



PNGCJE UPDATES

THIRD QUARTER FOR 2023

Lawyers complete one-day Whistleblower Protection workshop

Lawyers from the public and private sector completed a one-day training on Whistleblower Protection on 13 September, 2023. The training program was part of an initiative between the PNG Centre for Judicial Excellence and the United Nations Development Programme through the office of the UNDP Chief Technical Adviser, Dr. Alma Sedlar. Facilitator and UNDP international consultant in whistle blowing information and good governance Dr. Ashley Savage while speaking during the presentation told participants

that whistle blowers legislation was essential for detecting corruption, safeguarding public interest, and promoting a culture of accountability and integrity in both public and private institutions. Dr. Savage presented a number of topics on whistleblower protection including whistleblower reporting processes, data protection, confidentiality of whistleblowers, and other international best practices for protecting whistleblowers. A session on the key features of the Papua New Guinea Whistleblower Act 2020 was

also presented by the Office of the State Solicitor followed by a group exercise on advising whistleblowers. Participants were also involved in group discussions on protecting confidentiality and responding to investigations and complaints about occupational detriment. The Whistleblowers training is part of the Preventing and Countering Corruption in Papua New Guinea Project (PNG Anti-Corruption Project), funded by the European Union and implemented by UNODC and the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP). The project aims to

strengthen the Government's commitment and capacities to address corruption, effectively progress the Sustainable Development Goals for the benefit of all Papua New Guineans, and to further support the network of Non-State Actors in their anti-corruption efforts. The workshop was funded by the European Union through the United Nations Development Programme (PNG) and coordinated by the PNG Centre for Judicial Excellence and the Department of Justice and Attorney General.



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Judges and Magistrates attend regional training on Whistleblower Protection



Judges and Magistrates at the Whistleblower Protection Workshop.

Judges and Magistrates of the Supreme and National Courts, and the District Courts of Papua New Guinea as well as Justices from two Pacific Island countries, have successfully completed a training on Whistleblower Protection on 12 September 2023.

The training was an initiative between the PNG Centre for Judicial Excellence (PNGCJE) and the United Nations Development Programme through the office of the UNDP Chief Technical Adviser, Dr. Alma Sedlar.

Speaking during the opening of the workshop, PNG Centre for Judicial Excellence (PNGCJE) Judge Administrator, Justice John Carey said, “this was an opportune time for Judges and Magistrates to have an open discussion on the Whistleblowers Act 2020, in

a learning environment hosted by the Pacific/Papua New Guinea Centre for Judicial Excellence.

Key facilitator and UNDP international consultant in whistleblowing information and governance, Dr. Ashley Savage while delivering the training told the participants that whistleblowing was essential not only for detecting fraud, corruption and misconduct, but also for safeguarding public interest and promoting a culture of accountability and integrity. “The content of this presentation is what will be absolutely fundamental to the success of Whistleblower Protection in PNG,” Dr. Savage said.

Dr. Savage presented a number of sessions on topics related to international standards and good practices, requirements

for making protected disclosures, key considerations relating to whistleblower protection and employers’ rights and responsibilities under the law.

A session on the key features of the Papua New Guinea Whistleblowers Act 2020 and its potential issues and challenges, and remedies for occupational detriment was also presented by the Office of the State Solicitor to the Judges and Magistrates.

The Whistleblowers training is part of the Preventing and Countering Corruption in Papua New Guinea Project (PNG Anti-Corruption Project), funded by the European Union and implemented by UNODC and the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP). The project aims to strengthen the Government’s

commitment and capacities to address corruption, effectively progress the Sustainable Development Goals for the benefit of all Papua New Guineans, and to further support the network of Non-State Actors in their anti-corruption efforts.

The two (2) participating Judges from the Pacific region included the Chief Justice of Vanuatu, Justice Vincent Lunabek and Justice Ronald Bei Talasasa from the Solomon Islands Judiciary. The Whistleblower Protection training was funded by the European Union through the United Nations Development Programme (PNG) and coordinated by the PNG Centre for Judicial Excellence and the Department of Justice and Attorney General.

