



ODPP MEDIA UPDATE

ODPP launches Basic Prosecution Course for Statutory Regulators

Many Government Ministries and Departments operate under specific legislation that allows them to take action on behalf of government against people or companies found to be in breach of the law and each Ministry or Government Department is responsible for investigating and prosecuting infringements under its own specific legislation.

As part of the Office of the Director of Public Prosecutions (ODPP)'s constitutional function as a regulator of the criminal justice system, the ODPP assists the staff of these Ministries and Government Departments by providing legal advice on the range of possible charges and the evidence required to prosecute the various offences. The ODPP also provides desk officers and mentors to assist.

In addition to this, the ODPP has been running four-week basic prosecution courses for these employees to equip them with basic trial preparation skills in prosecuting matters under their own specific legislation.

The first basic prosecution course for statutory regulators for the year was officially opened this morning (01.04.19) by the Assistant Director of Public Prosecutions, Dr Andrew Jack, at the Ministry of Civil Service Training Centre, Nasese, Suva.

The ODPP was pleased to welcome 34 officers from the Ministry of Fisheries and Forests, the Ministry of Health, the Department of Environment, the Fijian Competition and Consumer Commission, the Maritime Safety Authority of Fiji, the Fiji Revenue and Customs Service and the Nasinu and Nausori Town Councils.

The course is facilitated by ODPP Principal Legal Officer Mr Yogesh Prasad.

The ODPP will be conducting an advanced prosecution course for both police and statutory prosecutors later in the year.

-End-

NB: Pictures attached.



Participants at the ODPP Basic Prosecution Course for Statutory Regulators at the Ministry of Civil Service Training Centre, Nasese, Suva on 1 April 2019.



Sitting (L-R) The Assistant Director of Public Prosecutions, Dr Andrew Jack and ODPP Principal Legal Officer and course facilitator Mr Yogesh Prasad with participants at the opening ceremony of the Basic Prosecution Course for Statutory Regulators at the Ministry of Civil Service Training Centre, Nasese, Suva on 1 April 2019.