



## ODPP MEDIA UPDATE

**Date:** 31 August 2015

**Name of matter:** STATE-v-KARUNARATNE. J &ORS

**Names of accused persons:**

- |                       |                 |
|-----------------------|-----------------|
| 1) Jagath Karunaratne | 4) Usaia Koroi  |
| 2) Mosese Bulitavu    | 5) Eroni Takape |
| 3) Waisale Daganayasi |                 |

**Charge:** Seditious contrary to section 66 (1) (i) and 67 (1) (a) of the Crimes Decree 2009.

**Update:**

This matter was called at the Suva Magistrates' Court before Chief Magistrate, Mr Usaia Ratuveli, today (31.08.15).

The application for bail variation for accused Mosese Bulitavu to leave the country in September 2015 was refused by the court citing that the application lacked material details that would have enabled the court to make a proper assessment as to whether bail should be granted or not.

The State also made an application in court to withdraw charges against accused Waisale Daganayasi, Usaia Koroi and Eroni Takape pursuant to section 169 (2) (b) (ii) of the Criminal Procedures Decree (CPD). The same was granted by the court and the three have been discharged by the court.

The State then made an application pursuant to section 182 of the (CPD) to amend the charges against accused Jagath Karunaratne and Mosese Bulitavu. The

same was served to both accused.

The State also informed the court that immunity has been granted to Waisale Daganayasi, Usaia Koroï and Eroni Takape and that police statements will be obtained from them soon and disclosed to the Defence before trial proper begins.

The three immunised persons will be called as prosecution witnesses for the trial proper.

The court ordered the State and the Defence to file submissions in relation to voir dire disclosures and the matter has been adjourned to Wednesday 2 September 2015 for ruling and voir dire trial.

**--Ends--**