



## **ODPP MEDIA UPDATE**

### **DPP appeals acquittal of a man on rape charge**

The Director of Public Prosecutions, Mr. Christopher Pryde, has decided to appeal against the acquittal of Peniasi Tabakanavanua on a charge of rape contrary to sections 207 (1) and (2)(a) of the Crimes Decree, 2009.

Peniasi Tabakanavanua was acquitted on 6 May 2016 on a charge of rape. The offence was allegedly committed on Ono-i-Lau Island between 21 and 22 February 2013.

The Notice of Appeal was filed at the Court of Appeal Registry today (06.06.16) on the grounds that the summing up to the assessors by the trial Judge contained errors in law upon which the accused was acquitted.

The Director of Public Prosecutions will seek a re-trial should the appeal be successful.

**-Ends-**