

CAPACITY BUILDING

The Office of the Director of Public Prosecutions ('ODPP') is committed to supporting continuing legal education for its Officers. To that end, the ODPP holds monthly day-long Workshops for State Counsel in areas as diverse as criminal advocacy, legal drafting, victim protection mechanisms, gender justice and appeals.

Through the ODPP, State Counsel have been able to undertake Postgraduate Certificate in Corruption studies at the University of Hong Kong (2011 and 2013).

Additionally, State Counsel are encouraged to submit expressions of interest for International Conferences and to date have attended criminal law Conferences in interesting localities around the world.

The ODPP firmly believes in excellence through capacity building for all its staff.



The Hon. Chief Justice, and the DPP examine training material—28 .05.2014



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OFFICE OF THE
DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC
PROSECUTIONS

INFORMATION BROCHURE (EMPLOYMENT)



MISSION : TO DELIVER FAIR &
INDEPENDENT PROSECUTION SERVICES
COMMITTED TO THE RULE OF LAW

THE CONSTITUTIONAL ROLE OF THE DPP

The Director of Public Prosecutions ('DPP') is constitutionally empowered pursuant to Section 117 of the **Constitution of the Republic of Fiji, 2013** to:

- (i) institute;
- (ii) take-over; or
- (iii) terminate,

criminal proceedings in Fiji. However, these powers do not extend to prosecutions conducted by the Fiji Independent Commission against Corruption ('FICAC'). The DPP may also intervene in proceedings that raise a question of public interest that may affect the conduct of criminal proceedings or criminal investigations.

The DPP must be a person who is qualified for appointment as a Judge and shall be appointed for a term of 7 years. The remuneration of the DPP shall not be less than that paid to a Judge. These provisions both recognise and protect the independence and integrity of the DPP's status as an important regulator of criminal proceedings in Fiji.

The DPP is independent and in the exercise of his or her powers shall not be subject to the direction or control of any other person or authority, except by a court of law or as otherwise prescribed by the Constitution or a written law.

The Director of Public Prosecutions has the authority to determine all matters pertaining to the employment of all staff in the office of the Director of Public Prosecutions and is given sole authority to appoint, remove and discipline staff (including administrative staff). In exercising these powers the DPP is subject to the principles of natural justice and to Fiji's employment laws.

STATE COUNSEL

The DPP may appoint any legal practitioner whether from Fiji or from another country to be a public prosecutor for the purposes of any criminal proceeding. Also, the DPP may delegate any or all of his powers to other persons acting on the DPP's instructions. For example, the DPP may by written notice authorize any lawyer to be a State Counsel and may authorize any such lawyer to exercise all or any of the functions vested in the DPP, in accordance with law.

Salaries

Counsel within the ODPP are paid competitive salaries.

Criterion for Appointment

The ODPP is an equal opportunities, merit based employer and to that end, is constantly seeking to recruit and promote Counsel with an aptitude for excellence in forensic trial and appellate advocacy, litigation drafting, legal analysis and research. Academic legal qualifications and extensive experience in the areas just cited are key advantages.



DPP, Mr. Christopher T. Pryde with Staff at the Ba Office, 2012

Prospective employees must meet the minimum qualification requirements for each advertised post applied for. While the DPP has the discretion to waive minimum qualification requirements, this will only be done in very exceptional circumstances, and only in respect of candidates whom the DPP feels have exceptional potential. All members of staff must be people of impeccable character. A Government agency, and the premier law office in Fiji charged with prosecuting cases before Fiji's courts, it is important that all members of staff conduct themselves in a manner that is both professional and above reproach.

CORPORATE SERVICES

The Corporate Services Division is comprised of four main sections and two smaller sectors as follows:

- (1) **Administration** - The Principal Administrative Officer, the Senior Administrative Officer, Administrative Officers, Executive Officers, Clerical Officers, Senior Secretary, Secretaries, Typists, Clerical Officers, Drivers, Messengers, Cleaners.
- (2) **Accounts** - The Accounts Officer, the Assistant Accounts Officer, the Accounts Clerk.
- (3) **Registry** - The Senior Administrative Officer—Litigation, the Administrative Officer—Litigation, Executive Officers—Litigation, Litigation Clerks, Paralegals.
- (4) **Information Technology** - The Senior Systems Analyst, Computer Operator.
- (5) **Library** - The Librarian.
- (6) **Media Liaison** - The Media Liaison Officer.

The Corporate Services Division, of which the DPP is the ultimate head, is supervised by the Principal Administrative Officer ('PAO'). This Division supports and facilitates the work of the DPP and his State Counsel in fulfilling the Constitutional requirements of his office.

PAO, Ms. C. Nambiar with Staff, 2014