Regional Judicial officers attend Maritime and Admiralty Law workshop



Judges at the Maritime and Admiralty Law Workshop in Port Moresby.

The PNG Centre for Judicial Excellence successfully hosted a two-day workshop on Maritime and Admiralty Law in Port Moresby on 3 September, 2023.

This was the first time that a Regional Workshop on Maritime and Admiralty Law in Papua New Guinea for Judges and Magistrates. Whilst giving his opening remarks, Deputy Chief Justice and Acting Chief Justice Ambeng Kandakasi thanked the Judges, Magistrates and representatives from Maritime agencies for attending this important workshop.

“PNG is the biggest island nation in the Pacific, hence

Maritime and Admiralty Law is an area that is very important to all of us, Pacific Island Countries. Having Justice Steven Rares as lead facilitator of the workshop is extremely beneficial and I encourage Judges and Magistrates to take full advantage of the information that will be presented by His Honour,” Acting Chief Justice Kandakasi said.

Co-facilitators of the workshop were, Justice Vergil Narokobi and Justice Berna Collier from the National and Supreme Courts of Papua New Guinea. Key regulatory authorities in PNG that were invited to present a snapshot overview

of their roles in the maritime industry included:

- Office of the State Solicitor;
- PNG Ports Corporation Ltd;
- National Maritime Safety Authority;
- PNG Customs; and
- National Fisheries Authority.

These agencies gave presentations on the challenges they face in relation to maritime and admiralty legislation.

Justice Rares is currently a national co-convening judge and the New South Wales Registry Convening judge for the Admiralty and Maritime National Practice. In June of this year, he was made a titular member of the Comit’e

Maritime International and has been a member of its International Working Group on Offshore Activities since its creation in 2012.

Justice Rares presentation focused on the nature and character of maritime law worldwide, and PNG governance and regulation of shipping.

Complexity of arrangements for deployment of ships, Admiralty Act and Rules, arrest management, and sale of a ship were among other topics presented by Justice Rares and the co-facilitators.

Lawyers and Court Officers attend workshop

The PNGCJE hosted a Maritime and Admiralty Law seminar for Lawyers from the public and private sectors on 5 September, at the Waigani National and Supreme Court premise.

Honourable Justice Steven Rares from the Federal Court of Australia was the guest

presenter, supported by co-facilitator, Honourable Justice Vergil Narokobi from the PNG National and Supreme Courts.

Whilst giving the opening remarks, Justice Rares told the participants that PNG was one of the largest Island nations in the world, hence Maritime and

Admiralty Law was an area of importance to it.

Justice Rares, who is currently a national co-convening judge and the New South Wales registry convening judge for the Admiralty and Maritime National Practice, explained the nature and character of maritime law worldwide, and

PNG governance and regulation of shipping. He further discussed the complexity of the arrangements for deployment of ships, the Admiralty Act and Rules, management and sale of ships, and drew on his wealth of knowledge and expertise on cases that he had presided over.

Provincial judges attend Supreme Court Duties workshop

Thirteen (13) provincial judges from the Supreme and National courts successfully completed a one-day workshop on Supreme Court duties for provincial judge administrators on 23 August, 2023. Deputy Chief Justice Ambeng Kandakasi while giving the opening remarks said there was only one Judge going around provinces for the supreme court listing and hearing. “We do have provincial judges and they can step into the role of managing and hearing supreme court matters. For this

to happen, training on Supreme Court matters is necessary so that everyone is on the same page,” Deputy Chief Justice Kandakasi said. “Each of you are experienced managers in your own setting. You are already there in terms of hearing court appeals from the District Court to the National Court. This training is another step up to hearing Supreme Court matters,” he said. The main objective of the training was to assist provincial judges understand how to

manage Supreme Court matters in their respective provinces, and be able to manage these matters on the IECMS and Case Docketing System databases. The workshop was coordinated by the Program Officer for Judges and Magistrates, Mr. Tongia Kekebogi and facilitated by Justice Colin Makail of the PNG National and Supreme Courts Senior Registry officers, Mr George Raka and Mr Robert Tony also presented a session on the Integrated

Electronic Case Management System (IECMS). Upon conclusion of the workshop, Justice Stephen Kassman expressed gratitude on behalf of the Provincial Judges who took part, extending thanks to both the facilitators and PNGCJE for providing an exceptionally engaging training session. He conveyed their eagerness to handle Supreme Court matters in their respective Provincial Court locations moving forward.



