

# Anti-Money Laundering Notice

PITT & MOORE  
LAWYERS AND NOTARIES PUBLIC

All law firms throughout New Zealand, Pitt & Moore included, are required to comply with the Anti-Money Laundering and Countering Financing of Terrorism Act 2009 (which we'll refer to as the "AML/CFT law").

The introduction and implementation of the AML/CFT law is New Zealand's way of taking part in a global initiative to adopt anti-money laundering systems that make it harder for criminals to profit from and fund illegal activity, and to restrict the flow of money to terrorist organisations.

Some criminals try to use lawyers (and banks, financial services providers, accountants and real estate agents) to help hold and move assets. Having the AML/CFT law apply to all lawyers will deter criminals from using our services and help us detect them if they do.

What this means for you in practice is that we are required to obtain and verify certain information about you before we can undertake any new work. For most of our clients, this will simply be a case of us verifying your full name, date of birth and address by providing us with a copy of your passport (or certain other approved forms of ID) and a recent utility bill, bank statement or rate demand. To make this process easier we have made an online App available to our client's allowing you to complete the identity verification at their convenience.

For certain clients (in particular any trusts) the AML/CFT law will require us to go beyond that basic information and gather evidence of your source of wealth and/or the source of funds being used for the particular transaction.

We value our relationship with you and the last thing that we would want to do is create additional hurdles that make it harder to work with us. However, we simply don't have any choice in the matter and consequently, we will not be permitted to undertake any new work for you until these checks have been undertaken.