

OFFICE OF THE  
**PUBLIC SOLICITOR**

ANNUAL REPORT  
**2019**

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BOROKO NCD  
Papua New Guinea

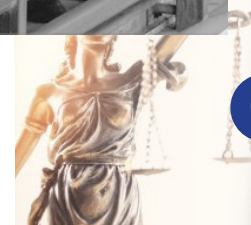
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BOROKO NCD  
Papua New Guinea

### 2019 ANNUAL REPORT

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26 February, 2020

His Excellency Grand Chief Sir Bob Bofeng Dadae, GCL, GCMG, KstJ  
Governor-General of Papua New Guinea  
Government House  
PORT MORESBY  
National Capital District

The Organic Law on Certain Constitutional Office – Holders, Section 19, requires all Constitutional Office – Holders to present to your Excellency a report annually on the operations of the office as well as recommendations as to its improvement. This report is then presented to the National Parliament.

The Public Solicitor holds one such office and is duly required to comply with this Constitutional requirement.

This report covers period 1st January 2019 to December 2019.

I have the pleasure to forward this report (2019 Annual Report) for presentation to the National Parliament.

.....  
LESLIE BENJAMIN MAMU

PUBLIC SOLICITOR



# Executive Summary



**T**he Office of the Public Solicitor is established by the Constitution under section 176(1). It is a very important office as one can appreciate from the function given to the Public Solicitor under section 177, which is to provide legal aid, advice and assistance to those that are in need of help by him.

In 2019, we have witnessed an increase in applications for legal aid from all over the country. This is a testament of the financial constraints our people face in the area of dispute settlement. As legal practitioners maintain a steady increase of legal fees, even those with a formal income resort to legal aid offered by the Public Solicitor. However, the Government has not properly responded with sufficient funding to ensure the Office of the Public Solicitor effectively dispenses legal aid to its people. The budgetary support over the years including 2019 has been unsatisfactory. There is a real need for sufficient funding so that our people can be properly represented in Court as well as assisted with legal advice and documentation.

In 2018, the Public Solicitor made a bold but important decision to extend legal aid service to land matters. As expected, in 2019, we received legal aid applications from a good number of people concerning land matters. A recent Supreme Court decision, which endorsed a massive award in millions of Kina by the National Court, provides a good narration of the struggles our people have to endure in their illiterate and economically disadvantage state, when dealing with foreign companies who enjoy a more powerful standing. We cannot go on pretending that all is well and good in the outskirts of our towns and major centres. There are gross injustices perpetrated upon our small people. Their land

taken away forcefully; their trees exchanged for a lousy penny; their rivers contaminated by wastes disposals from mining activities; and the list goes on. The measure of Government's willingness and seriousness in protecting its people can be seen from how it supports the Public Solicitor and his Office. Frankly, the budgetary appropriation for this Office in 2019 is nothing but a laughing matter.

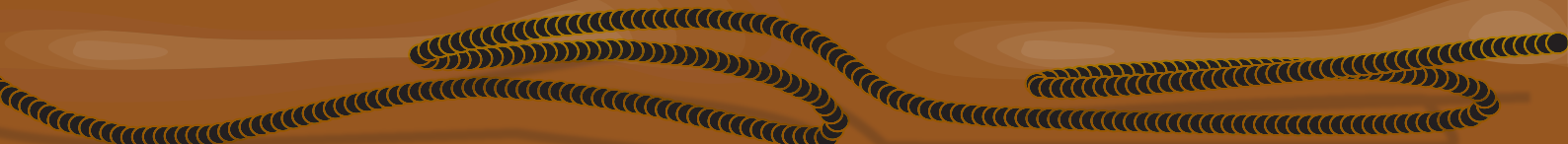
Despite the obvious financial setback, my Office has remained focused to the Public Solicitor's constitutional mandate to provide legal aid services to citizens. I have stretched our limited resources to try to cater for citizens nationwide. My dedicated officers serving in the provinces make personal sacrifices on a daily basis, in order to carry out their duties. Such sacrifices include paying for their own fuel, papers, ink, printers and electricity to keep the offices functional.

We understand this struggle is real all across the public service. Unfortunately, my officers and I can only do so much to assist the mass majority of our population, as far as our resources permit. It has proven in past decades and even today, that justice indeed has a price.

We hope Government can realize the importance of this Office and improve on the funding support given to OPS so as to enable better and effective delivery of legal aid services to the People of Papua New Guinea.

