

Friday, August 07, 2009

Ms Ana Rokomokoti
Acting Chief Registrar
High Court of Fiji
P O Box 2215
Government Buildings
SUVA

Facsimile: 3300674

Dear Madam

Several of our members have informed us that they have been issued a practicing certificate with the words "temporary" written on it. Some have also been given letters saying that they are only allowed to practice for a period of 3 months.

At a meeting held between the Attorney General of Fiji and the Fiji Law Society, the Attorney General, upon being asked by the Fiji Law Society, undertook that all lawyers will get due process. This meant a right to be heard before their Practicing Certificates were suspended or cancelled. You were present at this meeting.

The letters that we have seen terminates the legal practitioners' right to practice without giving them an opportunity to be heard. We also note that the substance of the complaint is not made known to the legal practitioner.

It has been over a month since the letters were sent and less than two months left since the contents of the letters expires. Those members who are subject to these letters are concerned.

The Fiji Law Society would like to assist its members and your office to ensure that these complaints are dealt with efficiently and quickly. At the same time we intend to ensure that the legal rights of the complaints and our members are respected.

There is a mandatory requirement under section 104 of the *Legal Practitioners Decree 2009* that the substance of the complaint be made known to the legal practitioner concerned.

If you would like to discuss this with the Fiji Law Society, we would be more than happy to discuss this with you at a mutually convenient time.

Please let us have your response as we need to inform our members of your position.

Yours faithfully
FIJI LAW SOCIETY

Afrana Nisha
Secretary