopter and made the anti-torque pedals, which control the helicopter, inoperable, tore the doors of the pilot's side and damaged the directional controls. As a result of the impact Mr Gibb's right foot was shattered. Mr Gibb, despite his injuries and the damage to the helicopter, managed an emergency landing without any loss of life or injuries to his passengers. The pilot of the aeroplane was killed when his aircraft crashed after the impact with the helicopter.

Mark MattiePOVEY (E180715)

Driver, Royal New Zealand Corps of Transport (Retired)

Citation

On 17 September 1993, while travelling home from work, in the company of his sister, Driver Povey came upon a motor accident involving a motor vehicle and a motor cycle. The motor cycle and driver were trapped under the vehicle and the motor cycle had exploded on impact. Both vehicles were engulfed in flames and there was an imminent danger of either or both exploding. Driver Povey quickly assessed the situation and sent his sister to a nearby house to alert the emergency services. With complete disregard for his personal safety, Driver Povey then attempted to save the driver of the car. The driver was trapped in the car with his leg on fire, but Driver Povey managed to free the trapped leg and drag him clear of the burning vehicles. Unfortunately, and unknown to Driver Povey, the driver of the vehicle was already dead. The rider of the motor cycle was not able to be recovered and remained under the wreckage where he was burnt beyond recognition. Although Driver Povey was not able to save either of the two accident victims, he acted decisively displaying selfless courage and with complete disregard for his personal safety.

Dean William PLEYDELL

Constable (now Senior Constable), New Zealand Police
Patrick Anthony RICE
Constable, New Zealand Police
Citation

On 23 September 1993, Constables Pleydell and Rice pursued a man in a motor vehicle who had just committed an armed robbery of a bank in Auckland City. The offender abandoned his getaway vehicle and threatened two members of the public with a loaded pistol. Fearing for the safety of these people the two unarmed constables approached the gunman and Constable Pleydell confronted him but, despite being knocked off balance by a moving Police vehicle, the gunman levelled his pistol at Constable Pleydell. Fearing that the offender would shoot, Constable Rice tackled the man and was able to knock him to the ground, which gave both constables the

opportunity of overpowering and subduing the offender. Constable Rice's actions almost certainly saved the life of Constable Pleydell and in doing so he assisted in the apprehension of one of the country's most wanted criminals.

Michael James CANNON (D992039)
Flight Sergeant Helicopter Crewman, Royal New Zealand Air Force
Lisa Kay FRANKEN (nee De Waal) (W91399)
Sergeant Helicopter Crewman, Royal New Zealand Air Force
Citation

On 10 July 1994 a crippled Taiwanese fishing vessel, the long liner Kin Sin II which had suffered an ammonia explosion, was located 25 nautical miles south of Viti Levu in the Fiji group. The explosion and resultant fire had destroyed the ship's only life-raft and not all the 23 crew members were equipped with life jackets. Two Iroquois helicopters from a Number 3 Squadron Detachment, RNZAF, based in Fiji were tasked with carrying out a rescue mission. Flight Sergeant Helicopter Crewman Cannon and Sergeant Helicopter Crewman Franken were winched onboard the Kin Sin II to take charge of the rescue. Their efforts were hampered by the rolling deck of a burning and sinking ship, no communications with the Iroquois and an inability to communicate with the seamen, only one of whom was discovered to speak English late in the rescue. The vessel sank soon after the successful rescue of all 23 seamen. Both rescuers had only graduated as Helicopter Crew Members one month prior to this incident and were on their first search and rescue mission. In unfamiliar and difficult conditions they displayed courage and professionalism.

Peter Robert BROUGHTON Senior Constable, New Zealand Police Floyd Steven PRATT Constable, New Zealand Police Citation

In the evening of 11 October 1994 Senior Constable Broughton and Constable Pratt were in a party of four police officers, one with a dog, which entered a house at Palmerston North at night under the provisions of Section 317 of the Crimes Act. They were in pursuit of a man who had just been seen lurking in the vicinity of houses, and who had assaulted one of the constables. Once inside, this man again assaulted the constable, while a woman confronted Constable Pratt with a baseball bat and used it to hit the dog on the head. Senior Constable Broughton ran up some stairs to disarm the woman, but another man then used the bat to hit him several times on the body and head. Constable Pratt went to his assistance, but by this time Senior Constable Broughton had received further blows, suffering serious injuries to his head and multiple bone fractures to his hands and was unable to defend himself. Constable Pratt could hear the sound of breaking bone and crushing flesh, and could see the amount of blood his colleague was losing. Senior Constable Broughton was then hit over the head again. However, Constable Pratt was able to drag him down the stairs, where they decided to try to disarm the man. Constable Pratt, using his short baton, led the way up the stairs where the baton was smashed and be suffered a dislocated finger and a graze to the head. Further blows were then struck with the bat, but the two constables were eventually able to overpower and arrest the man. Senior Constable Broughton later underwent surgery to his serious injuries, while Constable Pratt was treated at hospital and discharged.

# hn Joseph McNAMEE Citation

Mr McNamee, an employee of Alpine Guides Ltd, was guiding one of two groups on 11 July 1997 when he and four skiers in his party were buried in an avalanche five kilometres from Mt Cook, in the Southern Alps. Mr McNamee managed to free his pack, get his shovel out and then dig himself out in a very short period of time. With a quick scan of the area, he spotted visual signs of two of his skiers who were completely buried except that each had a hand visible. The priority was to free these skiers to the extent that they had clear airways and could breathe. Once this was accomplished, he located the other two skiers, one of whom had stopped breathing. Mr McNamee administered CPR by which time four other guides, who had been working nearby, had been summoned by Mr McNamee when the avalanches first started, had arrived and they were followed by other rescue personnel. All those buried by the avalanches were suffering to some extent from hypothermia and with the possibility of undetected injuries, it was decided to fly three of the skiers to Christchurch Hospital. All were released the next day. There is no doubt that if Mr McNamee had not managed to free himself and the others in such a short period, there would have been multiple fatalities.

Dated at Wellington this 23rd day of October 1999. MARIE SHROFF, Clerk of the Executive Council.

### NEW ZEALAND GALLANTRY AWARDS

The Queen has been graciously pleased to approve the following New Zealand Gallantry Award:

### THE NEW ZEALAND GALLANTRY DECORATION (N.Z.G.D.)

John Clinton Lionel OXENHAM (W22215) Chief Petty Officer Writer, Royal New Zealand Navy (Retired) Citation

On 1 December 1992 Chief Petty Officer Oxenham, who was serving in Cambodia with a United Nations peacekeeping mission, was a member of a patrol conducting operations along the Shroeng Sen River. During this patrol, Chief Petty Officer Oxenham, together with three British officers and two Philipino senior ratings, were taken prisoner by members of the National Army of Democratic Kampuchea, formerly the Khmer Rouge. The group was detained for four days while negotiations to release them took place. It was during this period that Chief Petty Officer Oxenham ensured that their capture did not have a tragic outcome. His positive and level-headed behaviour was instrumental in diffusing a very tense and potentially life-threatening situation. The controlled but relaxed approach adopted by Chief Petty Officer Oxenham helped to reassure his fellow captives, while this behaviour, which often bordered on careful affront, including two failed escape attempts, demonstrated to the captors that the group were totally unwilling to acquiesce to captivity. At a time when he and his colleagues were under extreme duress, he positively, bravely and effectively influenced the interaction between captors and captives, such that all prisoners were eventually released unharmed.

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Dated at Wellington this 23rd day of October 1999. MARIE SHROFF, Clerk of the Executive Council.

For background information on these Awards see New Zealand Gallantry and Bravery Awards

### David Williams [DPMC]

From:

Jason Cox < Jason.Cox@parliament.govt.nz>

Sent:

Friday, 28 April 2023 3:09 pm

To:

Karen Josephs; David Williams [DPMC]

Subject:

Brief for the Ministers Bag

Attachments:

NZDF - Brief - Consideration of Upgrade of Bravery Award Private David Stewart

NZBM.pdf

Afternoon Karen and David,

I've produced the attached brief for the Minister. In essence, it is all the documents you supplied David with our coversheet.

The Minister is aware of this topic, so this will just be all the information in one place if the PM engages with him.

Given its internal to our office, can I please ask that the cover sheet is not disseminated any further.

#### Ngã mihi



Jason Cox (WGCDR, RNZAF)

Private Secretary, NZDF

DDI: s9(2)(a)

ıм: s9(2)(a)

E: jason.cox@parliament.govt.nz

#### Office of Hon Andrew Little MP

Minister of Defence

Minister for the Public Service

Minister for Treaty of Waitangi Negotiations

Minister Responsible for the New Zealand Security Intelligence Service

Minister Responsible for the Government Communications Security Bureau

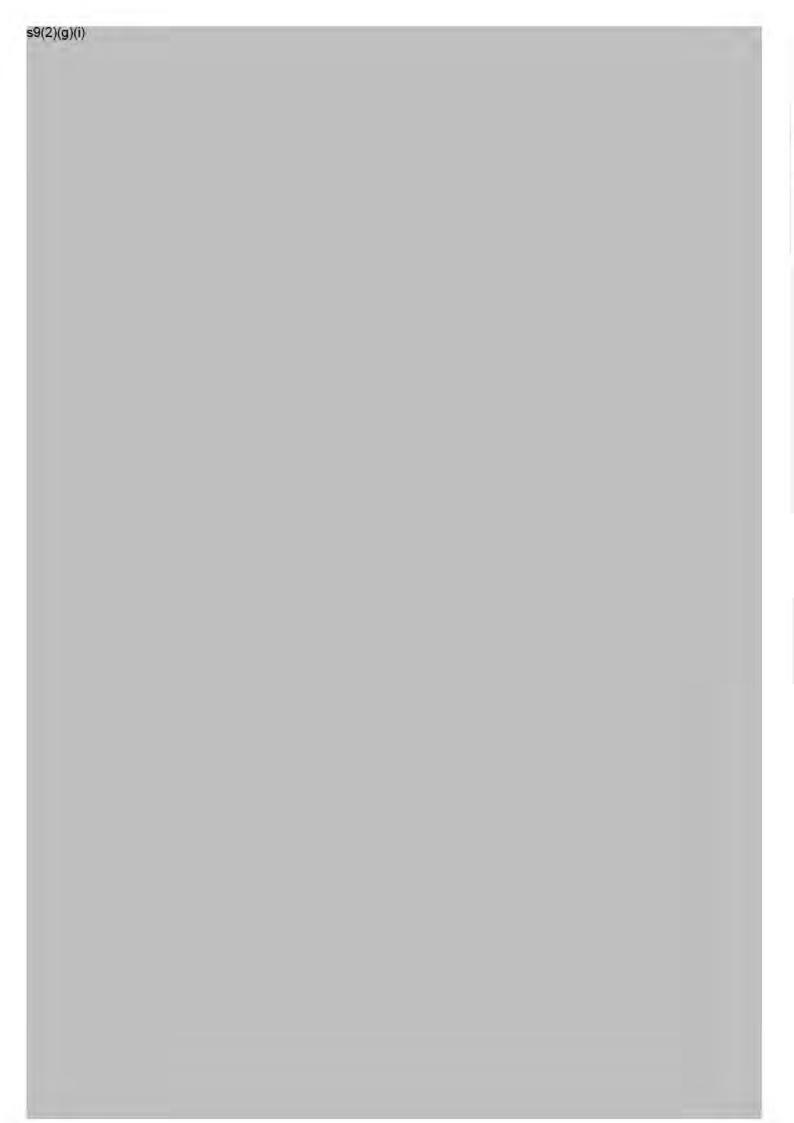
Lead Coordination Minister for the Government's Response to the Royal Commission's Report into the Terrorist Attack on t Christchurch Mosques

