



PRESS RELEASE (No.8 of 2020)

DPP appeals to staff to remain Stoic

The Director of Public Prosecutions, Christopher Pryde, urged attendees at the ODPP Annual Award's night on Friday (27.11.20) to remember the example of US Admiral Jim Stockdale, a prisoner of war in Vietnam from 1965 to 1973, and take responsibility for something when the world feels out of control.

Stockdale was a follower of the teachings of the Stoics who lived in 3rd century Greece and throughout his captivity never lost faith that he would prevail in the end whilst at the same time acknowledging and confronting the brutal facts of his reality.

Mr Pryde said, "Stockdale was both a realist and an optimist. He was optimistic about the future whilst at the same time being realistic about the present.

We, too, must acknowledge the brutal facts of the pandemic but we must retain our faith and our belief that we will in the end prevail. We must maintain a clear focus on our reality (no matter how harsh). Resilient people do not lie to themselves or to others; they face the facts squarely, whatever they may be. At the same time, we must hold onto hope. Faith at all times like this is essential.

In my office on the wall, as many of you have seen, hangs our unofficial motto which has become especially poignant during this time and which is a paraphrase of Stoic philosophy; "Keep calm and Carry on".

We must accept that whilst there is so much in the world that we cannot control, we can control our response to it. This is what it means to be Stoic.”

Ten corporate and legal officers received awards this year:

- Ms Unaisi Tamanikayaroi - Best Prosecutor Award
- Mr Taitusi Tuenuku- Best Advocate Award
- Ms Sheenal Swastika - Most Promising Prosecutor
- Mr Neelraj Sharma - Best Trial Junior
- Mr Rajneel Kumar- Best Mentions Team Member
- Ms Kiran Singh - Outstanding Performance (Corporate)
- Ms Akanisi Vosanibola - Most Promising employee (Corporate)
- Mr Shalen Kumar - Longest Serving Employee
- Ms Michelle Singh - ODPP 50th Anniversary Badge Designer
- Ms Farisha Ahmed - ODPP 50th Anniversary Time capsule Crest Designer

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15 December 2020

NB: *Pictures attached below*



ODPP Prosecutors and Corporate Staff during the ODPP Black Tie Awards Night at Eden Bistro and Bar on Friday (27.11.20).



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