

## FICAC MEDIA STATISTICS UPDATE

Media Update: 1/2024 8 October 2024

## FICAC Statistics - September 2024

The following data is authorised for release by the Commissioner of the Fiji Independent Commission Against Corruption (FICAC) and relates to the number of complaints received by FICAC; number of individuals charged; types of offences and number of cases before the Courts which were disposed of for the reporting period 1-30 September 2024.

A total of thirty-nine complaints were lodged with FICAC and underwent assessment by the Legal & Prosecution Department. Through the assessment, twenty-six complaints were corruption related in nature and were recommended for either preliminary investigation or a full investigation whilst thirteen complaints were non-corruption related in nature and were recommended for referrals to the relevant authorities.

Furthermore, FICAC charged a total of two cases, consisting of four accused, in which, three of the accused were Male and one of the accused was Female. The types of offences charged are *Obtaining Financial Advantage (two counts); General Dishonesty – Causing A Loss (one count); Conspiracy to Defraud – Obtaining A Gain (one count) and Abuse of Office (one count).* 

A total of four cases before the Courts were disposed of for the reporting period and the details of those cases are:

<u>FICAC vs. Amjad Ali</u> – FICAC filed for Nolle Prosequi on 17 September 2024 due to crucial witnesses having migrated; deceased and another not medically fit to give evidence.

<u>FICAC vs. Justin Ho</u> – Ho pled guilty and sentenced on 26 September 2024 to nine-months imprisonment suspended for three years.

<u>FICAC vs. Suliasi Sukanaivalu</u> – The appellant appealed against his conviction of the offence under Section 3 of the Prevention of Bribery Act which was allowed by the Court. The Court delivered its ruling on 27 September 2024 in which the appellant's conviction and sentence on the charge under Section 3 of the Prevention of Bribery are quashed.

<u>FICAC vs. Afrana Nisha</u> – Leave to Appeal was dismissed under Section 35 (2) of the Court of Appeal. The Chief Magistrate is directed to have the case mentioned within the two weeks with Notice to both parties to fix an early trial date. The ruling on this matter was delivered on 30 September 2024.

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