



PRESS RELEASE (No. 7 of 2018)

TRIAL ADVOCACY TRAINING FOR STATE COUNSEL

Eleven prosecutors from the Office of the Director of Public Prosecutions (ODPP) completed an intensive three-day Trial Advocacy Training Course last week.

The advocacy training was conducted by two International Advocacy Training Council (IATC) accredited advocacy teachers, Mr Giles Surman from Hong Kong and Mr Ravi Nekoo from Malaysia.

Mr Surman is a member of the Hong Kong Bar Council and has been involved in advocacy training for over 10 years and Mr Nekoo is the treasurer of the Malaysian Bar and the Chairperson of the Malaysian National Legal Aid Committee. They were assisted by two ODPP Principal Legal Officers, Mr Sekonaia Vodokisolomone and Mr Yogesh Prasad.

The three-day intensive training, which is conducted by the ODPP twice a year, is part of the ODPP's continuing commitment to raise the standards of criminal trial advocacy in Fiji.

The training is based on the Hampel Method of advocacy training which is used by the Bar Council of England and Wales, the Hong Kong Bar Association, the Malaysian Bar Council, the Bar Council of Ireland, the Australian Bar

Association, the New Zealand Bar Association and the General Council of the Bar of South Africa to train their barristers.

-End-

16 October 2018.

NB: Pictures attached below.



Mr Giles Surman addressing ODPP State Counsel during a mock exercise on Saturday 13 October 2018 at the High Court in Suva.



(From L-R) ODPP Acting Principal Legal Officer Mr Rajneel Kumar, Principal Legal Officers Ms Juleen Fatiaki, Mr Semi Babitu, Assistant Director of Public Prosecutions Mr Lee Burney, Legal Officers Mr Saif Shah, Ms Saini Naibe, Ms Rukalesi Uce, Principal Legal Officer Mr Yogesh Prasad, Legal Officer Ms Shirley Tivao, Senior Legal Officer Mr Alvin Singh, Legal Officer Ms Susan Serukai and Principal Legal Officer Mr Sekonaia Vodokisolomone with Mr Giles Surman and Mr Ravi Nekoo (kneeling) after the completion of the 3-day Trial Advocacy Training on Sunday 14 October 2018.