



ODPP MEDIA UPDATE

High Court orders restraining order on assets in a drug case

The Office of the Director of Public Prosecutions (ODPP) welcomes a ruling by the Suva High Court granting a restraining order of over \$400,000 cash, residential properties and motor vehicles in relation to a drug case.

The ruling follows the ODPP's application for a permanent restraining order on assets after an interim order was granted in 2023 in State against Imran Khan, Deborah Kim and Rajneel Rohit. The ODPP had relied on sections 71G, 71K, 71L and 71M of the Proceeds of Crimes Act which stipulates the appropriate grounds to enable the court to declare unexplained wealth.

The case arose after border officials intercepted a package from the United States containing more than one kilograms of methamphetamine in February 2023. A controlled delivery operation by authorities led to arrests and the seizure of additional drugs, cash and assets.

In delivering her ruling, Justice Senileba Levaci found that the ODPP had established strong evidence that the respondents' assets were unexplained wealth and could not be adequately accounted for through legitimate income sources as claimed by the respondents.

The Court has declared the following assets as unexplained wealth and ordered that they be permanently restrained:

- i. \$404,840.34 held at Bred Bank
- ii. A three-bedroom concrete house and land at Lot 21 on DP 5225, Valelevu Housing Authority Sub-Lease No. 204059
- iii. Four motor vehicles: BMW sedan (FH 945), Toyota wagon (KNGKHN), Nissan sedan (913), and Toyota sedan (IV 991)

The ODPP is now making an application to have these assets forfeited to the State.

The ODPP reiterates its commitment to pursuing unexplained wealth linked to criminal activity and ensuring that proceeds of crime are recovered in accordance with the law.

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