**LESLIE BENJAMIN MAMU**  
PUBLIC SOLICITOR





## OFFICE OF THE PUBLIC SOLICITOR

The Office of the Public Solicitor is one established by the Constitution of Papua New Guinea, making it a Constitutional office s176 (1).

### PUBLIC SOLICITOR

The Public Solicitor is appointed by the Judicial & Legal Services Commission by virtue of s.176 (2) of the Constitution and holds the Office of the Public Solicitor, making him a Constitutional officeholder. Constitutional officeholders as defined by s.221 of the Constitution and includes Judges, the Public Prosecutor, Public Solicitor, Chief Magistrate, Ombudsman, Electoral Commissioner, Clerk of Parliament, Public Services Commissioner, and Auditor-General.

The Public Solicitor is also one of three Law Officers in PNG. Others are the Attorney

General and the Public Prosecutor.

### EXECUTIVES OF PUBLIC SOLICITOR

The PS is assisted by an Executive Secretary and Executive.

The OPS has an Executive Management Team (EMT) that generally oversees administrative matters and provides information, research and acts as a body that advises on policy and implementation. The EMT is comprised of:

- (a) The Public Solicitor
- (b) Deputy Public Solicitor – Civil
- (c) Development Advisor
- (d) Principal legal Officer – Advisory
- (e) Executive Officer



## PUBLIC SOLICITOR'S FUNCTIONS

### FUNCTIONS OF THE PUBLIC SOLICITOR

Apart from establishing the Office of the Public Solicitor, the Constitution also prescribes the functions of the Public Solicitor s177 (2). The functions of the Public Solicitor are to provide legal aid, advice and assistance for persons in need of help by him. This service comes in:

- ▶ Legal representation to accused persons in need of help
- ▶ Legal assistance pursuant to a Court direction
- ▶ Legal advice and drafting in civil and criminal matters (where resources allow).

### PUBLIC LITIGATION BY SPECIAL REFERENCES (S19)

The Public Solicitor, as a Legal Officer, has standing under the Constitution, s19 (3), to invoke the original jurisdiction of the Supreme Court where either a Constitutional provision requires interpretation or a law by Parliament raises Constitutional issues.

## LEGAL AID IN HUMAN RIGHTS (S.57)

The Public Solicitor, as a Law Officer, is called upon by the Constitution, s.57, to take interest in the protection and enforcement of the Constitution. It is on this provision that the Public Solicitor finds his mandate to step in to institute legal proceedings to protect citizens of their rights under law.

### FACILITATING COURT ORDERS (S.155(6))

It is the duty of the Law Officers of Papua New Guinea in their respective official capacities to comply with and, so far as is within their respective lawful powers, to put into effect all decisions of the National Judicial System.

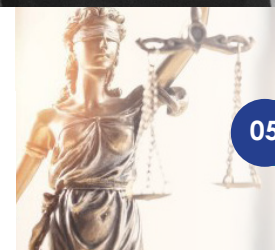
### EXTENSION OF LEGAL AID INTO LAND MATTERS

In 2019, OPS considered the extension of legal aid into land matters. This consideration was the result of increased land matters before the courts and in most cases land matters were between commercial entities and local land owners.

Whilst the commercial entities were able to afford private legal services, local land owners were usually self-represented due to inability to afford legal services.



Insert: Public Solicitor Mr Leslie Mamu and Public Solicitors Office Headquarters employees.



## PUBLIC SOLICITOR'S OFFICE – THE TRANSITION

### Transition from Division to Office

The Office of the Public Solicitor (OPS) has witnessed significant achievements so far as realizing its true nature. This Office is given constitutional status since our Forefathers decided that it is created by the Constitution. The following excerpt is reproduced from the CPC Report revealing the intention underpinning its creation:-

We do not consider that private practitioners will be able to provide legal services on the scale and of the nature required by our people in the future, nor do we think they can be expected to do so. We are convinced that the Office of the Public Solicitor is the best institution to provide legal assistance to the great majority of our people. No-one should be denied legal assistance by reason of his financial circumstances or the fact that he or she is unable to establish contact with persons of authority or influence. Law courts we believe should be available to all persons, not just to persons who have money.

We have found public opinion throughout the country to be in favor of making the Public Solicitor's Office constitutionally independent of the executive government. We ourselves believe that this independence is essential in order to provide legal services to the majority of our people and to protect the rights of individuals and small groups.