Provincial judges who attended the Supreme Court Duties workshop.

Customer satisfaction fundamental for work of courts

Customer satisfaction is fundamental for the growth and work of the Courts. These were the remarks made by Program officer for the National Judicial Staff Services (NJSS) Mr. Peter Michael during a two-day (16 -17 August) customer service training in Kerema, Gulf province. The training was facilitated by Ms. Emmah John, PNGCJE Program Officer for the Magisterial Services and Mr. Michael. A total of 18 officers attended

the Customer Service training which was aimed at equipping Court officers with basic customer service skills to ensure court user needs are attended to in a timely manner. Upon completion of the course, participants are expected to demonstrate confidence and improved knowledge and skills in problem-solving. Mr. Michael added that as part of the Judiciary, it is important to maintain public confidence and trust, and ensure access to justice for all is promoted at the

courts. “Court officers are expected to exhibit high level of professionalism and ethical principles. All court users seeking redress at Courts for any matter, should return home satisfied, even if the solution is not in their favour. This is the fundamental role of customer service in the organization,” said Mr. Michael. He further stated that in the interest of promoting access to justice and effective service delivery, effective customer

service is crucial. “Successful customer service mechanism in an organization earns public trust and confidence in the products and services it offers,” he reiterated. The participants in the Customer Service training were comprised of officers from the National Court, the District Court, the Public Solicitor’s Office, Department of Justice and Attorney General and the village courts in Kerema.



(Seated L-R) Mr. Facilitator Fabrizio Fioroni, UN Resident Coordinator Mr. Richard Stephen Howard, Chief Justice Sir Gibbs Salika, Justice Michael Hopmeier, Justice Teresa Berrigan and Justice John Carey with Magistrates and Judicial staff at the workshop in Port Moresby.

Judges and Magistrates attend Anti-money Laundering and Counter Terrorism Finance training

A total of twenty-four (24) Magistrates and six (6) Judges of the Supreme and National Courts of PNG completed a four-day Anti-money Laundering and Counter Terrorism Finance training in Port Moresby. The workshop, which ran from 8 August to 11 August 2023, was organized by the PNG Centre for Judicial Excellence in collaboration with the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime and supported by the Government of Norway through the Norway's International Climate and Forest Initiative (NICFI). In his opening remarks, the Chief Justice of Papua New Guinea, Sir Gibbs Salika challenged the Judges and Magistrates to engage with the facilitators and share knowledge and ideas on how to address anti-money laundering and counter terrorism finance in the country. "Majority of the Judges from the PNG Judiciary have

participated in this training in 2022 and we have extended the training this year to include our Magistrates as it is beneficial in providing them with a sound background knowledge on anti-money laundering and counter terrorism financing. "It is important that we understand the context of anti-money laundering and counter terrorism financing in terms of knowledge, skills and awareness as Judges and Judicial officers. "Money laundering is a crime and those who attempt to legitimize this illegal activity undermine the integrity of the financial system. It maybe that many in the public are not aware of this crime and there is likely a need for an awareness campaign to educate our society," he said. United Nations Resident Coordinator, Mr. Richard Stephen Howard Jr, while speaking at the training, said PNG has a rich cultural heritage and vast potential, blessed with an abundance

of natural resources, and deserves a future free from the shadows of illicit financial activities. "These resources are not just the pride of this nation but also the backbone of its economy. However, with great wealth comes great vulnerability. Criminal elements, both domestic and international, see these resources as ripe for exploitation, using them as vehicles to generate illegal proceeds. "Illegal logging, unregulated mining, illegal fishing, and wildlife trafficking are just a few examples of how these criminals exploit our environment. They strip the land, sea, and forests, leaving behind a trail of environmental degradation, social disruption, and economic loss. The proceeds from these activities are then laundered through complex networks, making it challenging to trace and recover," Mr. Howard said. He said PNG's strategic

location exposes the nation to heightened risks from transnational criminal organizations. "These groups exploit the vast and complex maritime routes for the trafficking of illegal commodities, turning the Pacific into a conduit for their illicit activities. "As judges and magistrates, you hold a pivotal role in shaping this future. Your decisions can set precedents, inspire change, and ensure that the rule of law prevails over the clandestine operations of money launderers and other criminals. I commend the judiciary of PNG for taking this proactive step, for seeking knowledge, and for committing to be at the forefront of this battle. The United Nations stands with you, ready to support, guide, and collaborate in every possible way," Mr. Howard said.