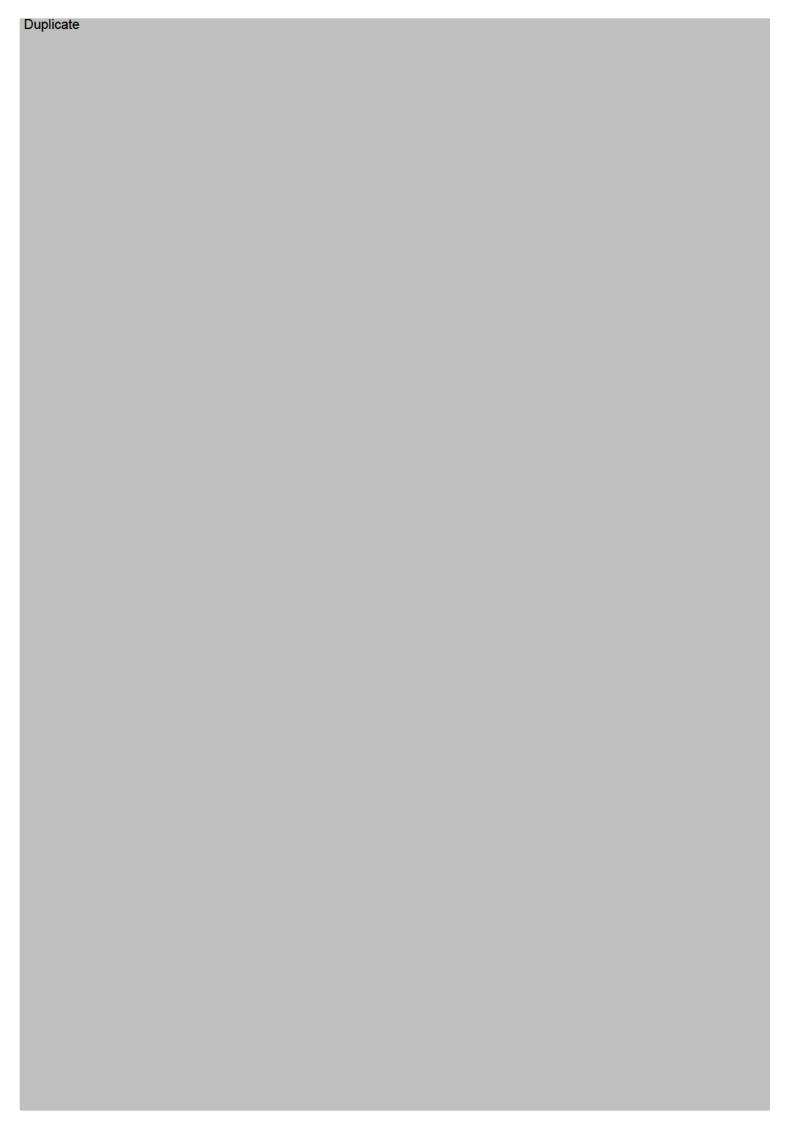
Reception: +64 4 817 8707 | E: a.little@ministers.govt.nz

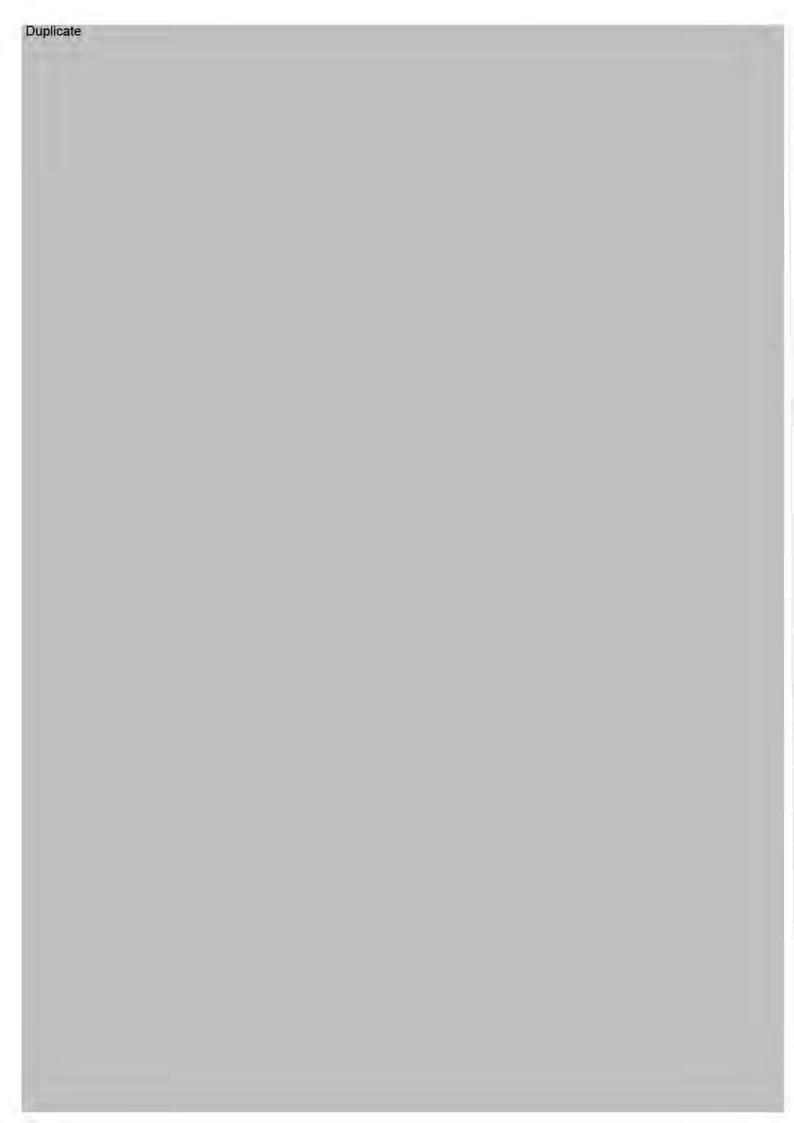
Private Bag 18041, Parliament Buildings, Wellington 6160, New Zealand

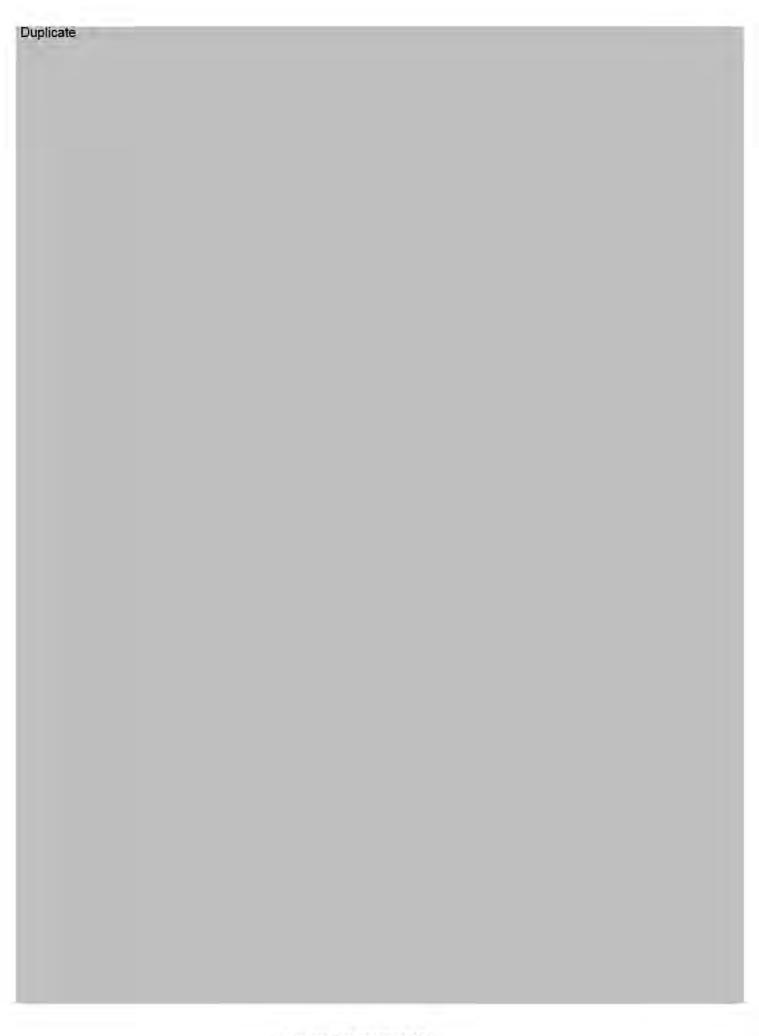
Authorised by Hon Andrew Little MP, Parliament Buildings, Wellington

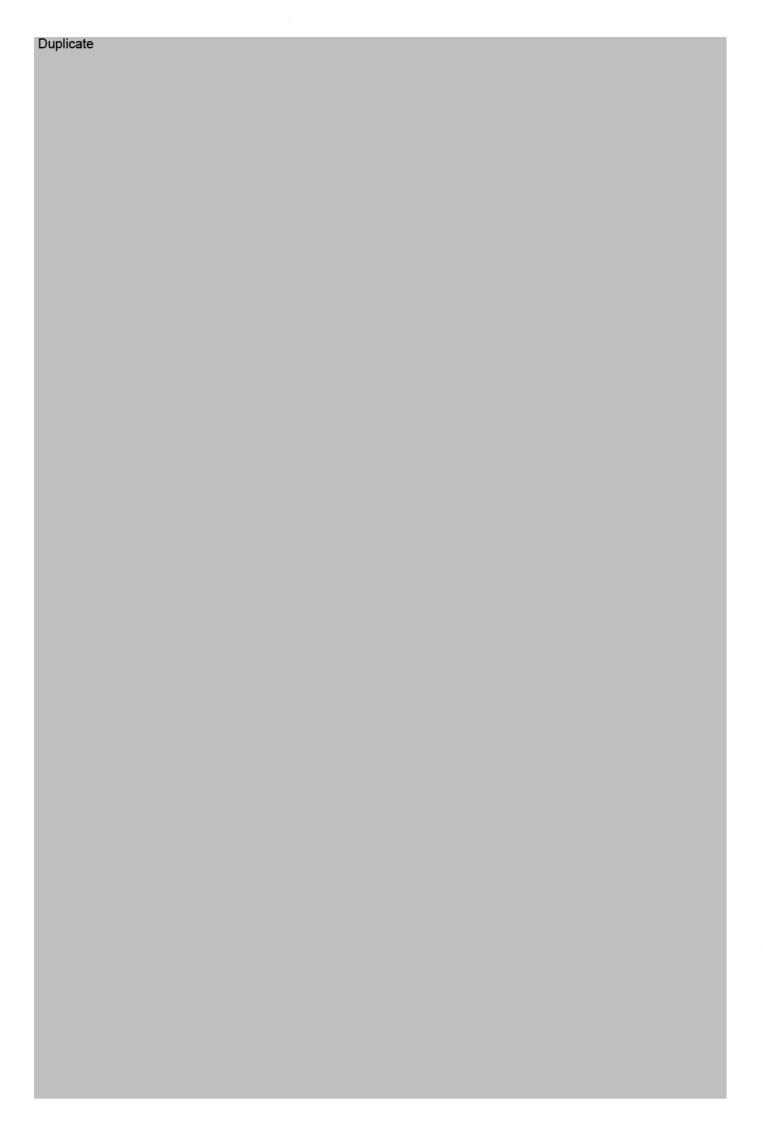
Please note information about meetings related to the Ministers' portfolios will be proactively released (this does not in personal or constituency matters). For each meeting in scope, the summary would list: date, time (start and finish), brie description, location, who the meeting was with, and the portfolio. If you attend a meeting with the Minister on behalf organisation, the name of the organisation will be released. If you are a senior staff member at an organisation, or meeting Minister in your personal capacity, your name may also be released. The location of the meeting will be released, ur is a private residence. The proactive release will be consistent with the provisions in the Official Information Act, including privacy considerations. Under the Privacy Act 2020 you have the right to ask for a copy of any personal information we about you, and to ask for it to be corrected if you think It is wrong. If you'd like to ask for a copy of your information, or it corrected, or are concerned about the release of your information in the meeting disclosure, please contact the sende can read more about the proactive release policy at <a href="https://www.dia.govt.nz/Proactive-Releases#MS">https://www.dia.govt.nz/Proactive-Releases#MS</a>