*[Final Report of the Constitutional Planning Committee (August 1974), Chapter 8, paras 108 – 110]*

As can be seen, the intentions of our Fore-fathers cascaded into section 176 of the Constitution. An enabling mechanism for its effective performance of function was to be independent from the executive government.

#### 176. Establishment of offices.

(5) Subject to Section 177(2) (functions of the Public Prosecutor and the Public Solicitor), in the performance of his functions under this Constitution the Public Solicitor is not subject to direction or control by any person or authority.

However, this independence did not materialized at the instance of creation. It is not even clear that our Forefathers had in mind how exactly was this independence from the executive government were

to be achieved and realized. The Public Solicitor was first recognized in 1958 wherein his office was created as an office distinct from the Department of Law. The first Public solicitor was WA Lalor and he occupied a small office at Douglas Street in Port Moresby. Public Solicitor Lalor only had 4 Lawyers working with him. In 1975, when PNG gained independence, the office of the Public Solicitor gained constitutional status after it was established by the constitution. From 1975 to 2009, the Office of Public Solicitor was housed under the Department of Justice and Attorney General; the Public Solicitor only managed his lawyers whilst funding, budget and human resource was centrally located within the department.

When considering the set up then, there was no real constitutional independence since departments make up the National Public Service. This is one of the State Services established to implement the executive government's policies and decisions (see section 20 Public Service (Management) Act 1995 (PSMA) and Constitution, section 188). Frankly, the Public Solicitor could not run his own programs as an independent body. He had to answer to an executive authority, the Secretary for the department. The Office was more like a mere division within the department that had its reporting structure from the Public Solicitor to the Secretary of the Department. Maintaining the Office under the department was not only wrong but was clearly unconstitutional.

Finally, in 2009, with the support of the National Coordinating Mechanism, the Office secured autonomy from the department in the form of devolution of powers from the Department of Personnel Management; the Public Solicitor was now in charge of finance and human resource. This led to a restructure of the Office and creation of additional corporate services positions. The Public Solicitor could now determine what he really required to run a fully operational independent body.

However, from 2009 to 2018, the Office of Public Solicitor enjoyed partial independence from the executive government. This is so as a result of two main factors; the Office still operated as a department since it was applying the Public Services (Management) Act and the General Orders which are promulgated pursuant to this Act. One can appreciate from the Constitution that this Act (PSMA) is an instrument to implement the National Public Service and is not meant to apply to bodies that fall outside of this State Service. The other factor was the pay structure that continued to be applied by the Office instead of opting for a different pay system applying to bodies outside the National



Public Service.

In 2018, a review by the Public Service Commission (PSC) of a personnel matter prompted the Public Solicitor to seek the opinion of the Supreme Court via a Supreme Court reference under section 19 of the Constitution. In this case, the PSC reviewed a decision of the Public Solicitor terminating a lawyer following disciplinary proceedings and ordered for his reinstatement and back-dated payment of loss salaries and emoluments. The Supreme Court reference looked into the establishment of both the Office of Public Solicitor and the Public Service Commission. The Public Service Commission is also established by the Constitution and mandated with three distinct roles, one of which is to review personnel matters in connection to the National Public Service. In this reference, the Supreme Court in Reference by the Public Solicitor Pursuant to Constitution, Section 19(1), In re [2019] SC1871 was guided by an earlier decision of SCR No 1 of 1978; Re Ombudsman Commission Investigations of the Public Solicitor [1978] PNGLR 345.

In the 1978 case, the Supreme Court said:

- The Public Solicitor is not a State Service whose conduct the Ombudsman Commission established under s. 217 of the Constitution of the Independent State of Papua New Guinea has jurisdiction to investigate by reason of s. 219 (1) (a) (f) of the Constitution.

- The Public Solicitor does not fall within the description other governmental body whose conduct the Ombudsman Commission has jurisdiction to investigate by reason of s. 219 (1) (a) (iii) of the Constitution.

In the 2019 case, the Supreme Court simply endorsed its 1978 decision, this time, in the context of the review jurisdiction of the Public Service Commission. The Court said:

The OPS does not have such governing legislations but s.224 (2) (a) and (b) provide ...

that if no provision is made under Subsection (1) a constitutional institution—

(a) may provide, to the extent of the deficiency, for its own procedures; and

(b) has all reasonable powers that are necessary or convenient for the exercise and performance of its powers, functions, duties and responsibilities.