Officers receive Certificate in Leadership Foundation program

Eight (8) staff from the National Judicial Staff Services who participated in the 2022 PNG Law and Justice Sector Leadership Foundations Program, received their Certificates of Completion on 4 August 2023.

Among the eight staff was PNG Centre for Judicial Excellence Program Officer for Regional Court Officers, Ms. Arabella Owen. The seven other NJSS officers included:

1. Delmay Mukar - Budget Officer - Finance
2. Georgina Parina - Project Officer - ICCSD
3. Robert Rory Yagas - Senior Internal Auditor (Acting) - Audits
4. Robert Tony - Project Officer - Special Project Registry Service Unit
5. Stuart Koltes - Acting

Director - Court Reporting Service

6. Anthony Walo - Project Officer - Special Project Registry Service Unit

7. Joyceline Matsi-Kurapa - Systems Analysis & Development Officer - IT

Ms. Owen stated that this program was vital for people in executive management and supervisory roles to develop leadership skills as they move up in status or ranks within their respective organizations.

“The objective of the Leadership Foundation Program is to train individuals in senior management/supervisory roles or those intending to elevate to senior roles, to take ownership of their jobs, develop leadership skills, and be creative and innovative.

The program aims to assist

leaders increase employee morale and retention, improve productivity, and build better teams within their organisations,” Ms. Owen said. Speaking during the graduation ceremony, Chair of the Leadership Learning and Development Reference Group, Ms. Angelyn Paranda said it was the first graduation for the PNG Law and Justice Sector Leadership Foundation Program.

“Our journey began last March and rolled over to April this year. There was a number of important topics and subjects which were taught to all the participants. We thank the Australian Human Resource Institute, Justice Services and Stability for Development Program (JSS4D), and other members of our community

who were also instrumental and shared very important experiences on the role of a leader with us,” Ms. Paranda said.

Secretary for the Department of Justice and Attorney General, Dr. Eric Kwa in his address, congratulated the participants for their hard work and commitment to the program. He reminded the thirty-six (36) graduands that a leader is a person who has no fear and is truthful and honest. Ms. Owen thanked the facilitators/coordinators of the program and the NJSS Human Resource Division and Training section for nominating the eight (8) NJSS officers to be part of the graduating team.



The team from the National Judicial Staff Services.



Officers from PNGCJE Stakeholder agencies.

PNGCJE holds stakeholder meeting to improve access to justice



Judge Carey speaking to the staff.



Stakeholders from the Magisterial Services.

Program Officers of the PNG Centre for Judicial Excellence (PNGCJE) with key stakeholders held the first stakeholder meeting on 2 August, 2023. The aim of the meeting was to build relationships and partner together to improve the delivery of training for the law and justice sector and improve access to justice for all.

In attendance were officers from the Department of Justice and Attorney General (Legal Policy and Governance Branch), the Village Court Secretariat, the Public Prosecutor's Office,

the Magisterial Services (District Court) and the PNG Centre for Judicial Excellence.

PNGCJE Judge Administrator, Justice John Carey, while speaking during the stakeholder meeting, challenged the officers to think about the people they were working for and how they could help assist them. Justice Carey said the Memorandum of Understanding which was signed between the Chief Justice of the Supreme and National Courts, the Chief Magistrate and the Secretary for the

Department of Justice and Attorney General, was a relationship that was intended to drive the delivery of judicial training for all stakeholders.

"We are doing this to improve access to justice for the people of PNG," Justice Carey said.