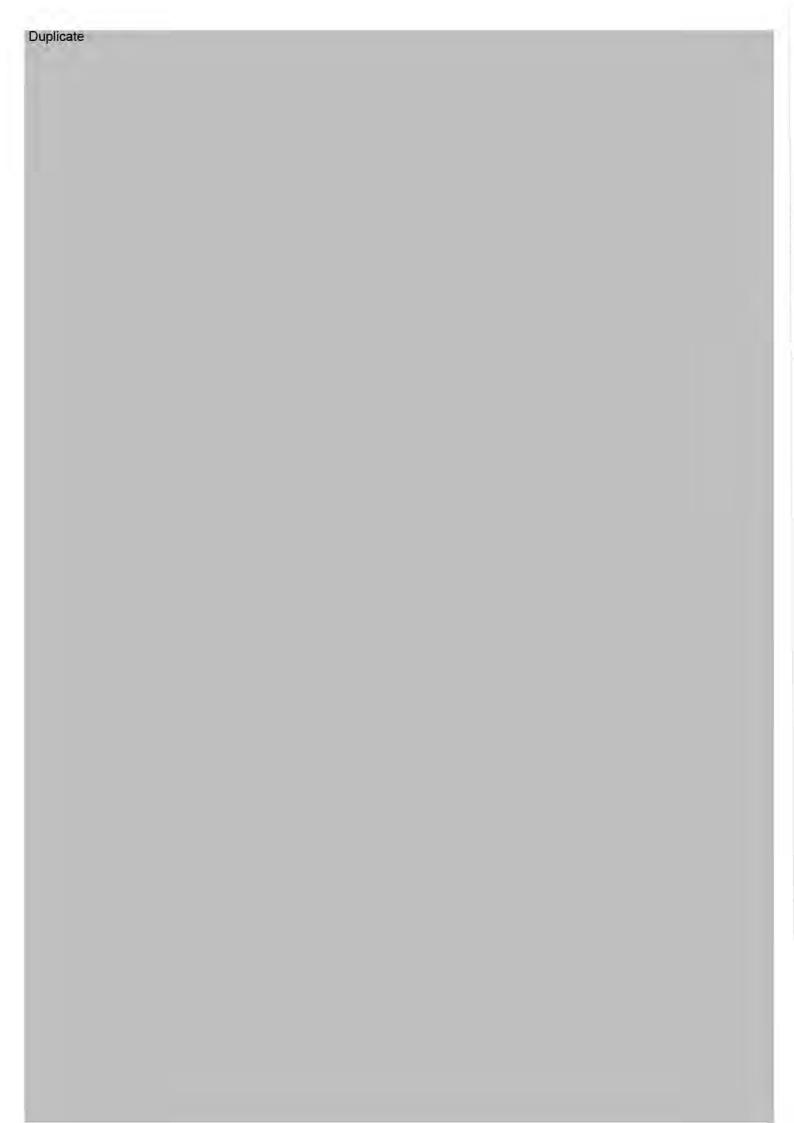


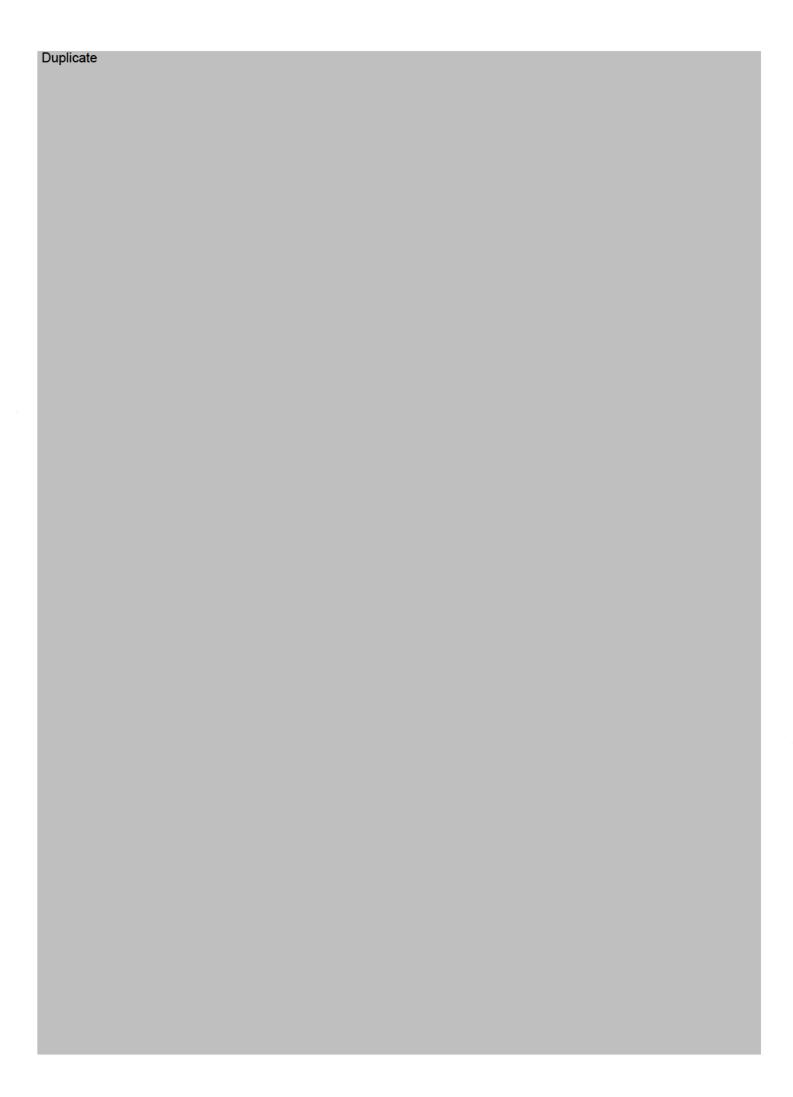


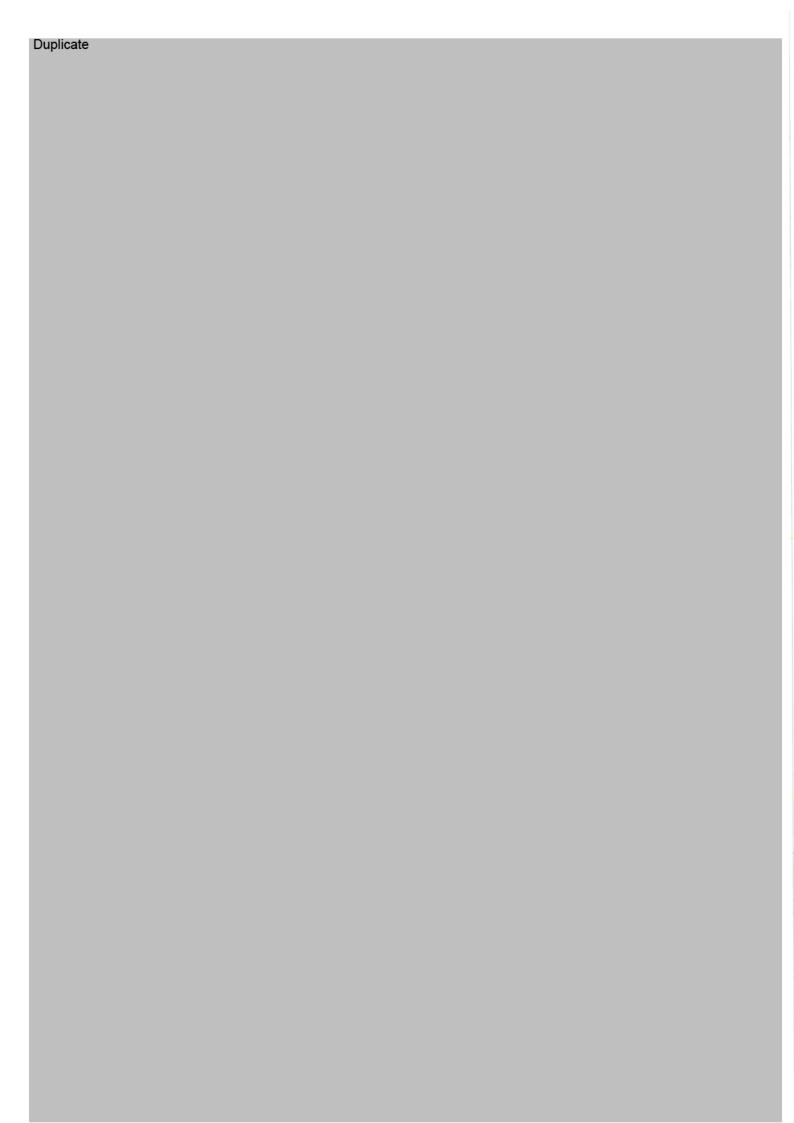


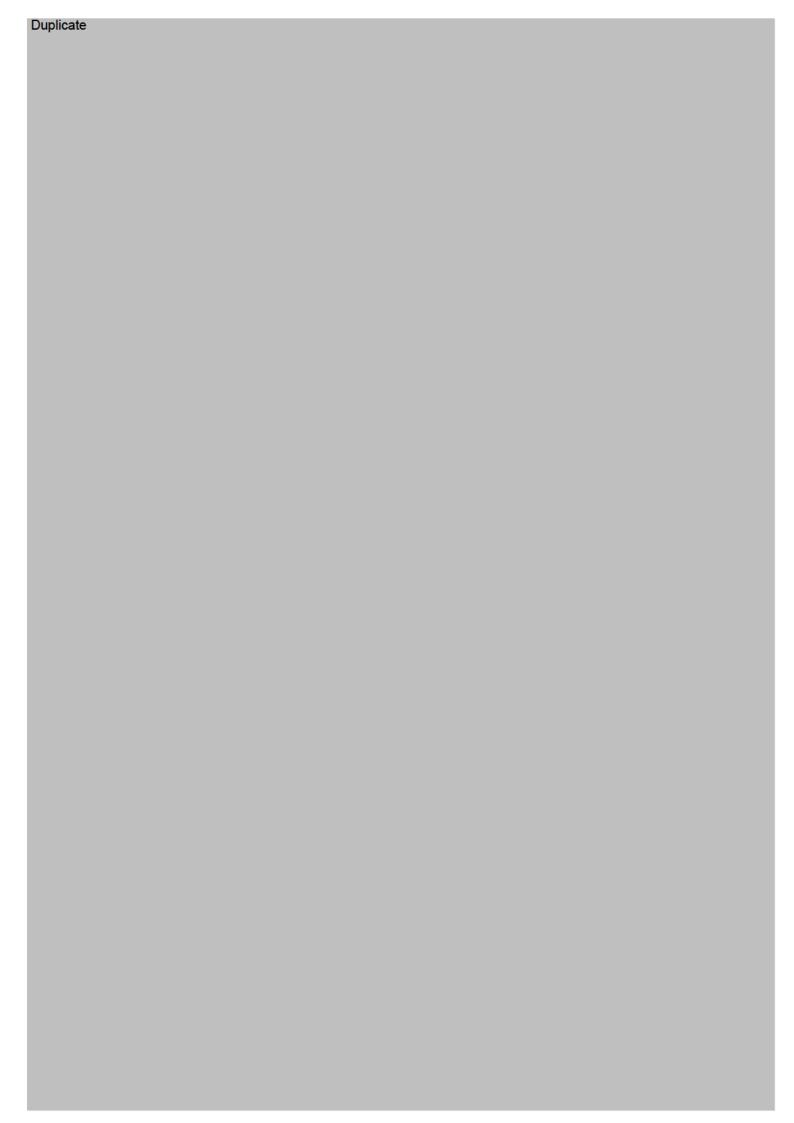


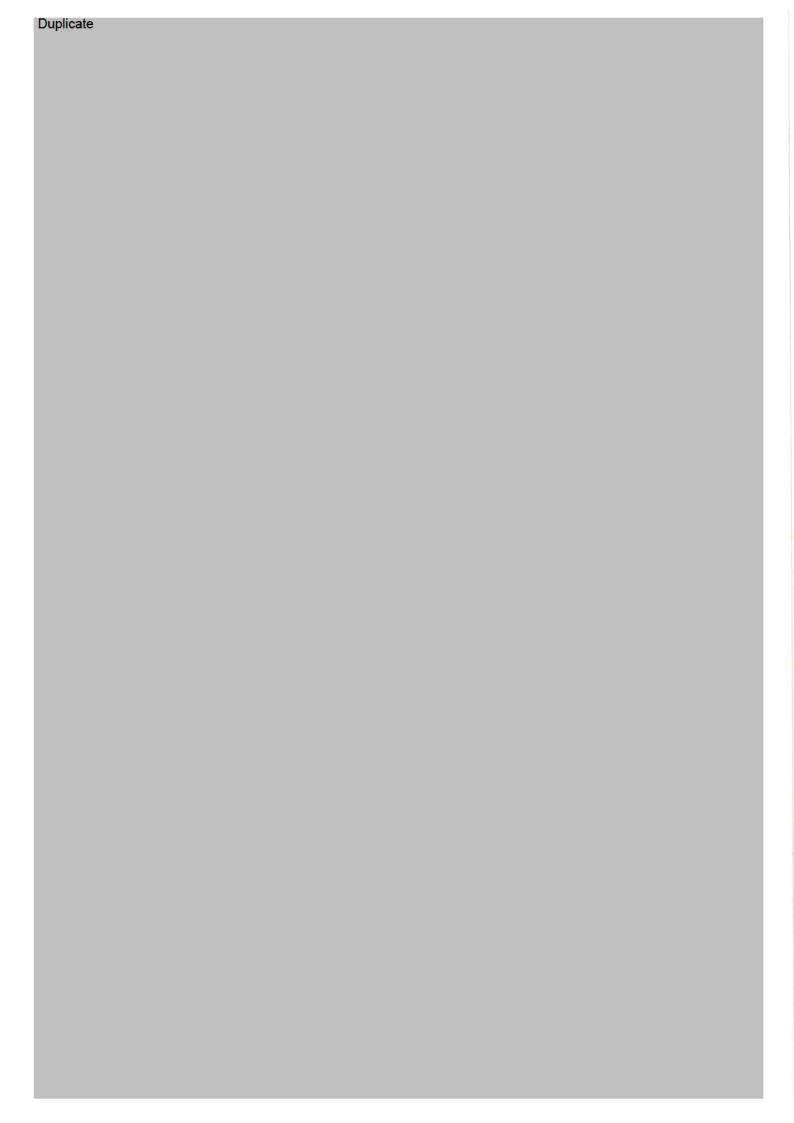
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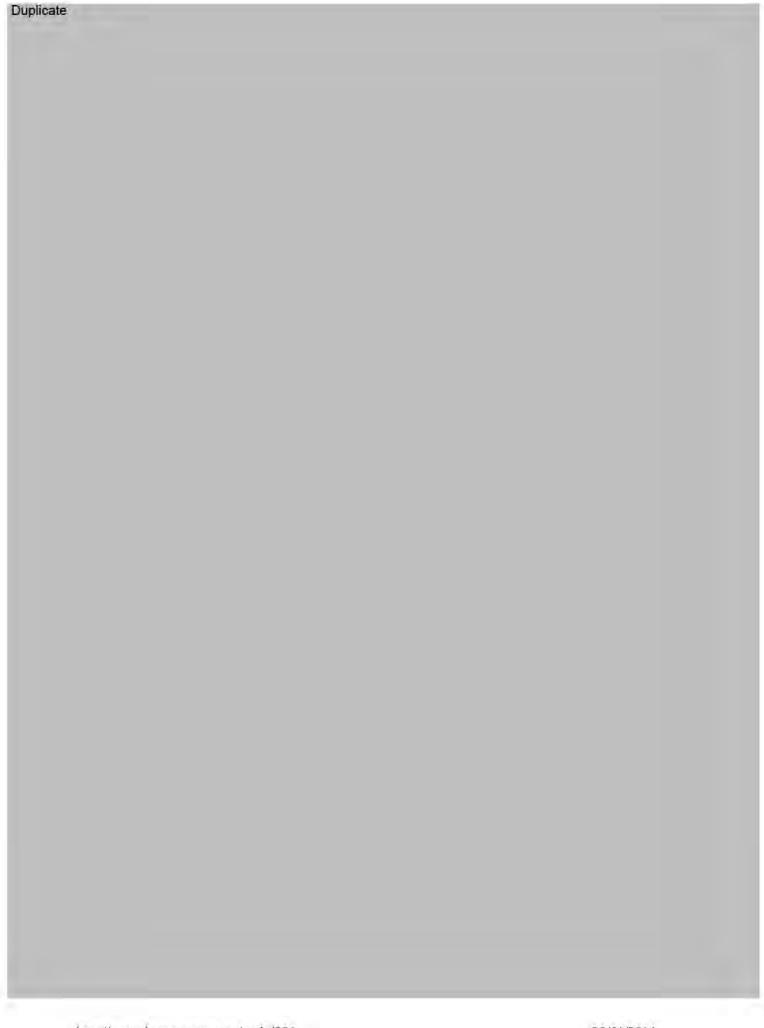


