



PRESS RELEASE (No. 8 of 2026)

ODPP Prioritises Drug Cases and Destruction of Drug Exhibits

The Office of the Director of Public Prosecutions (ODPP) has been made aware of the missing drug exhibits from the Court exhibit room in the Joshua Rahman matter, as well as the recent police finding that the remaining drug exhibits had been tampered with.

The ODPP considers these matters serious and notes that investigations into the missing and potentially tampered exhibits are ongoing.

The ODPP wishes to clarify that the destruction of drug exhibits is subject to the appropriate legal process. In the Joshua Rahman, the proceedings particularly re-trial and appeal processes remained ongoing. Following the conclusion of the proceedings, the ODPP was in the process of making the necessary drug destruction application when the discovery of missing drugs were made.

The ODPP cannot comment on the priorities or processes of the ODPP prior to 2023, however, since the establishment of the Anti-Narcotics Division in 2024, the ODPP is prioritising applications for the destruction of drug exhibits.

This is reflected in the Justin Ho matter, involving more than 4.1 tonnes of drugs, where the necessary application was made and the drugs have since been destroyed in accordance with the legal process. In the Vatia drug matter, the ODPP has already informed the Court of its intention to file an application for the destruction of the drug exhibits, with the application to be made on 15 October.

The ODPP recognises the importance of the proper and timely management of drug exhibits, particularly given the risks associated with their continued storage. The ODPP will continue to prioritise the destruction of drug exhibits where they are no longer required for evidential purposes and the necessary legal requirements have been satisfied.

In relation to the missing and potentially tampered exhibits, the ODPP will allow the investigations to take its normal course and will not be making any further comments.

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30 September 2026