"This meeting is to discuss with stakeholders training needs and to identify areas where PNGCJE can provide support. We run an average of 70 training activities a year, but these programs somehow have not fully captured some of our stakeholders, therefore we

need to hear from you what your area of needs are. From there we can work together to develop programs targeted for each organization," he said.

During the meeting, the program officers for the Law and Justice Sector, Lay Judicial Officers, and the Magisterial Services discussed with each of their stakeholders what specific trainings each agency needed to develop for their respective clients. Other areas to improve, include the design, development and delivery of judicial education and training programs.

Three Judges welcomed to the bench



Justice Paul Tusais



Justice Nerrie Eliakim



Justice John Carey

Three Judges were formally welcomed during a ceremonial sitting at the Waigani Supreme and National Court recently. The Judges are: Justice Paul Kima Tusais, Justice Nerrie Piniau Eliakim and Justice John Carey.

They were formally welcomed to the bench by the Chief Justice Sir Gibbs Salika and other Judges of the Supreme and National Court. The ceremony was attended by the Minister for Justice and Attorney General Pila Niningi, Justice Secretary Dr. Eric Kwa,

PNG Law Society President Mr. Allan Mana, the Law Fraternity, staff of the National Judicial Staff Services, families of the Judges and the general public. Chief Justice Sir Gibbs Salika whilst welcoming the judges said each judge had a variety of experience in their field which

eventually took them to where they are now. According to the Chief Justice each of the judges were appointed by the Judicial Legal Commission.

NJSS staff attend Ethics and Integrity workshop

Twenty (20) staff from the National Judicial Staff Services were reminded to maintain integrity and uphold ethical values in their line of work. Justice John Carey delivered this message to the participants during a one-day Ethics and Integrity workshop. “Maintaining good ethics and conduct will lead to better decision making and improved

court performance as we facilitate access to justice for the people of Papua New Guinea,” Justice Carey said. He said ethics was about doing right, and that being such should come from the heart. “We must uphold ethical values of honesty, integrity and respect in our work environment and avoid misuse of facilities that belong to the

institution,” Justice Carey said. The training participants discussed the following topics:

1. What is ethics and integrity?
2. Why ethics and integrity is important in the workplace; and
3. The components of ethics and integrity.

Secretary to Judge, Ms. Rakana Varage-Manoka said she was privileged to attend such a

workshop as it was her first since joining PNGCJE/NJSS. “In my previous employment I had never attended training on how to develop strong work ethics. For me to attend this, is a great privilege and I know the other participants are also fortunate to attend,” she said.



Justice John Carey speaking to the participants during the Ethics and Integrity Workshop.



Participants doing discussions on a given topic.

Court officers attend Gender Equity and Social Inclusion program

The PNG Centre for Judicial Excellence conducted the second provincial awareness program on Gender Equity and Social Inclusion on 29 July, 2023, at the Huon Gulf Hotel in Lae, Morobe Province. A total of twenty (20) officers from the Lae National Courthouse including security and registry

staff, participated in this one-day program on the principles and values of gender equity and social inclusion in the work environment. The main goal of the awareness was to highlight the importance of the National Public Service Gender Equity and Social Inclusion Policy and its relevance to promoting a

respectful, equitable and inclusive work culture that is free from all forms of discrimination and harassment. Ms. Debbie Laudiwana, PNGCJE Research and Publications Manager and NJSS GESI focal point, took the participants through the development and implementation

of the Gender Equity and Social Inclusion policy and the process of integrating GESI principles and values into service delivery. The GESI awareness program was funded by the PNGCJE and coordinated by Program Officer for the National Judicial Staff Services, Mr. Peter Michael.



Participants listening to the GESI presentation by Ms. Laudiwana.

PNG senior legal professionals attend Pasefika Lawyers Collective Conference



(Sixth from left) The Honourable Chief Justice of the Supreme Court of Samoa, Satiu Simativa Perese with participants of the Pasefika Lawyers Conference.

