



ODPP MEDIA UPDATE

Date: 18 August 2016

Name of Matter: State-v- Parmendra Maharaj

Name of Accused: Parmendra Maharaj

Charge: Rape contrary to section 207 (1) and (2)(c) of the Crimes Decree of 2009.

Update:

This matter was called today (18.08.16) at the Suva High Court before Justice Vinsent Perera.

Bus Driver Parmendra Maharaj was charged with 11 counts of oral rape of a 16 year old student on various occasions in his bus between May and July 2016.

After a review of the case, it was concluded that the evidence of the complainant did not satisfy the test of a reasonable prospect of conviction and the matter was withdrawn by way of filing a Nolle Prosequi (discontinuance).

The accused was then discharged by the Court.*

-Ends-

***NB:** A discharge following the filing of a Nolle Prosequi is not an acquittal. This means that if new evidence is presented, the Accused may be recharged.