



ODPP MEDIA UPDATE

Police officer convicted and sentenced after State Appeal

A Police officer charged with one count of assault occasioning actual bodily harm was convicted and sentenced to 6 months imprisonment suspended for two years by the Lautoka High Court following an appeal by the State.

Timoteo Valaibulu was discharged without conviction after he pleaded guilty in the Magistrates' Court in 2016 for a domestic violence offence which the State appealed to the High Court on the grounds the sentence was manifestly lenient and below the tariff for this type of offending.

Justice Aruna Aluthge quashed the sentence by the Magistrates' Court and sentenced the accused to 6 months imprisonment suspended for two years and imposed a Domestic Violence Restraining Order.

Justice Aluthge also ordered that a conviction be recorded.

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