



## PRESS RELEASE (No. 7 of 2016)

### **CHIEF JUSTICE ADDRESSES THE 2<sup>nd</sup> ANNUAL NATIONAL PROSECUTION COURSE**

The Office of the Director of Public Prosecutions (ODPP) successfully concluded its 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual National Prosecution Course (NPC) this afternoon (28.07.16) by honouring the 24 Police and Statutory Prosecutors during a Graduation Ceremony held at Suvavou House in Suva.

The Chief Justice His Lordship Mr Anthony Gates and the Commissioner of Police Brigadier General Sitiveni Qiliho presented awards and certificates to the participants on their successful completion of the six-week course. The NPC is part of the ODPP's continuing education programme for prosecutors from the Police, government Ministries, Departments, and statutory bodies. Permanent Secretaries from the Civil Service, Employment, and Fisheries were in attendance as well as family members and friends of the graduates.

While congratulating the prosecutors on their graduation the Chief Justice challenged them to continually improve and hone their skills and further their education as prosecutors.

“There is a lot of hard work to be done as prosecutors and if you are not prepared to do hard work, then prosecution is not for you and secondly you have to master your job thoroughly,” he said.

He also advised prosecutors to refrain from getting involved in politics.

“As prosecutors who have prosecutorial functions, keep out of politics; if you want to be a politician go and do something else”.

The National Prosecution Course was an intensive course run by the ODPP from 27 June 2016 to 28 July 2016.

There were 24 prosecutors and law enforcement agents attending from the Fiji Police Force, Fiji National Provident Fund, National Occupational Health and Safety Services, Ministry of Fisheries, Water Authority of Fiji, Suva City Council and the Land Transport Authority.

Principal Legal Officers Seini K. Puamau and Yogesh Prasad were the Course Conveners and they were also assisted by State Counsel from the ODPP throughout the six week course.

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28 July 2016

***NB: Pictures attached below.***



*(From L-R) The Director of Public Prosecutions, Mr Christopher Pryde with the Chief Justice His Lordship Mr Anthony Gates.*



*(L-R) The Director of Public Prosecutions Mr Christopher Pryde, Chief Justice His Lordship Mr Anthony Gates and the Commissioner of Police Brigadier General Sitiveni Qiliho at the National Prosecution Course Graduation Ceremony.*



*(L-R) Best Litigation Drafter Apenisa Keresoni, Dux awardees Walter Taito and Ravinesh Raj, Best Ethics Laniani Musuqaqa, Best All Rounder Lilieta Bula, 3<sup>RD</sup> Place and Best Mooter Jitendera Singh and 2<sup>nd</sup> Place Kinisalote Lagivuki.*



*The Director of Public Prosecutions Mr Christopher Pryde (fifth from left), Chief Justice His Lordship Mr Anthony Gates (in garland) and Commissioner of Police Brigadier General Sitiveni Qiliho with Permanent Secretaries, Guests, and Police and Statutory Prosecutors.*