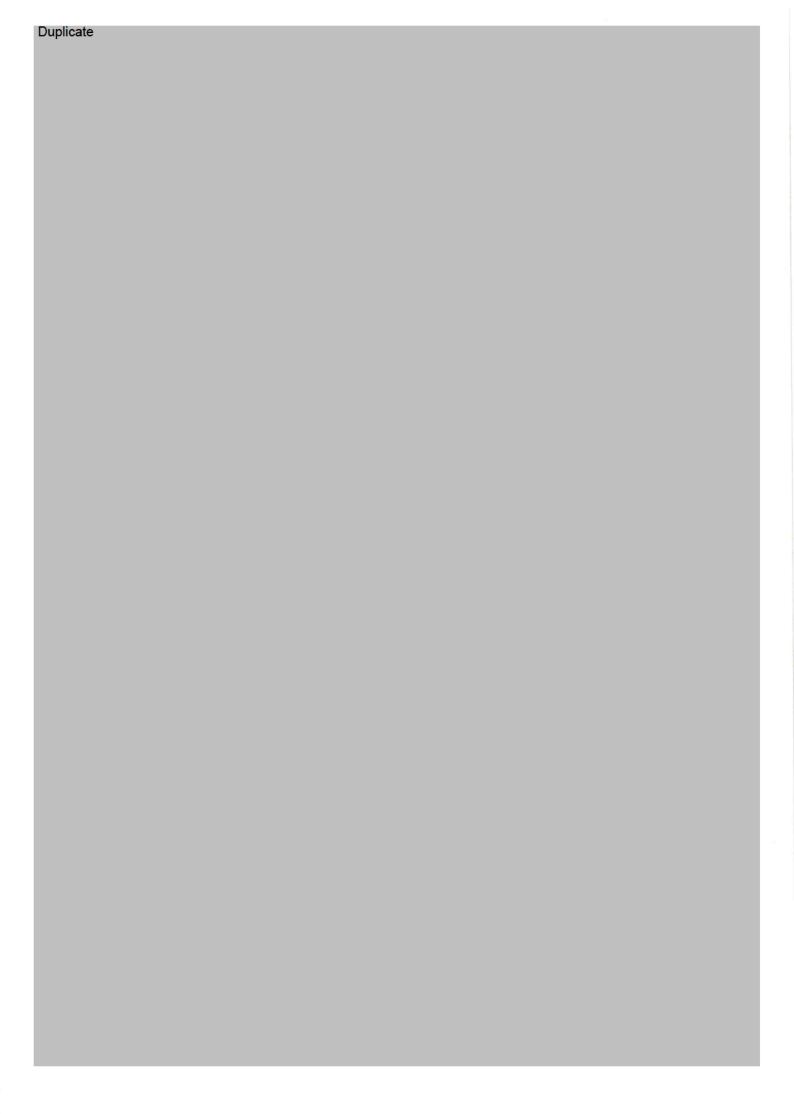


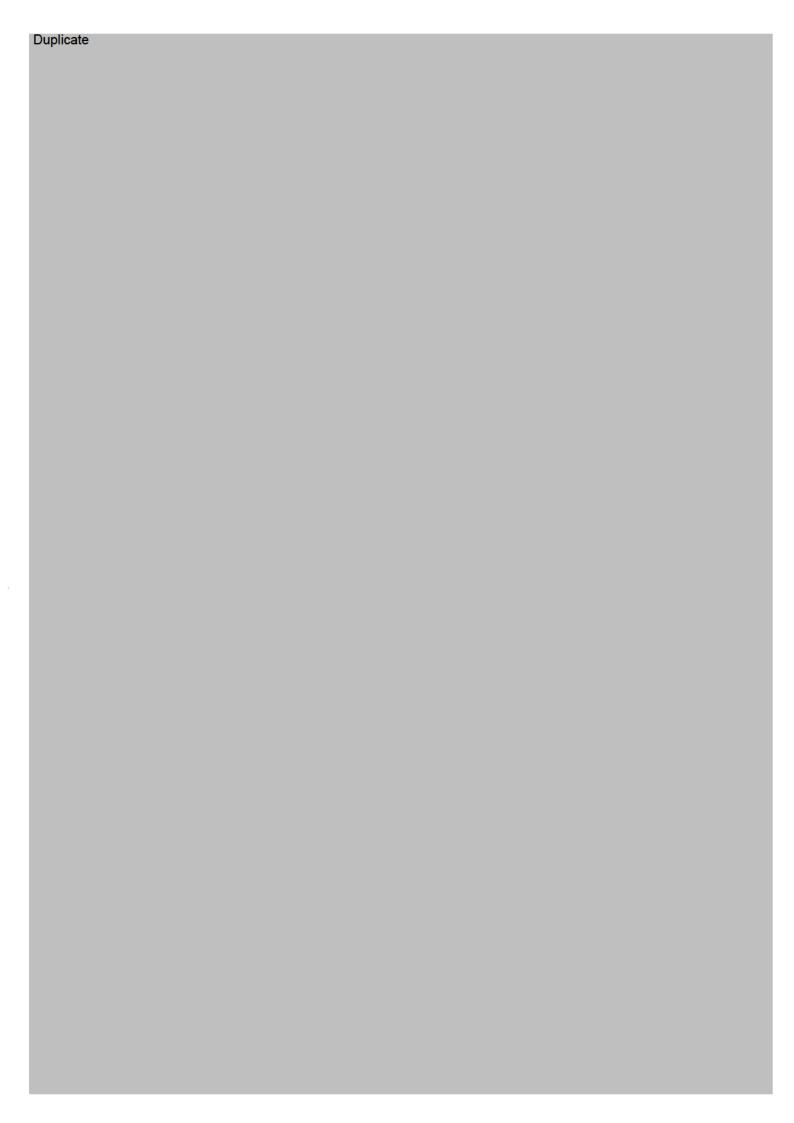


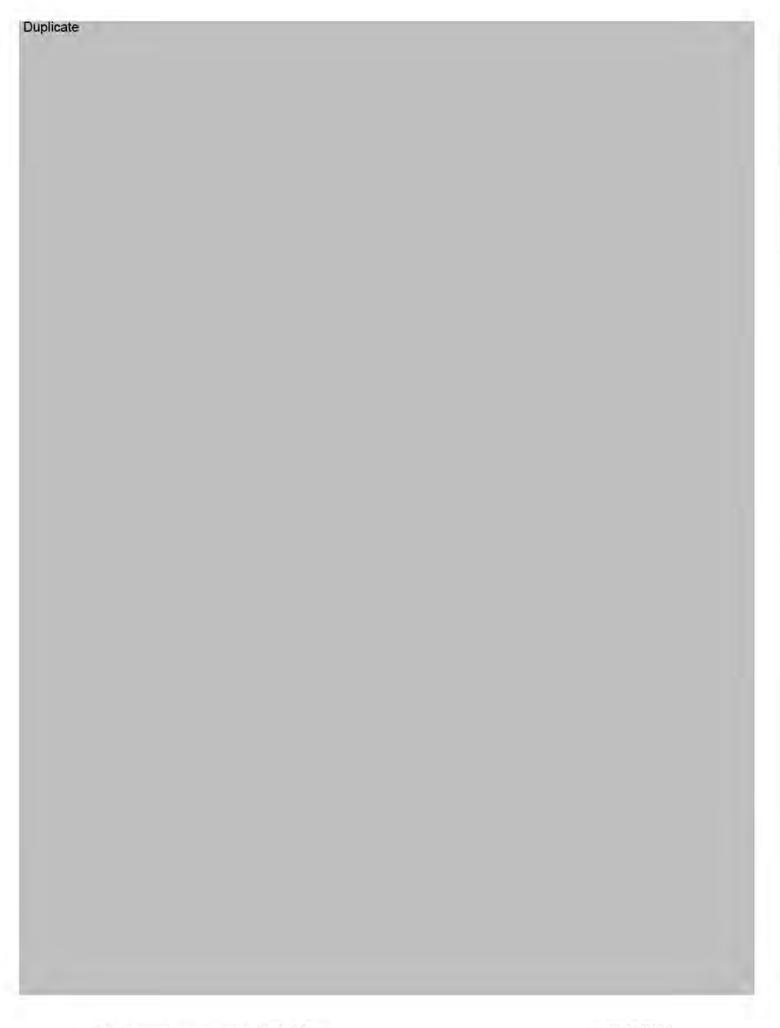


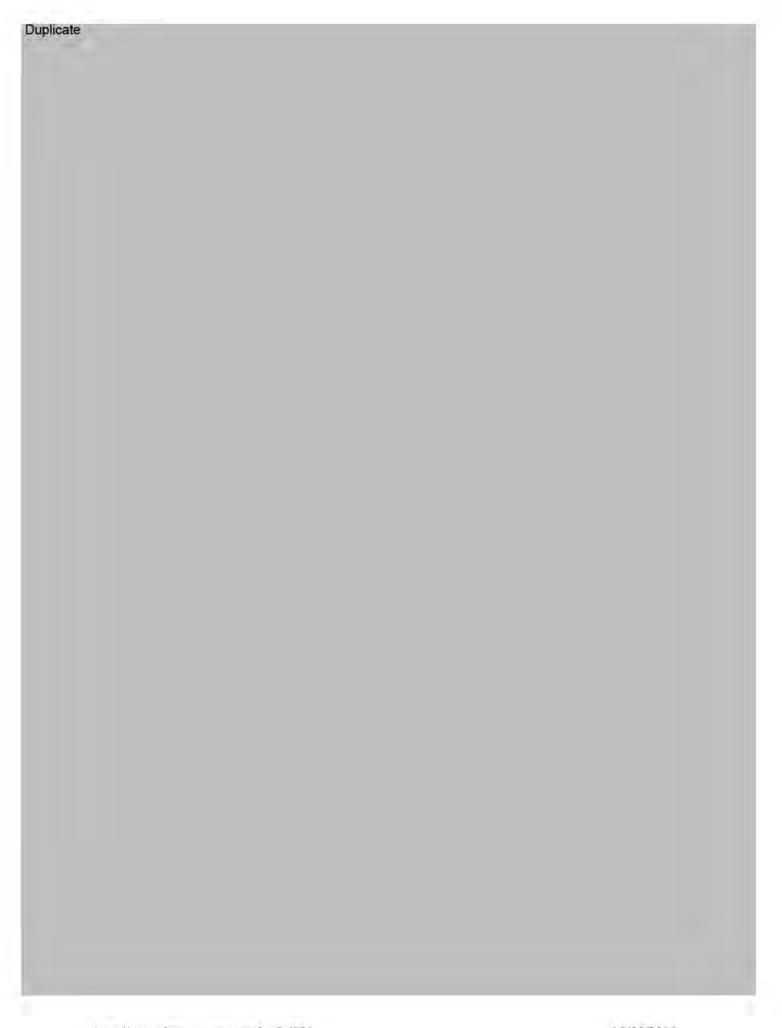


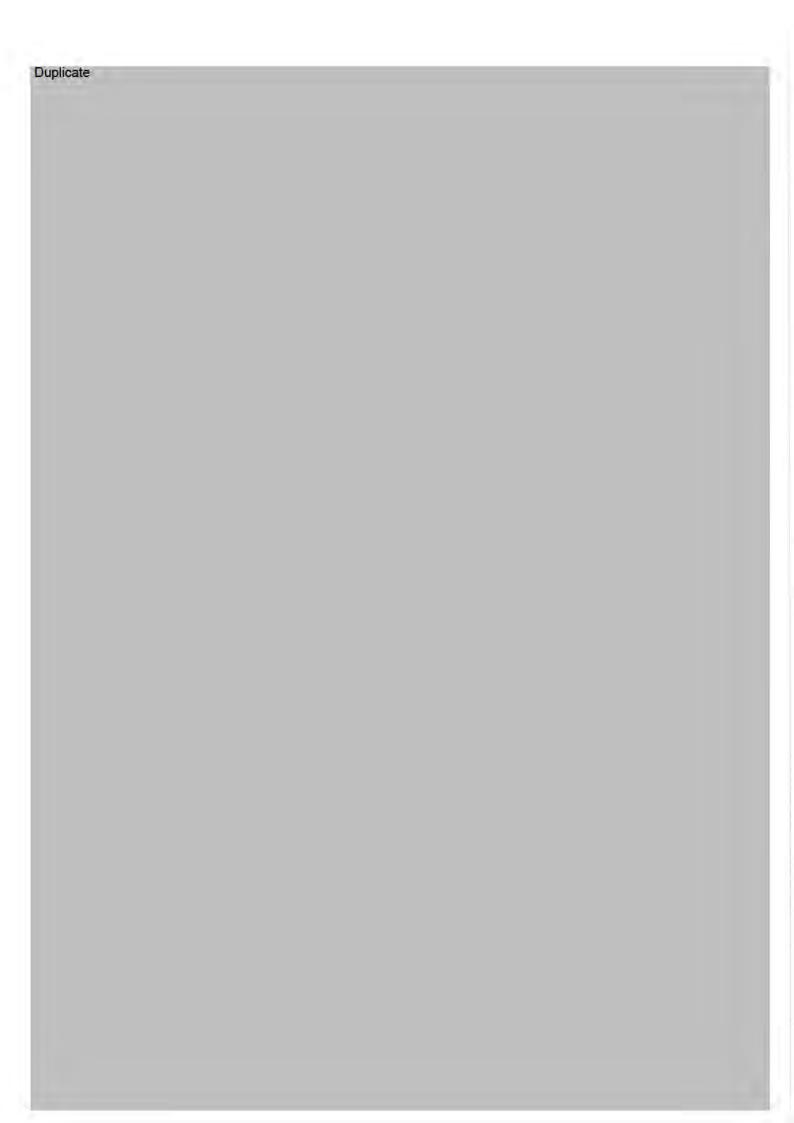


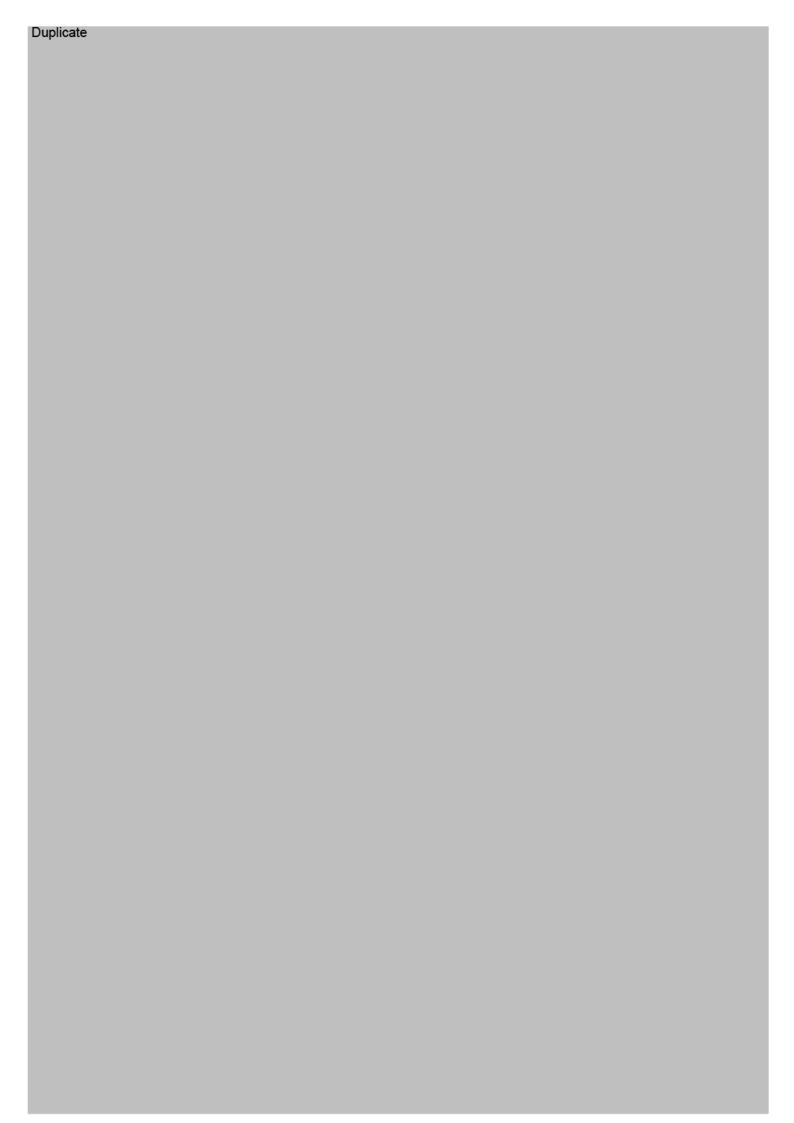


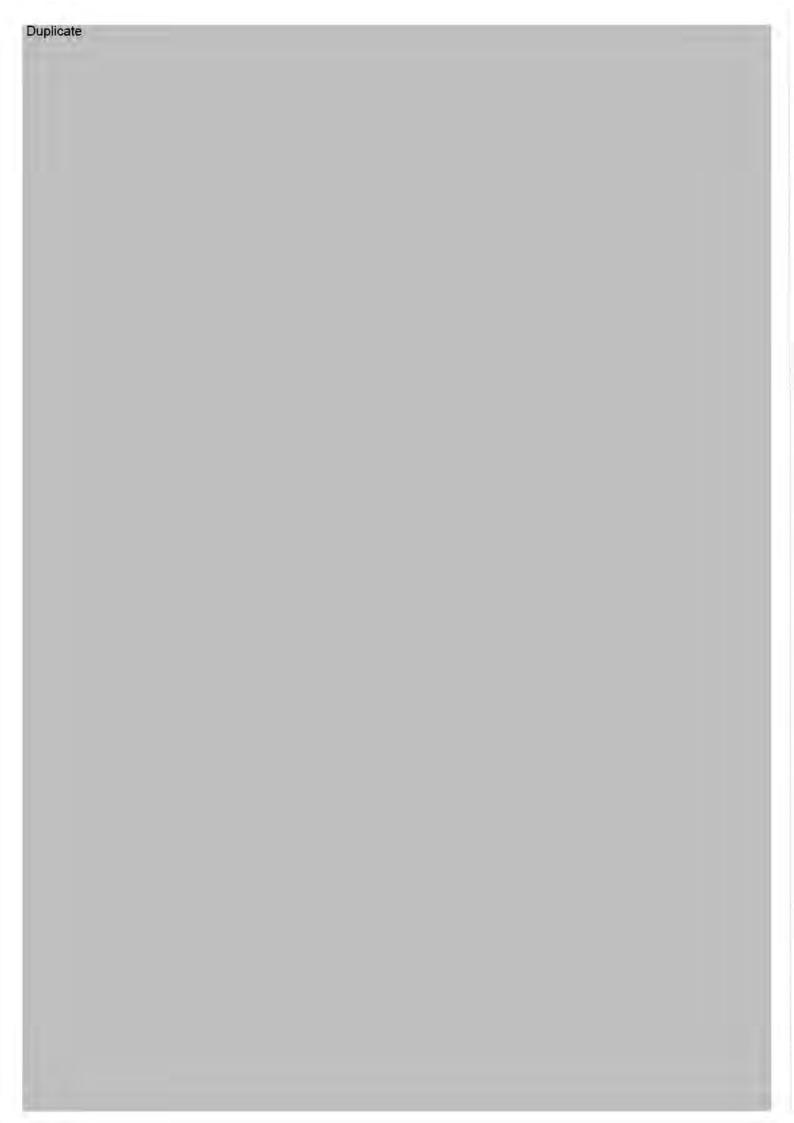


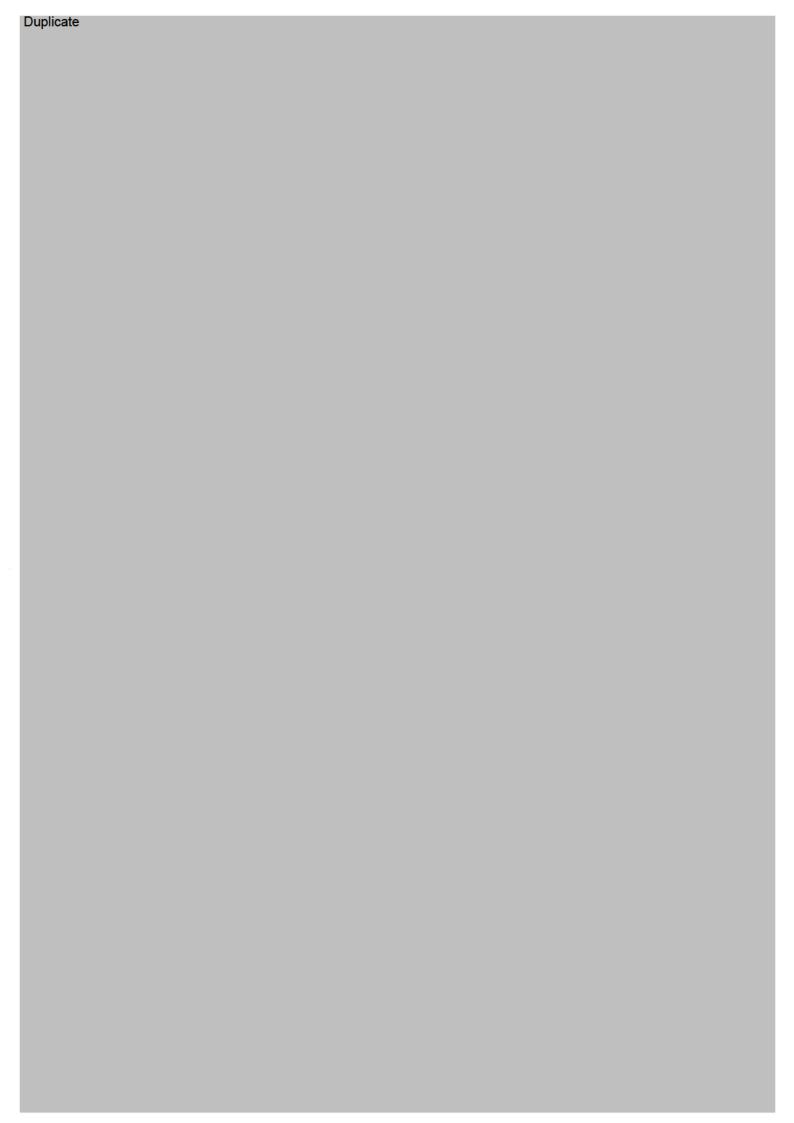