- The Office of Public Solicitor is not part of the National Public Service; its officers and employees are not members of the National Public Service; personnel decisions of the Public Solicitor are not sufficiently connected to the National Public Service; the Office of Public Solicitor has a special constitutional status; the Public Services Commission has no general jurisdiction over personnel matters in the public sector; it cannot be discerned that the intention of the Constitutional Planning Committee was that the Public Services Commission would provide an avenue for review of personnel decisions affecting all public servants, but even if that were the intention, the words of the Constitution are so clear that such an intention has been overridden.

The decision of the Supreme Court in Reference by the Public Solicitor Pursuant to Constitution, Section 19(1), In re [2019] SC1871 reveal a clear path that the Public Solicitor needs to take on to complete the process of securing full autonomy, separation and independence for the Office of the Public Solicitor. The Constitution, section 155(6) when properly considered calls on all relevant agencies, including Departments of Personnel Management, Finance, Treasury and Planning and Monitoring to ensure that the Office and the Public Solicitor are assisted to fully realize that independence.

In 2020, the Public Solicitor will need to promulgate determinations and administrative orders to govern the operation of his Office and employees. The General Orders should no longer be applied as it is made clear by the Supreme Court. Furthermore, in 2020, the Public Solicitor needs to work toward removing the pay structure and pay system which is applicable to the public service and install the pay system which applies to bodies falling outside the National Public Service.

That has given the PS the impetus to commence the formulation of its own processes, procedures and mechanisms for corporate, administrative and financial governance. The PS has commenced to promulgate Administrative Determinations akin to General Orders used by the NPS.

The formulation of Administrative Determinations has undoubtedly taken precedence in the OPS endeavor to establish a working organizational and administrative framework.



## LEGAL DIVISION

## CRIMES DIVISION

### INTRODUCTION

The Criminal Law Division of the Public Solicitor's Office is responsible for the core business of the office and that is to advise, assist and defend persons who are charged with criminal offences.

The division is headed by a Deputy Public Solicitor – Crimes and consists of 2 sections.

1. INDICTMENT,
2. GRADE 5 MAGISTRATES & JUVENILE COURTS

The DPS – Crimes is also responsible for the 18 branch offices throughout the country. OPS branches has a current staff strength of 43 lawyers throughout the branches.

The Indictments section deals with indictable offenses in the National Court. The Public Solicitor is primarily mandated to provide legal aid to such persons. In this Section, there are 4 lawyers manning the 3 Courts in Waigani. This Section also looks after circuit areas where there are no branch offices.

There are three (3) Judges sitting in Waigani simultaneously therefore the lawyers are placed in an individual court to attend to matters and make bail application when instructed. The fraud track deals with matters concerning corruption and abuse of office and is attended to by the Principal Legal Officer Indictment. The other two Judges deal with general crimes such as homicide and armed robbery and is attended to by the other lawyers in the division.

In 2019 the division was able to completed more than fifty (50) criminal matters at the Waigani National Court and made more than thirty (30) bail applications. This is exclusive of the cases concluded throughout the provincial branches.

In 2019, there was a total of 52 circuits where lawyers had to circuit the districts and provinces such as Tari and Western Province with Judges. As part of core function of PSO, the office through its Corporate Division ensured all circuits were attended to.

The Magistrates and Juveniles Courts section has 4 lawyers who assist in cases that come before the District Court sitting in committal proceedings and Juvenile Court.

Much of the focus of this section is to assist in committal matters and bail applications at the District Court and the Juvenile Court.

Lawyers posted in the branches usually attend to both criminal and civil matters.



Insert: Goroka Branch Public Solicitor Officers Staff.





Insert: Deputy Public Solicitor - Civil, Mr Thomas Ilaisa and senior management team at the senior management retreat.

## CIVIL DIVISION

### INTRODUCTION

The Civil Division of the Public Solicitor's Office is responsible for all civil matters including the consideration and approval for legal aid applications.

The division is headed by a Deputy Public Solicitor – Civil and consists of 4 sections.

1. Civil General
2. Human Rights
3. Family
4. Legal Aid Desk

Each section is headed by a Principal Legal Officer who is responsible for the operation of each individual section. The Civil Division operates on a staff strength of 14 lawyers.

### CIVIL GENERAL

The Civil General section and Legal Aid Desk are the forerunners of civil matters within the PSO. Matters that fall under the civil track include personal injury claims, motor vehicle accidents, claims against the State, land and property matters, employment, torts and negligence.

### HUMAN RIGHTS

The Family and Human Rights sections a recent inclusions to the structure due to increased number of cases and change in government policy focus.