More than 200 members of the legal fraternity throughout the Pacific region converged in Apia, Samoa on the 26 to 28 July for the Pasefika Lawyers Collective Conference. The keynote address was presented by the Hon Chief Justice Simativa Satiu Perese of the Supreme Court of Samoa who drew on his “experience of thirty years of practice and legal training in Samoa, New Zealand and Cook Is and the exposure to different ways of understanding the law”. Chief Justice Perese also stated that

each of the participants have a higher purpose and encouraged them to reflect on that as well during the three-day workshop. With the theme, “Diversity: Valuing Pasefika Cultural Lens in Law and the Legal Profession”, the conference was an initiative by the Pasefika Legal Professionals Network Association, focusing on bringing Pacific Island lawyers together to connect, share views and learn more about the region’s cultural diversity and its impact on the practice of law.

Representing Papua New Guinea in the conference were the Solicitor General of PNG, Mr. Tauvasa Tanuvasa, who is also a Council Member of the PNG Law Society and the Acting Deputy Executive Director of the PNG Centre for Judicial Excellence, and Pacific Centre for Judicial Excellence Mrs. Stacey Levakia-Wali. Special invited guests to the conference included Chief Justice of the Supreme Court of Queensland - Justice Helen Bowskill, Judge of the Queensland Court of

Appeal-Justice Philip Morrison, Justice Hamnet Dhanji of the Supreme Court of NSW and the Judge of the District Court of Queensland- Jenelle Brassington and Chief Magistrate of Norfolk Island - Wendy Cull. Also participating in the conference as speakers and presenters were a high caliber of legal professionals including academics and senior lawyers from Australia, New Zealand, Samoa and the United States.

PNGCJE Executive Director appointed as Judge of the PNG National and Supreme Courts



(Centre) Hon. Justice John Carey with staff of PNG Centre for Judicial Excellence.

The Executive Director of the PNG Centre for Judicial Excellence (PNGCJE), John Carey, was among three (3) of the recently appointed Judges of the National and Supreme Courts of Papua New Guinea. Justice John Carey, is fully aware of the rigid work needed in reaching professional growth and success, having been admitted as a lawyer in Fiji in 2013, the Cayman Islands in 2016, the Bahamas in 2022, and eligible for admission in 17 Commonwealth Caribbean countries.

"I practiced Law in the Cayman Islands, handling criminal and civil litigation and as a Consulting Lawyer in the Bahamas in civil litigation. In addition to my legal career, I have six years of experience as the Executive Director and Judicial Educator for the PNGCJE. I also had the

privilege to be the secretary to the Board of the PNGCJE, whose chair is the Chief Justice of PNG," Justice Dr. Carey said.

Honourable Justice Carey also did pro-bono work in Human Rights in the Cayman Islands. He was a Volunteer lawyer at the Family Resource Centre in Grand Cayman where he regularly provided free legal advice at a weekly legal aid clinic on a range of issues inclusive of employment, family (divorce, domestic violence, and ancillary matters), immigration, criminal and land law.

Justice Carey is a member of the following:

1. Bahamas Bar Association;
2. Cayman Islands Legal Practitioners Association;
3. Papua New Guinea Human Resource Institute;
4. Fellow of the Commonwealth Judicial

Education Institute;
 5. Regional Council Member for Pacific, Commonwealth Magistrates and Judges Association; and
 6. Former Council Representative for the Cayman Islands and current Member, Commonwealth Lawyers Association.

Justice Carey is also an Accredited Mediator in Australia and a Provisionally Accredited Mediator in Papua New Guinea having extensively been involved in improving access to justice through judicial education and training programs.

He has lectured at the Northern Caribbean University in Jamaica, the University College of the Cayman Islands and taught at the Secondary School level in the Bahamas in the mid-1990s. Justice Carey has published numerous articles in

international journals including the Commonwealth Magistrates and Judges Association Journal, Commonwealth Parliamentary Association Journal, International Organisation for Judicial Training (IOJT) Journal and International Journal of Insights and Transformations in Law about crime and justice, as well as topics related to judicial education, gender equality, and constitutional matters in the Pacific and the Caribbean. Books written by Justice Carey included Political Speeches from the Bahamas, National Discourse: Bahamian Perspective, Taxation: The Suitability of the Non-Direct Tax Regime for the Cayman Islands and Political Discourses.

