

## **CLOSING SPEECH**

### **FICAC Investigators Induction Training**

**Uwate Biutanaseva**

**Manager - West/North**

Bula Vinaka to the people of Fiji tuning in to our Facebook live-feed and to our newly Inducted Investigators, Facilitators and friends

Good Afternoon.

On behalf of our Madam Acting Commissioner, Ms. Lavi Rokoika, it gives me great pleasure as Manager West/North to address you at the closing of this important Investigation Induction Training Programme at the FICAC West Office in Lautoka.

Over the past 7 days, you have been immersed in the principles, procedures, and ethical standards that underpin investigative excellence within the Commission.

Firstly, we would like to extend our sincere congratulation to each of you.

We also wish to express our appreciation for your attention and dedication throughout the training as you embark on your new journey in this investigative role.

In transitioning from Corruption Prevention to Investigations, your wealth of experience through your education advocacy Programme on corruption, offers a unique and invaluable lens as you now step into investigative roles.

Moving forward will be a dual one, serving both in education and investigations.

This dual responsibility not only strengthens FICAC's ability to detect and address corruption, but also reinforces our preventive efforts through digital platforms to ensure wider reach and greater efficiency.

Prevention and investigation are two sides of the same coin.

While prevention anticipates and mitigates risks, investigation detects and exposes the wrongdoing.

Your ability to connect the dots between systemic vulnerabilities and investigative findings will make our work more proactive and holistic.

We hope this training has deepened your understanding of our mission and sharpened the minds to the work you will now do.

Always remember: the power to investigate is a privilege, it is not a right. It must be exercised with fairness, impartiality, and strict adherence to the law.

Throughout this induction, you have been equipped with the necessary knowledge of investigative processes, interviewing techniques, case management, evidence handling, and most importantly, the values of integrity, accountability, and professionalism.

But remember, this training is only the beginning.

The real test lies in the field.

Each case you handle, each witness you meet, and each decision you make will contribute to the bigger picture of our collective fight against corruption in Fiji.

As investigators, we must not only be fact-finders, we must be guardians of justice.

Our work must not only stand up in court but also in the court of public confidence.

The people of Fiji look to us not just for results, but for assurance that investigations are conducted fairly without fear or favor.

In closing, I thank our Acting Commissioner, Ms Rokoika, the facilitators, both from the West and Headquarters in Suva, and all those who made this Induction Programme a success.

Your guidance and support have laid the groundwork for developing capable, courageous, and principled investigators.

To the graduating team, welcome officially to the investigative arm of FICAC.

Let your work be driven not by position or power, but by purpose and principle.

May you all serve with honor and integrity.

**Vinaka**