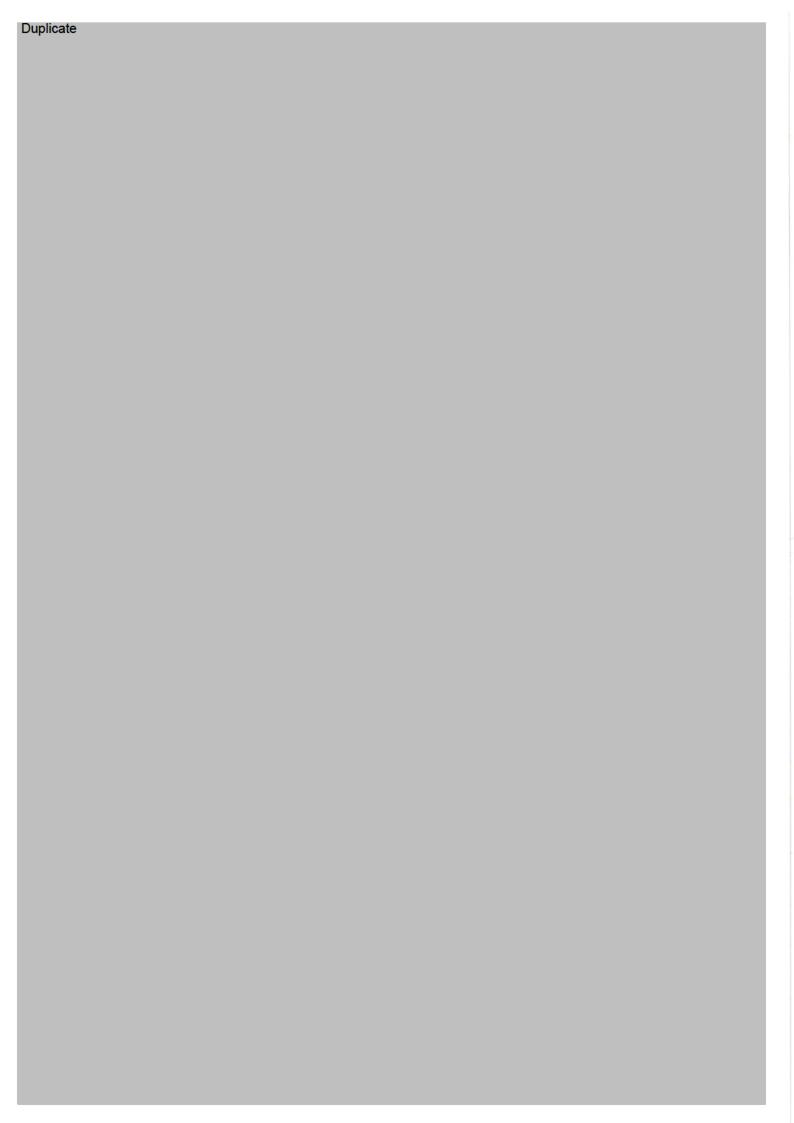


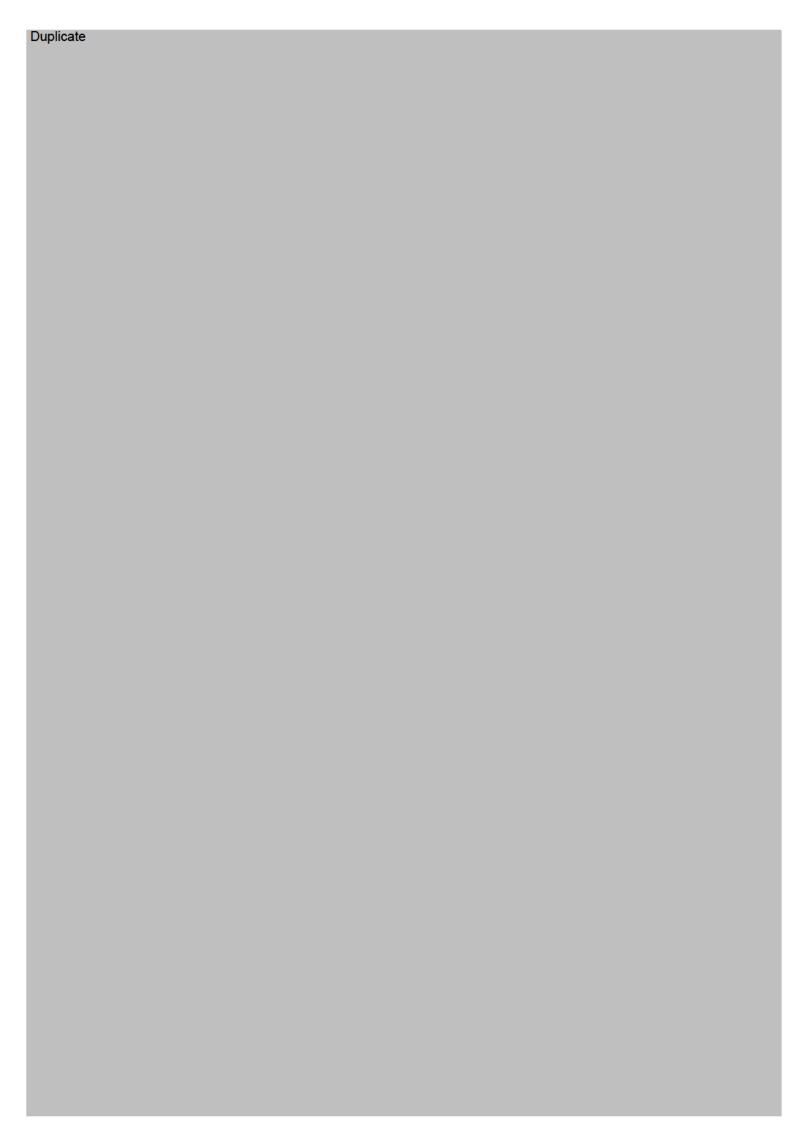


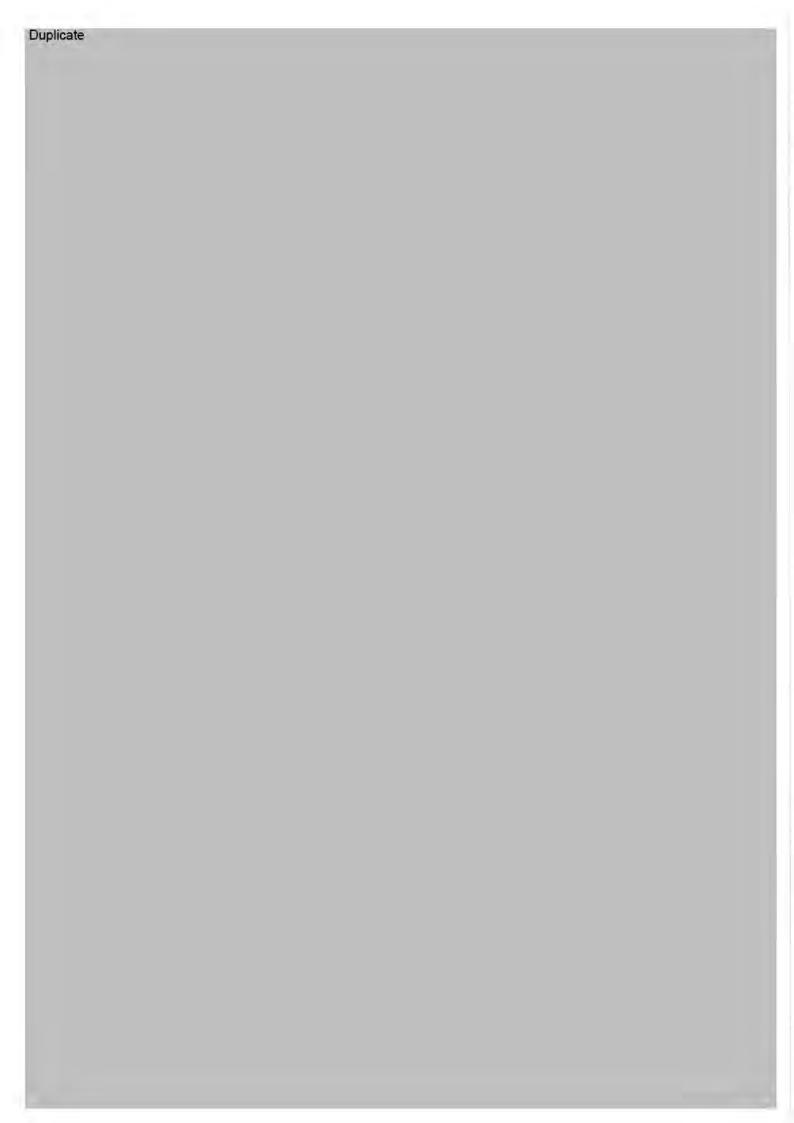


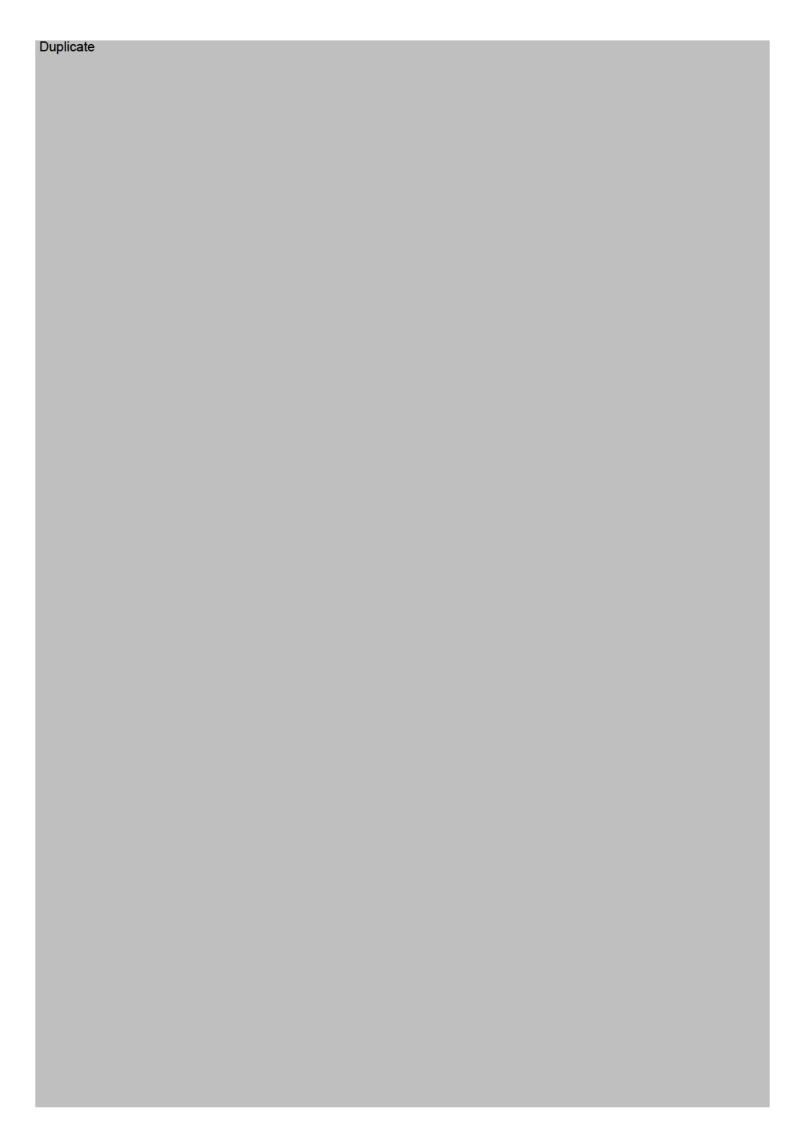


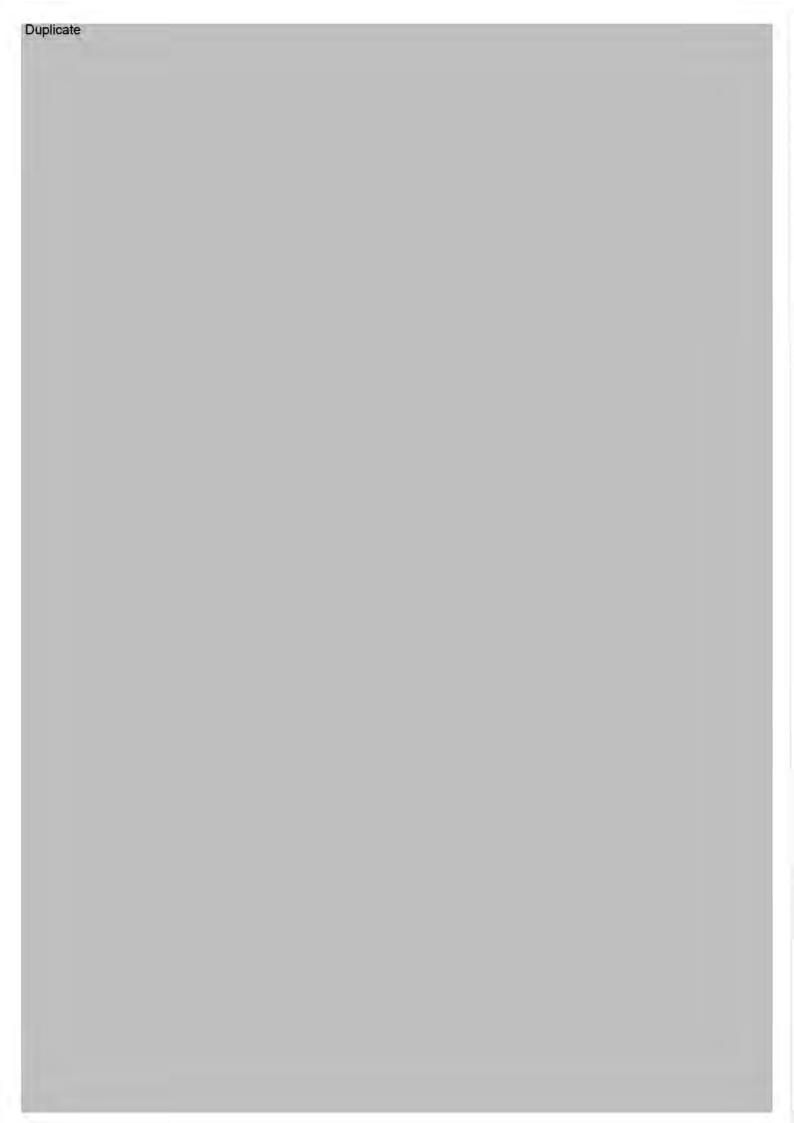


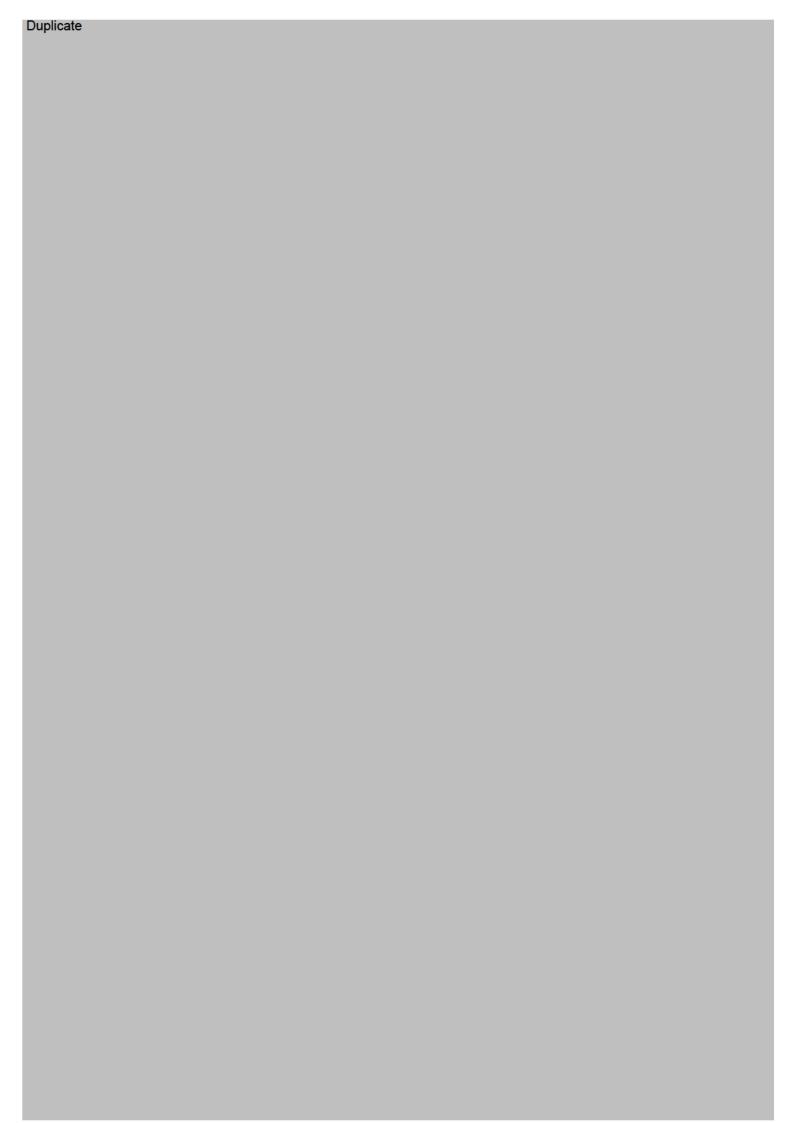


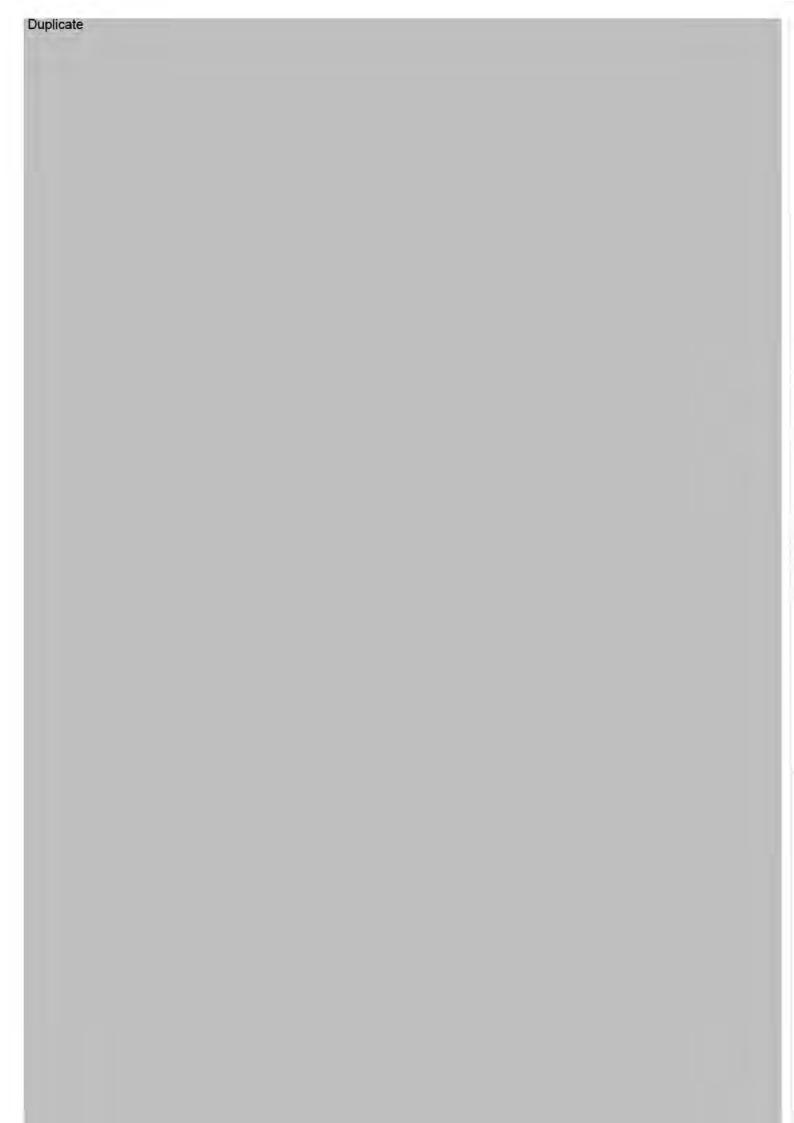