The Human Rights section is responsible for all matters relating human rights breaches. Matters include, unlawful detention, police brutality and any infringement of basic human rights.

### FAMILY

The Family section is responsible for all family matters including Interim Protection Orders (IPOs), maintenance, adultery, divorce and separations. Due to shortage of staff, other lawyers from other civil sections assist to progress matters.

### LEGAL AID

The Legal Aid Desk is also responsible for drafting opinions for legal aid applications before the application is considered by the LA Committee.



## CASE MANAGEMENT SYSTEM

As a function of the PSO in providing Legal Aid, in 2019 PSO received 3372 Legal Aid Applications of which 1065 were approved.

Below is a table showing the total number of application, refusal and approval of Legal Aid Application in 2019 for both civil and criminal matters by regions.

H/LANDS REGION			
BRANCH	CIVIL	CRIMINAL	GRAND TOTAL
<b>GOROKA</b>	21	23	44
Granted	13	28	31
Pending	1	5	6
Refused	6		6
Views	1		1
<b>KAINANTU</b>	1	9	10
Granted	1	9	10
<b>KUNDIAWA</b>	43	23	66
Granted	27	29	46
Pending	9	4	13
Refused	7		7
<b>MENDI</b>	17	22	39
Granted	8	8	16
Pending	6	14	20
Refused	3		3
<b>MINJ</b>	8	7	15
Granted	4		4
Pending		7	7
Refused	4		4
<b>Mt Hagen</b>	27	16	43
Granted	20	14	34
Pending	4	1	5
Refused	3	1	4
<b>TARI</b>		20	20
Pending		20	20
<b>WABAG</b>	10	22	32
Granted	2	19	21
Pending	3	3	6
Refused	5		5
<b>H/Lands Total</b>	127	142	269

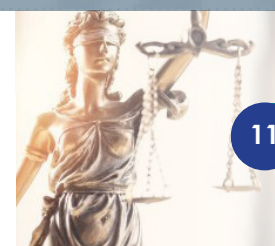
NGI REGION			
BRANCH	CIVIL	CRIMINAL	GRAND TOTAL
<b>BUKA</b>	147	73	220
Granted	80	73	153
Pending	52		52
Refused	15		15
<b>KAVIENG</b>	1		1
Granted	1		1
<b>KIMBE</b>	190	75	265
Granted	132	53	185
Pending	36	22	58
Refused	22		22
<b>KOKOPO</b>	198	141	339
Documentation/Advice	4		4
Granted	114	111	225
Pending	49	30	79
Refused	30		30
Views	1		1
<b>MANUS</b>	28	2	30
Granted	4		4
Pending	24	2	26
<b>NGI Total</b>	564	291	855



SOUTHERN REGION			
BRANCH	CIVIL	CRIMINAL	GRAND TOTAL
<b>ALOTAU</b>	39	7	46
Documentation/Advice	1		1
Granted	25	7	32
Pending	8		8
Refused	4		4
Views	1		1
<b>KEREMA</b>	90	40	130
Advice Only	1		1
Documentation/Advice	33	4	37
Granted	32	33	65
Pending	6	3	9
Refused	17		17
Views	1		1
<b>KIUNGA</b>	1	1	2
Granted	1	1	2
<b>POPONDETTA</b>	12	21	33
Granted	8	16	24
Pending		5	5
Refused	4		4
<b>SOUTHERN TOTAL</b>	142	69	211

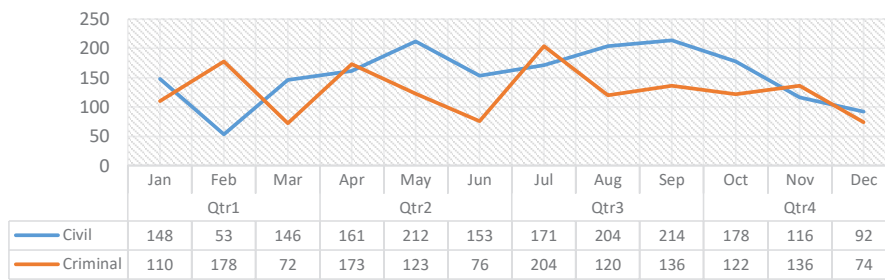
SOUTHERN REGION			
BRANCH	CIVIL	CRIMINAL	GRAND TOTAL
<b>ADVICE ONLY</b>	7		7
Commissioner for Oaths/Certifying	1		1
Documentation/Advice	13		13
Granted	450	332	782
<b>PENDING</b>	77	29	106
Refused	76	1	77
<b>VIEWS</b>		1	1
HQ – Boroko Total	624	363	987
Pending		5	5
Refused	4		4
<b>SOUTHERN TOTAL</b>	142	69	211