PNGCJE Executive Director appointed as Judge of the PNG National and Supreme Courts

PNGCJE Executive Director was recently sworn-in at the Government House as a Judge of the National and Supreme Courts and was witnessed by Chief Justice Sir Gibbs Salika, Minister for Justice & Attorney General Pila Niningi, his family and staff of PNGCJE. Below is a pictorial of his appointment.



(From left-right) Justice Carey, Justice Eliakim, Deputy Chief Justice Ambeng Kandakasi, Minister for Justice and Attorney General Pila Niningi, Governor General Sir Bob Dadae, Chief Justice Sir Gibbs Salika, Justice Les Gavara-Nanu and Acting Justice Kupmain.



Justice Carey saying the allegiance oath at the Government House in front of the Governor General Sir Bob Dadae.



Justice Carey with family and NJSS Sheriff Manager, James Kenosi.



(From left-right) Acting Justice Kupmain, Justice Carey and Justice Eliakim.



(From left-right) Justice Carey, Justice Eliakim, Governor General Sir Bob Dadae, Chief Justice Sir Gibbs Salika and Acting Justice Kupmain.



Justice Carey with PNGCJE staff and his family after the swearing-in ceremony.



Justice Carey shaking hands with the Governor General Sir Bob Dadae after the swearing-in ceremony.



Justice Carey saying the judicial oath at the Government House in front of the Governor General Sir Bob Dadae.



(From left-right) PNGCJE driver Kori Tolpari with Justice Carey's family.



Justice Carey cutting the congratulatory cake.



PNGCJE program officer, Vali Kila speaking during the congratulatory ceremony.



Justice Carey seated (middle) with PNGCJE staff.



Justice Carey speaking during the staff meeting.

Delivering effective and responsive Judicial Education and Training for a competent and efficient Judiciary

PCJE Program Officer graduates from an executive women's program

PCJE program officer Ms. Arabella Owen graduated alongside 15 other female participants from a senior executive women's training program on 7 July, 2023. The training, which was tailored to support women, build confidence and expand knowledge and skills in business operations, was

coordinated by the Business Coalition for Women (BCFW). It was aimed at encouraging participants establish network with other senior women in the private and public sectors. "This program has given me and other executive women who have participated, the opportunity to expand our capabilities and confidence in handling work. The

program also taught me a lot of skills and encouraged me to build network with women in other organizations", Ms. Owen stated.

"I was pleased to see that a good number of women already in leadership roles had attended the program, particularly from the Department of Justice and Attorney General, RPNGC

(Police), Public Prosecutor's Office and the Magisterial Services, including Deputy Chief Magistrate (Judicial) Ms. Josephine Kilage.

"I appreciate what the Justice Services and Stability for Development (JSS4D) has done in nominating the other women executives and myself for this training," she further mentioned.

Staff in Mendi complete two-day Customer Service training

A total of twenty (20) officers from the National Judicial Staff Services (NJSS) in Mendi, Southern Highlands Province completed a two-day customer service training in July. Program Officer for the National Judicial Staff Services and lead facilitator of the training, Mr. Peter Michael said that a total of 12 participants out of the nominated twenty (20) were staff from the National Court, while the remaining eight (8) officers were from the District

Court and the Magisterial Services.

The purpose of the customer service training was to build capacity of officers, and to ensure that:

- There is efficiency in the day-to-day operations of the Courts and in the administration of justice;
- Public confidence is maintained in relation to the work of the Courts;
- There is no discrimination in the workplace and when serving court users; and

• Discipline and professionalism are practiced and maintained at all times; Mr. Michael said both the National Court and District Court participants were impressed with the program, stating that improved customer service was a gray area that has been lacking training and capacity building for the past years.

"The training is essential as it will also contribute towards changing public perception of the Courts, and to ensure that

Courts become the desired place to settle disputes," Mr. Michael said.

Mr. Michael said the training is recommended for the senior management of both the National Judicial Staff Services and the Magisterial Services to consider qualified customer service officers in the provinces. This is to ensure there is effectiveness and efficiency in service delivery and in the administration of justice.

Staff of the National Judicial Staff Services undergo Protocol training

Projecting a professional image of the National Judicial Staff Services and the Judiciary is vital.

