



## ODPP MEDIA UPDATE

### **Clarification on Withdrawal of Charges**

An article published on the FBC website today (15.7.16) stated that a minor had withdrawn her abduction case at the Magistrates' Court. This is incorrect.

The matter is still before the courts but has been adjourned so that the matter can be forwarded to the Office of the Director of Public Prosecutions for consideration of the complainant's request.

A criminal matter may only be withdrawn from the court following a decision by the Director of Public Prosecutions (DPP).

Although the wishes and views of victims and complainants are considered seriously, the final decision on withdrawing a charge lies with the DPP.

It is only in exceptional cases that the DPP will allow a criminal charge to be withdrawn.

**-Ends-**