MOMASE REGION			
BRANCH	CIVIL	CRIMINAL	GRAND TOTAL
<b>BULOLO</b>	27	5	32
Advice Only	1		1
Granted	3	3	6
Pending	21	2	23
Refused	2		2
<b>LAE</b>	119	61	180
Granted	29	60	89
Pending	78	1	79
Refused	12		12
<b>MADANG</b>	58		58
Granted	30		30
Refused	28		28
<b>VANIMO</b>	68	24	92
Commissioner for Oaths/Certifying	6		6
Documentation/Advice	30		30
Granted	16	17	33
Pending	14	6	20
Refused	1	1	2
Views	1		1
<b>WEWAK</b>	114	7	121
Advice Only	3		3
Documentation/Advice	4		4
Granted	65	6	71
Pending	24	1	25
Refused	18		18
<b>MOMASE TOTAL</b>	386	97	483



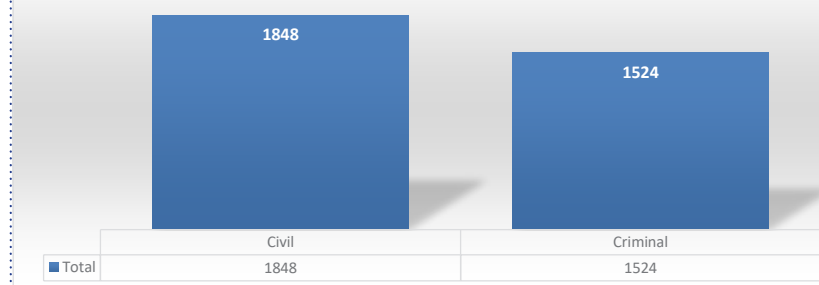
## 2019 LEGAL AID SERVICES ASSISTANCE

### 2019 Opened Cases -Trend



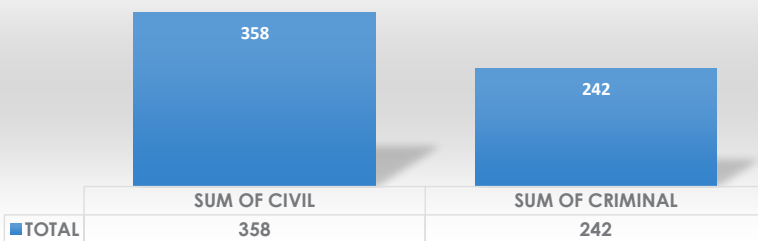
In 2019 the total number of applications received by OPS for criminal matters was 1524 and 1848 for civil matters, a total of 3372 cases.

### 2019 Opened Cases



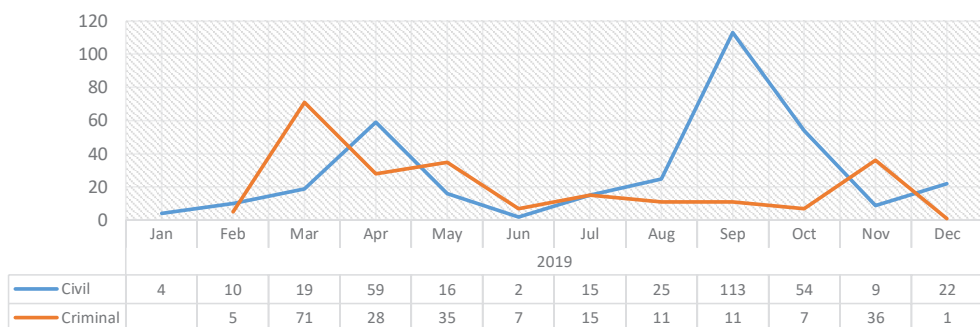
The number of closed cases at the end of 2019 stands at 358.