These were the remarks made by former secretary of the Department of Foreign Affairs and Protocol Training facilitator, Ms. Barbara Age during a four-day protocol training which was held at the PNG Centre for Judicial Excellence (PNGCJE) training room.

"Such trainings are good for the Judiciary as it is one of the three arms of the Government. We have never

really paid attention in the past to the work of the Judiciary and how they manage protocol issues within their organization. This training will help develop and enhance participants skills and their capability to prepare for and organize international and national events. It might be easy, but it is not that simple because there are a lot of things that need to be taken into consideration, whether it be the program aspects, arranging logistics, or security aspects. All of these need to be understood by everyone involved

particularly in coordinating international events," Ms. Age said.

Ms. Age added that attending such trainings will lift the profile and professional image of the Judiciary. PNGCJE Program Officer for Law and Justice Sector Agencies and protocol training coordinator, Ms. Vali Kila said there were a total of thirty-six (36) participants who had to be divided into two separate groups. The first batch of participants attended the first two days, followed by the second batch in the last two

days.

She stated that this was the first protocol training since Covid-19. The last training was conducted for the Judiciary in preparation for the Commonwealth Magistrates and Judges Association Conference in July 2019. PNGCJE Secretary Ms. Lyanne Veama said the training was exceptional and that it should be carried out in all divisions of the National Judicial Staff Services to promote efficiency in terms of delivering international standard protocols," Ms. Veama said.

Madang Court Officers undergo Gender Equity and Social Inclusion Training

“Gender Equity and social inclusion in the justice system is one of the important factors in fairer justice system outcomes, such as greater public trust in the justice system where the workforce embraces GESI principles and values (OSCE/ODIHR).” This was the key message by Ms. Debbie Laudiwana, PNGCJE Research and Publications Manager in her presentation to Madang National Court officers during the Gender Equity and Social Inclusion awareness program held on 28 June. A total of eighteen (18) officers,

ranging from security staff to the Acting Assistant Registrar, Mr. Roy Bakarum, participated in this lively and interactive workshop aimed at promoting gender equity and social inclusion practices in the workplace. Key topics covered during the awareness program included factors that influence Gender Equity and Social Inclusion in the workplace, GESI key priority areas and mainstreaming GESI principles and values into the workplace. From the sessions presented by the facilitator and feedback

from the staff, it was noted that there was greater expectation on NJSS managers to take the lead in implementing GESI principles and values in the workplace to prevent discrimination, bias, and other work-related issues. “Managers must follow set organizational goals. They must be fair and just in their decisions, promote equal access to training opportunities and information for professional development,” said Madang Court Reporting Officer, Mr. Jeffrey Patal. Acting Assistant Registrar for

the Madang National Court added that even though it was a short awareness program, there were a lot of things that the officers learnt that they could instill in the work environment. “A lot of what we’ve learnt today, once put into practice can help create a chain reaction of improved behaviour and participation by all,” said Mr. Bakarum. The GESI Awareness program was funded by the PNGCJE and coordinated by the Program Officer for the National Judicial Staff Services, Mr. Peter Michael.



Participants in a group discussion.

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About Us

The PNG Centre for Judicial Excellence was established in 2010 under a Memorandum of Understanding entered into between the Chief Justice of the Supreme and National Courts, the Chief Magistrate and the Secretary for the Department of Justice and Attorney General. The Centre is primarily responsible for the delivery of professional continuing judicial trainings and development activities for Judges, Magistrates, Court Staff and other officers of the Law and Justice Sector Agencies in PNG as well as other Pacific Island countries.

Key Objectives for the establishment of PNGCJE

- Promote Judicial Excellence;
- Promote professional development and training and;
- Foster awareness of judicial administration, developments in the law and social and community issues.

Our Core Values

The core values that underpin the professional development activities of PNGCJE are;

- Excellence in the professional integrity and competence of judicial officers and Court Staff;
- Excellence in dispensation of justice by the courts according to international best practices;
- High level of competency, skills and experiences of Judicial Officers and Court Staff;
- Maintenance of democracy, good governance and the Rule of Law by the Judiciary.

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