

## **PRIVACY CASE NOTES**

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### **Unjustifiable disclosure of sensitive information - IPP 2**

A person complained that an organisation had breached his privacy by revealing personal information. There was a history of on-going complaints about each other between the Complainant and clients of the organisation. While investigating an incident, the organisation had sought the advice of persons who were known to the Complainant.

The organisation argued that disclosure of the information was justified by IPP 2.1(d) because there was a serious and imminent threat to the individual or another individual's life, health or safety or a serious threat to public health or safety.

Although it was found that the disclosure of the information was motivated by a genuine desire to protect the organisation's clients, the incident that triggered the disclosure was an inadequate basis for contacting the acquaintances. The Deputy Commissioner found that there was sufficient *prima facie* evidence to substantiate the matter complained of.