



Legal education for lawyers

WELCOME to another edition of Court Page.

This week we bring to you an important event for PNG lawyers jointly organised by the Commonwealth Lawyers Association, PNG Law Society, Bar Association of Queensland, PNGCJE and PNG AUS

Partnership.

The CLE (Continuing Legal Education) event is set for September 5, 2023.

It is an important event, as there is no formal legal education available in PNG other than what a few big law firms do internally.

We bring to you a piece by David

Denniston, a council member for Papua New Guinea Commonwealth Lawyers Association, basically explaining the event.

We also welcome a new female acting judge Pauline Bre, who was sworn in on Tuesday.

On Page 11, we farewell a very senior lawyer, Sarea Soi, who

peacefully passed on last month.

We once again remind you that "Court page" is a weekly page that runs every Thursday.

We urge you our valued readers, to contribute to these pages with comments, issues and queries that you may have on our two high courts. The Office of the Registrar

of the Supreme and National Court can explain, clarify or assist you in your queries.

Contact us on this email: tkelola@spp.com.pg

Continuing legal education event

THE Commonwealth Lawyers Association (CLA) PNG is collaborating to host a continuing legal education (CLE) event in Port Moresby in September.

This will be in conjunction with the PNG Centre for Judicial Excellence (PNGCJE), the Bar Association of Queensland, the PNGAus Partnership, LLLS Lawyers, Ashurst, Allens Linklaters and vLex.

The CLE topics to be covered are advocacy in mediation, Personal Property Security Act fundamentals, recent changes to the Companies Act, Investment Promotion Act and the Associations Incorporation

Act, recent legal developments with respect to mergers and acquisitions and listing on the PNG Stock Exchange and new legal technology and tools for PNG.

When the CLA met in late 2022 with the Chief Justice, the PNG-CLJE, the QLD Bar, Justice Logan and other legal leaders in PNG and the region and asked what they can do to help, the resounding priority response was, support legal education for lawyers, followed by support for the rule of law and access to justice. The PNGAus Partnership, through their JSS4D law and justice program, was also approached for

support and they said they wanted to see a locally led sustainable legal education program which also empowered women.

The CLE event in September will largely achieve these aspirations and it is hoped it will be the first of many for which other PNG legal associations will collaborate.

Other legal jurisdictions have compulsory CLE programs, whereby lawyers must undertake 10 hours of legal education per year across four competency areas which includes, time spent attending and delivering legal education. The four competency areas are generally: substan-

tive law, practice management and business development, ethics and professional responsibility, and professional skills. This is a model PNG could consider and if was adopted an increase of options and attendance in legal education would likely arise.

Further legal education is contemplated for PNG such as advocacy trainer training, and with the CLA and the Commonwealth Chamber of Commerce, the business case for the rule of law as there is a strong relationship between economic prosperity and a strong rule of law.



DAVID Denniston
Commonwealth Lawyers Association - PNG Council Member

Acting judge sworn in



LEFT: Chief Justice Sir Gibbs Salika, Governor-General Sir Bob Dadae and newly appointed acting judge Pauline Bre with members of the judiciary after she was sworn in.

BY MELVIN IRAI

A NEW acting judge has been appointed to the bench.

She is Pauline Bre from Chimbu Province. Before her appointment, she was a commissioner for the Internal Revenue Commission (IRC).

On Tuesday she was sworn in by the Governor-General Sir Bob Dadae at Government House

According to the Chief Justice of Papua New Guinea, Sir Gibbs Salika, the acting judge brings with her expertise in taxation law, since she was a senior lawyer at the Taxation office.

"Because of her experience, the Judicial Legal Services Commission (JLSC) appointed her. We need expertise from other areas of law as well, therefore, from the taxation office, she's bringing with her the many years of experience she has as a lawyer.

"That area of the law is a complicated area, and we need people who have the right experience in taxation law," Sir Gibbs said.

The Chief Justice said that right now there is only one acting judge who is currently on duty, with the

appointment of Ms Bre, the judiciary now has two acting judges.

"She will be on duty and on the bench right after this swearing in ceremony. She'll probably go into court either this afternoon or tomorrow" Sir Gibbs said.

Acting judge Pauline Bre expressed her sentiments to the Judicial Legal Commission for giving her this opportunity.

"I would like to thank the Judicial Legal Services Commission for their confidence in me and for making the decision to appoint me as an acting judge of the National Court," she said.

"I know this position comes with great responsibility and I give my word of appreciation and ensure that I will do my best to uphold justice and to ensure that the Constitution and the relevant laws of PNG are kept," she said.

Ms Bre further said that she's looking forward to working with the Chief Justice, the Deputy Chief Justice, judges of the National and Supreme Court and the staff of the judiciary.

Acting Justice Bre said with her appointment, she promises to do her best and give her all.

PNG CONTINUING LEGAL EDUCATION FOR MEDIATION & COMMERCIAL LAW

5TH SEPTEMBER
3.30 - 7.20 PM

BALLROOM1&2
CROWN HOTEL
PORT MORESBY

IN-PERSON ATTENDEES REGISTER VIA
vkila@pngjudiciary.gov.pg

<https://youtube.com/live/JHh2XX3TXnA>

Opening Session
3.30 pm
Deputy Chief Justice Ambeng Kandakasi & David Denniston, PNG CLA Council Member

Session 1
4.00-5.20 pm
Commercial Law Basics & Developments
Chair : Eunice Parua, LLLS & PNG Law Society Council Member
Presenters: Richard Flynn, Ashurst -PPSA fundamentals
Sarah Kuman, Allens Linklaters - Recent changes to the Companies Act, Investment Promotion Act & Associations Incorporation Act
Michael Sullivan, LLLS- Key laws and developments relevant to a client with an investment in a company listed on PNGX

Session 2
5.30 -6.50 pm
Advocacy Skills in Mediation
Chair: Hon Justice J A Logan RFD
Presenters: Andrew Crowe KC & Deputy Chief Justice Ambeng Kandakasi

Session 3
7.00 -7.20pm
New Legal Technology and Tools for PNG
Presenter: Daniel Hobson, Head of Business APAC vLex Global Markets
Followed by light refreshments

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