### 2019 Total Closed Cases

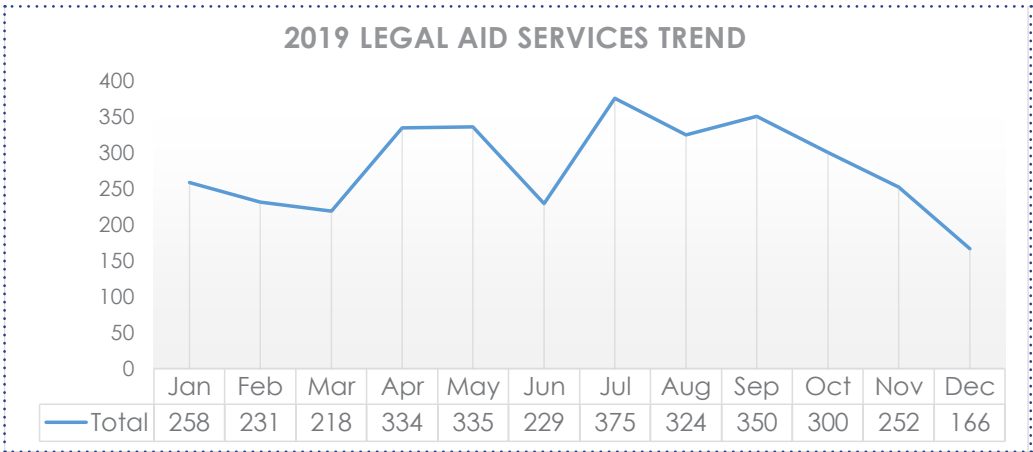
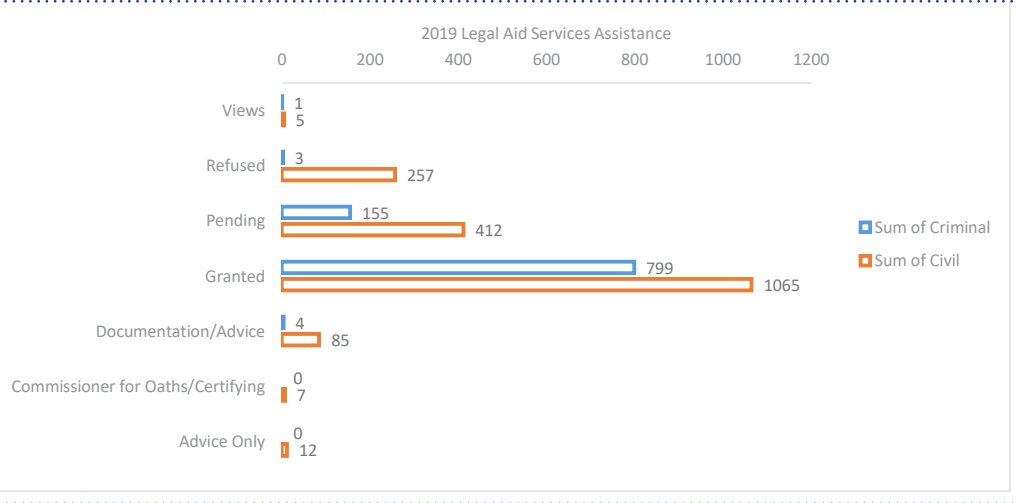


By the end of the year 600 cases were concluded. OPS records show that 358 civil cases were completed and 242 criminal matters also saw completion.

### 2019 Closed Cases -Trend



Legal Aid Service assistance that PSO provided show the Legal Aid attended to with over 2445 LA applications.



Insert: Public Solicitor Mr Leslie Mamu doing his presentation at the Senior Management retreat



## FINANCE

### RECURRENT BUDGET APPROPRIATION

The Recurrent Budget forms the largest share of the pie. The Recurrent Budget has two components and they are; Personal Emoluments and Goods & Services.

### RECURRENT BUDGET

CODE	ITEM	APPROPRIATION (K)	REVISED APPROPRIATION (K)	EXPENDITURE (K)
211	Salaries/Allowance	7,910,315	7,910,315	7,910,756
212	Wages	86,576	86,576	86,576
213	Overtime	50,000	50,000	50,000
214	Leave Fares	284,482	284,482	284,482
215	Retirement Benefits, Pensions, Gratuities & Retrenchments	594,700	594,700	594,700
221-000	Domestic Travel & Subsistence	1,015,717	1,015,717	1,015,717
	Domestic – Airfare			
	Domestic– Travel Allowance			
	Domestic – Transport Hire			
	Domestic - Accommodation			
221-223	Office Materials & Supplies	142,000	94,700	142,000
221-224	Operational Materials & Supplies	163,000	141,450	163,000
225	Vehicle & Fuel	70,400	70,400	70,400
227	Other Operational Expenses	100,000	600,000	600,000
228	Training	40,000	40,000	40,000
231	Utilities			
232	Rental of Property	416,200	266,200	416,200
233	Routine Maintenance	155,000	124,000	155,000
251	Membership Fees & Contributions	150,000	92,620	150,000
271	Office Furniture & Equipment	50,000	50,000	50,000
273	Motor Vehicles- Purchase		148,300	148,300
<b>Total</b>		<b>11,228,390</b>	<b>11,421,160</b>	<b>11,421,300</b>