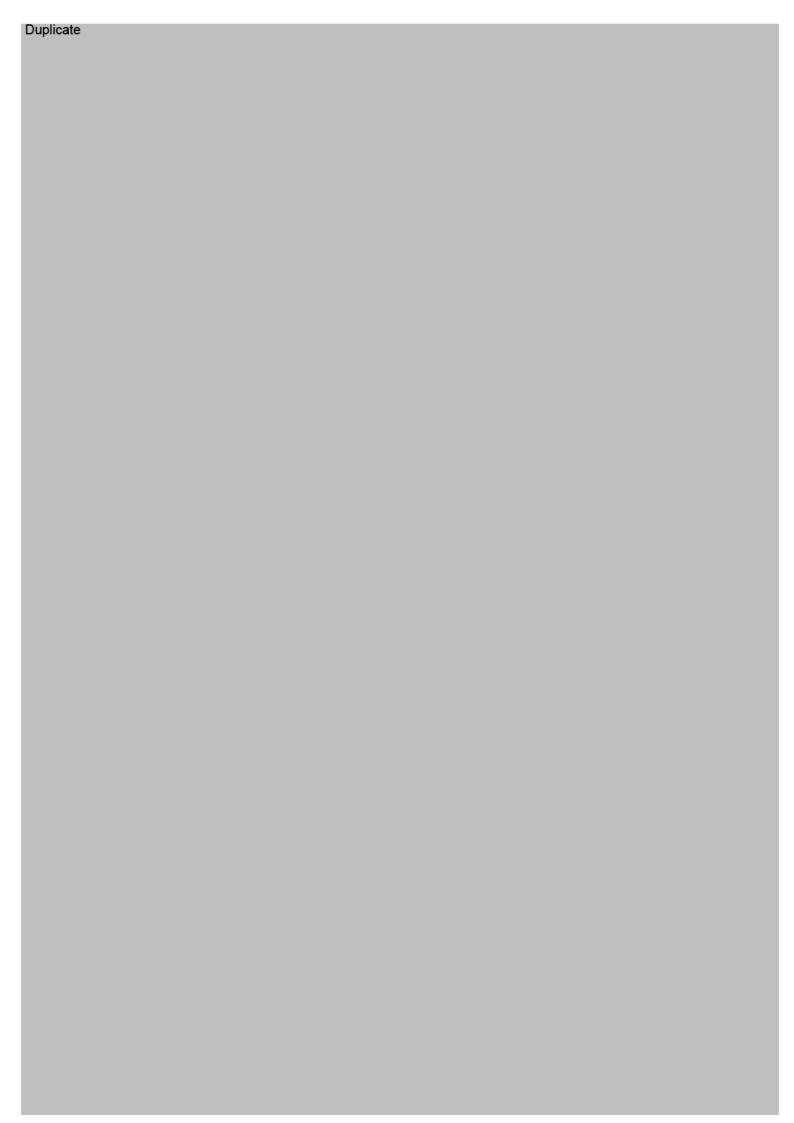


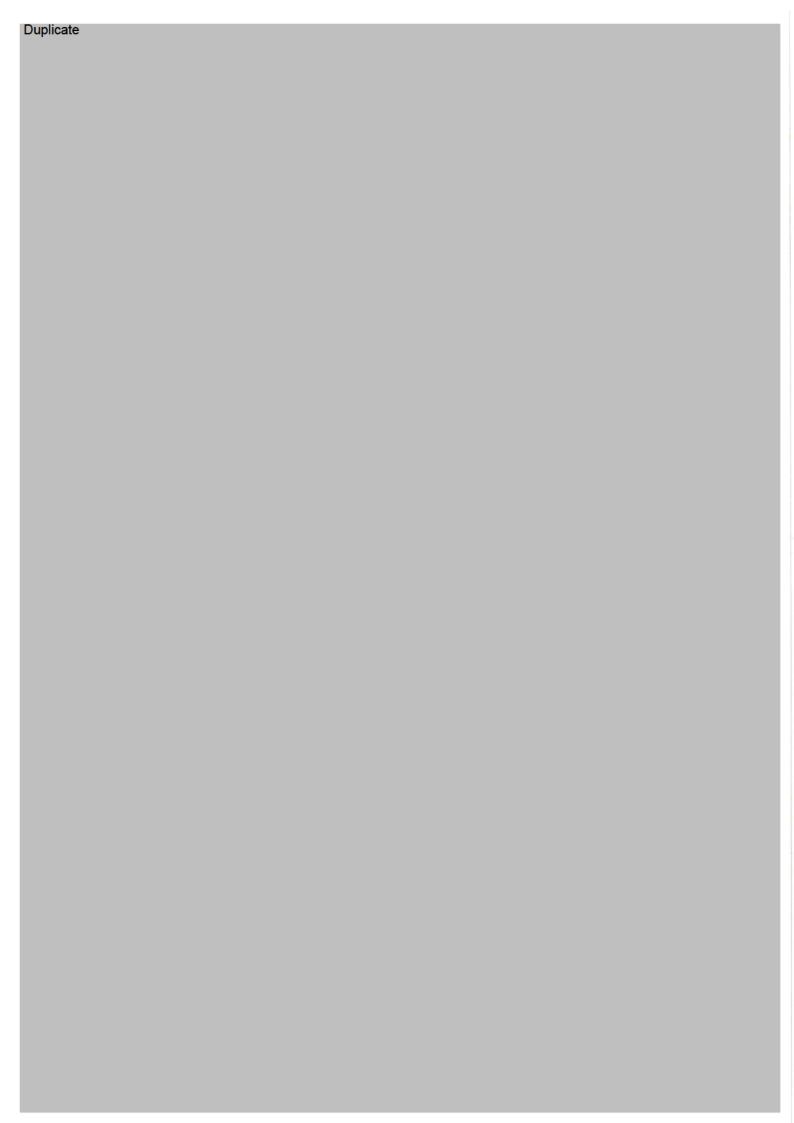


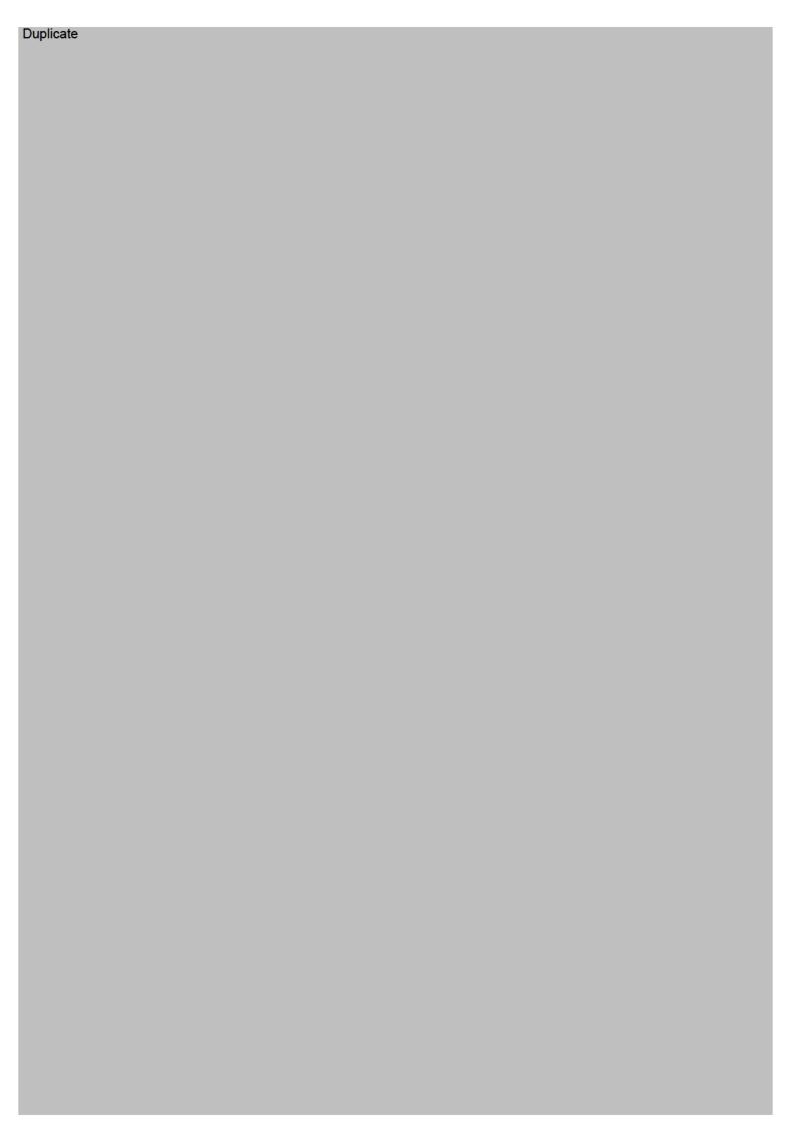


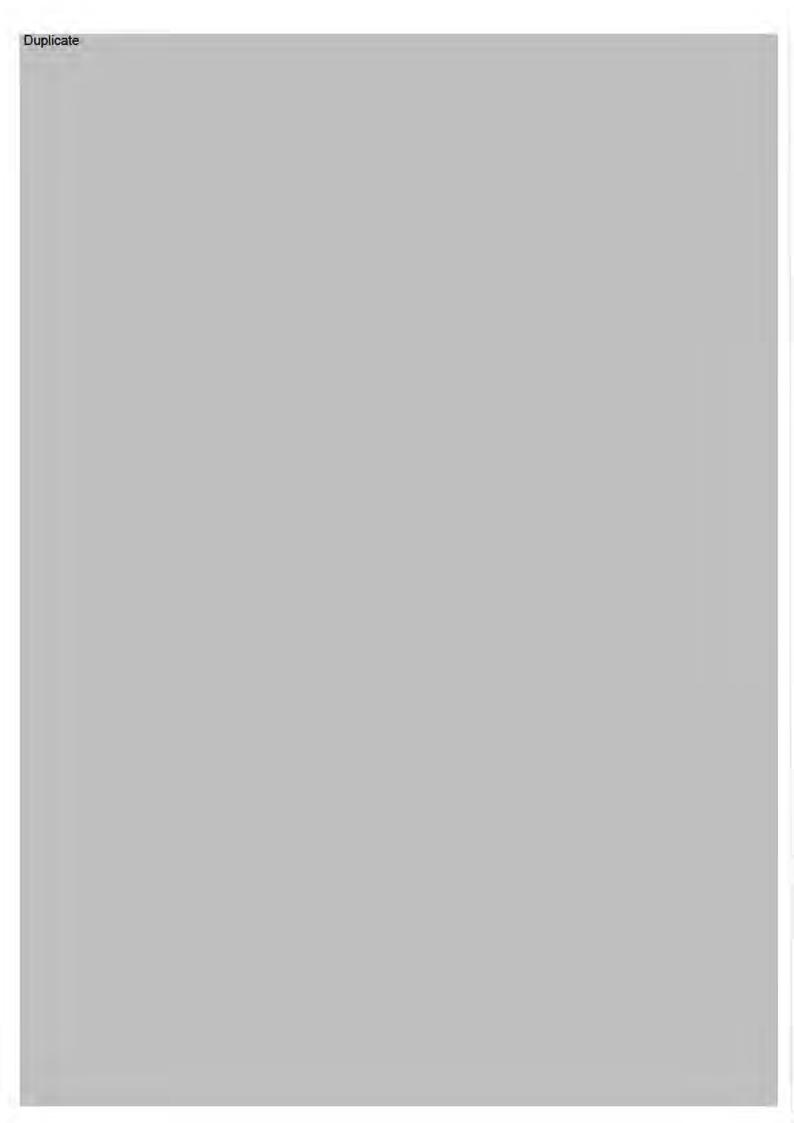


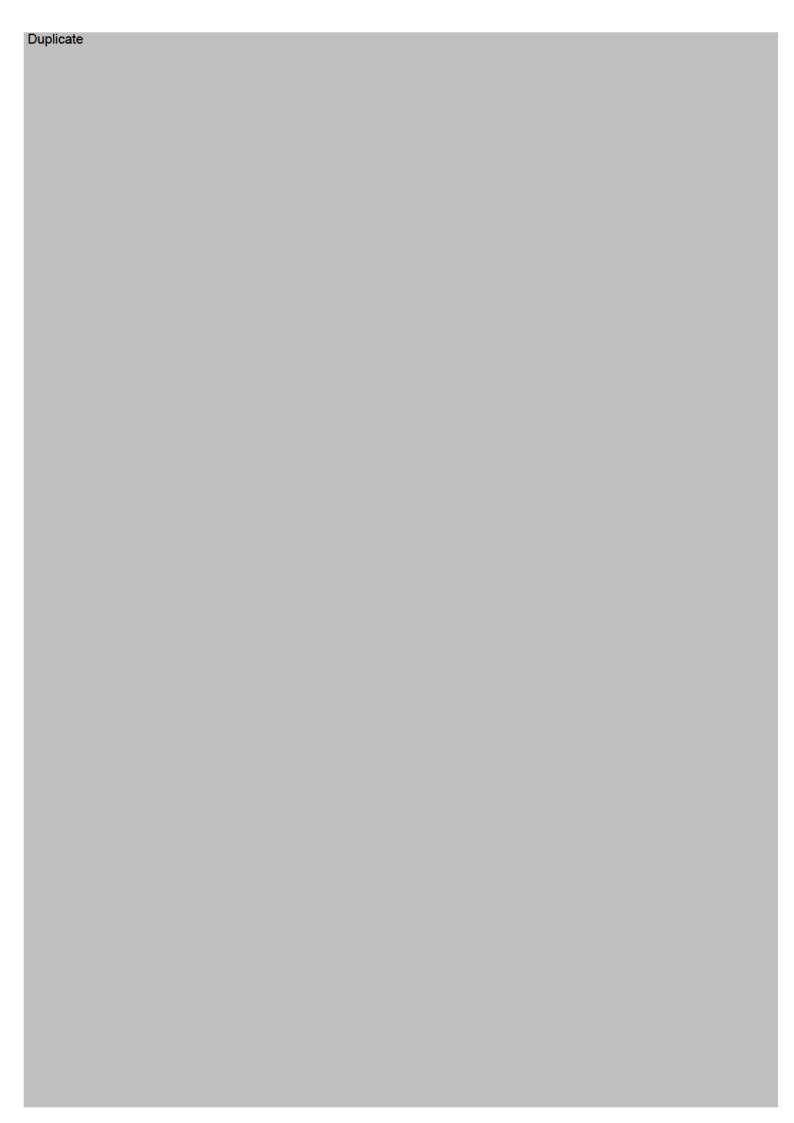


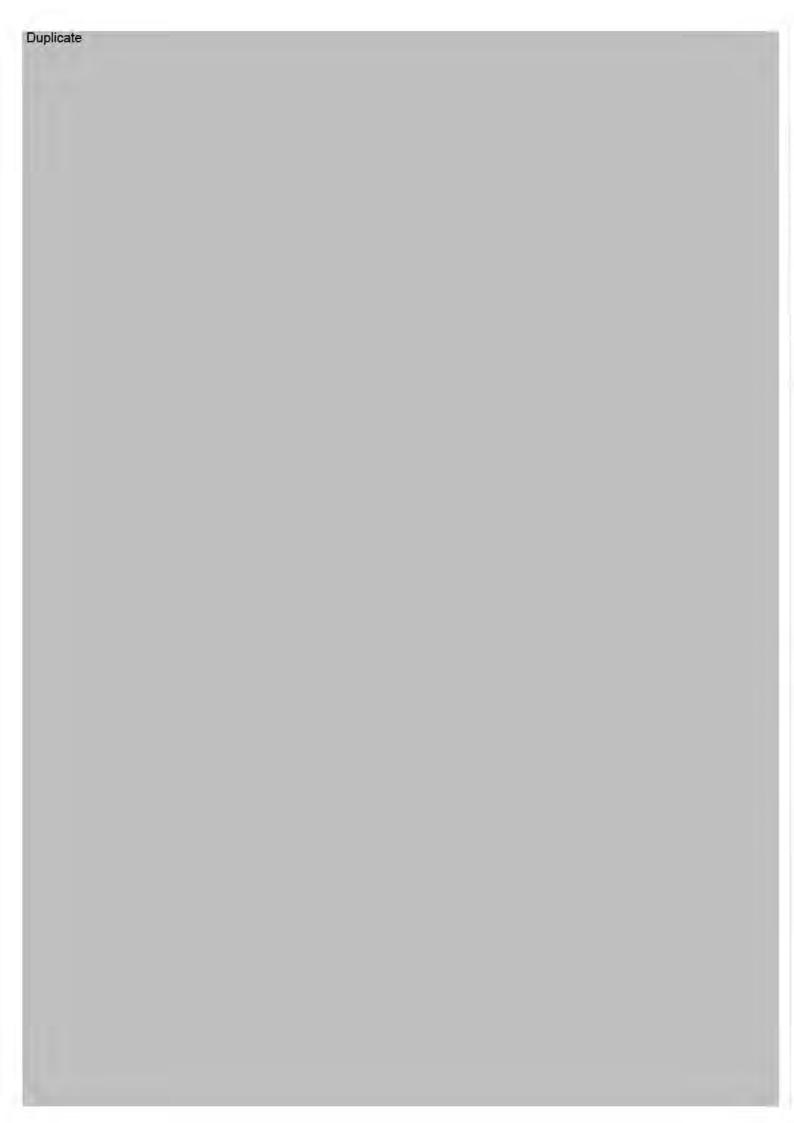


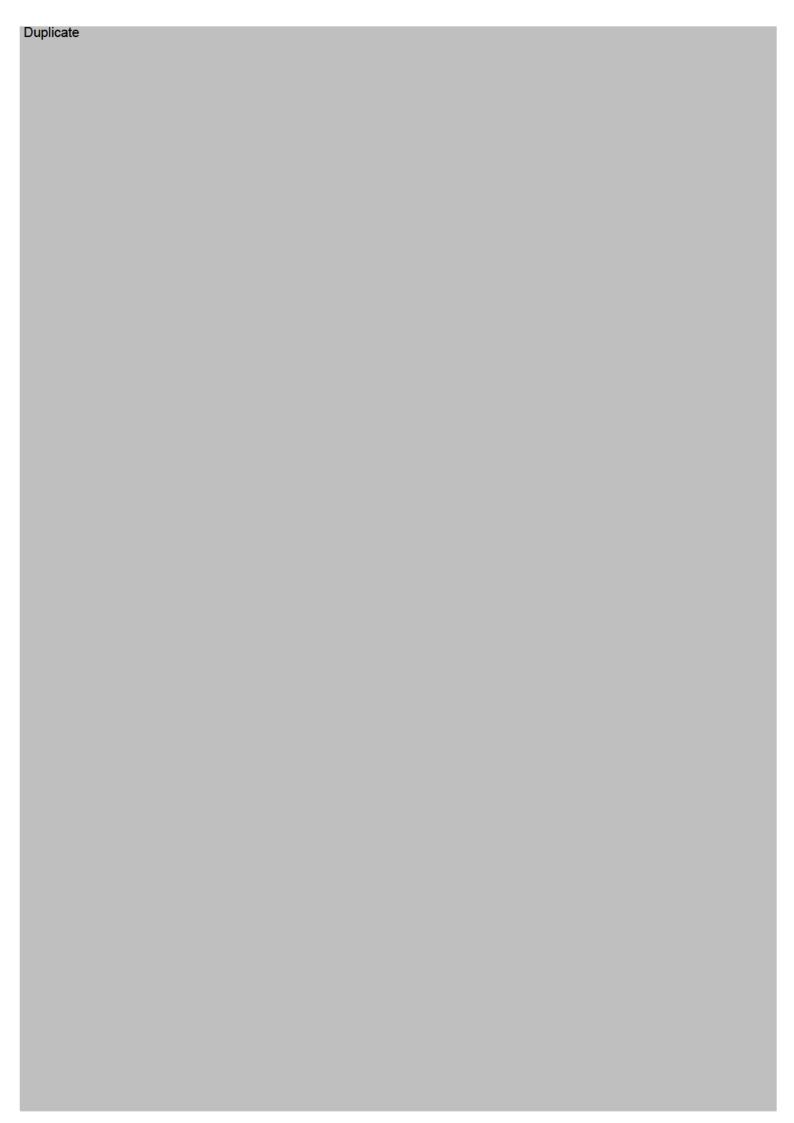












## David Williams [DPMC]

From:

David Williams [DPMC]

Sent:

Tuesday, 2 May 2023 4:04 pm

To:

Nicola Purvis [DPMC]

Subject:

draft briefing to PM on request to reconsider New Zealand Bravery Award to NZDF

personnel\_ Ruapehu training event

Attachments:

s9(2)(g)(i), s9(2)(f)(iv)

[SEEMAIL][SENSITIVE]

Kia ora Nicola, for consideration.

Also attached is some advice from Hon Little's office about this matter.

Hei konā mai,

Nāku, nā David



David Williams
Senior Advisor (Honours)
Cabinet Office, Executive Wing,

Parliament Buildings, Wellington 6011, New Zealand

DDI: s9(2)(a)

Email: david.williams@dpmc.govt.nz

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