

## PRESS RELEASE

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The Fiji Independent Commission Against Corruption (FICAC) notes with concern recent public comments by Honourable Member of Parliament, Jone Usamate, regarding the reinstatement of certain individuals allegedly linked to the Commission.

FICAC confirms for the record that Mr Kuli Ragisa and Mr Mesake Waga have never been employed by the Commission in any capacity. Any suggestion to the contrary is factually incorrect and misleading.

Given the misinformation circulated by the Honourable Member of Parliament, it is prudent that the Honourable Member and the general public refrain from further commentary and await the official report from the Office of the President.

As Acting Commissioner, I reaffirm that employment matters within FICAC are solely within the Commission's statutory authority, under which I have been appointed to act. The Fiji Independent Commission Against Corruption Act 2007 grants full legal responsibility to the Commissioner to oversee internal governance, including recruitment, appointment, and disciplinary issues. These decisions are not subject to instructions from Members of Parliament.

FICAC operates independently of political influence. Public pressure or parliamentary commentary will not dictate the Commission's decisions.

We will not be making further public statements at this stage while internal consultations are ongoing.

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