L-R: Mr Thomas Ilaisa (Deputy PS - Civil), Mr Leslie Benjamin Mamu (Public Solicitor), Hon. Steven Davis (Deputy Prime Minister & Attorney General), Mr Luke Siminji (Deputy PS - Criminal)

The Personal Emolument (PE) are funds that directly affect officers and critical management of this fund demands a lot strict control mechanism to be employed so that every officer's welfare is taken care off.

Revised Budget Appropriation for Goods & Services.

- K200,000 was transferred to purchased vehicle for the Public Solicitor as there was no initial appropriation made in the 2019 national Budget. K51,700 was withdrawn by Department of Treasury to address the down turn movement in the country's economy.
- K167,215 was forfeited to the Consolidated Revenue Fund from Goods and Services from the office. This exercise was done to govt agencies all across the board. This was done to address the down ward turn in the economy of the country.
- Additional K500,000 was added for item 227 for Other Operational Expenses around November of 2019.

### PIP- Development Budget.

In the National Budget Appropriation, K2,000,000 was given to the OPS for the Institutional Housing. Unfortunately, the OPS was able to secure only K1,000,000 from the initial Appropriation. The other K1 mill was forfeited to the Consolidated Revenue Fund.

From the warrant of K1 mil, the office was able to secure one duplex building and part payment for the second duplex payment to be carried forward in 2020 budget appropriation.



## INFORMATION COMMUNICATION AND TECHNOLOGY

### a. UPGRADING OF ICT INFRASTRUCTURE

This activity involves replacement, upgrading and installation of all ICT hardware and software including communication devices and mediums. The purpose of this exercise is to ensure that PSO has the right type of capacity to host and implement and develop its Management Information System that meets today's operational requirement especially when PSO is going through its organizational transformation. ICT Team sees this platform as a driver for change. The infrastructure items includes the following;

- ▶ Head Office main servers (File servers, Email Servers, Back up Servers etc...)
- ▶ Computers, printers, photocopiers, UPS, etc...
- ▶ Communication devices such as routers, cables, switches and modems.

### b. PROVINCIAL CONNECTIVITY - (PROJECT LINK )

This activity is about establishing a PSO Wide Area Network that will connect all PSO Offices established throughout PNG to our head office here in Port Moresby. The purpose of this project is to share information, reduce cost of courier mails and data security. The project is highly dependent on upgrading and installation of all ICT hardware and

software including communication devices and mediums as it determines the reliability and consistency of our network. The prime objective of this project is to have our network established, monitored and tested to accommodate our proposed Case Management Database system which later on merged into a Management Information System.

### c. Development of CMS Electronic Database – (Project Data)

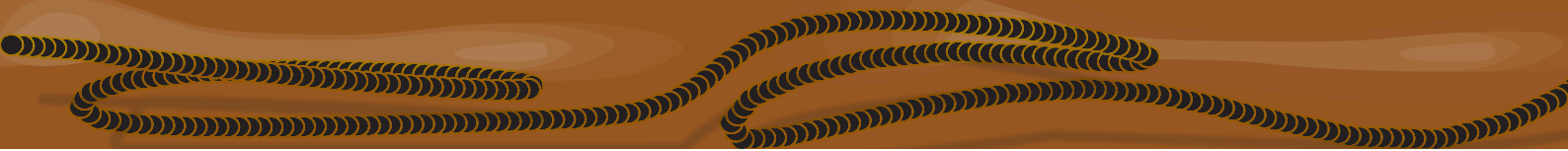
This activity focuses on development of a Case Management Database software that will assist the Public Solicitor properly manage court files or cases, circuits, legal aid application consideration process and monitor officers performance. The database will replace the current CMS database which has limitation and will be designed to accommodate the current organizational structure that the PSO has and that will address the issue of monitoring and reporting. This system will be a management tools where statistics can be extracted for publicity, planning, budgeting and reporting on the annual budget allocation that is appropriated by the Government for legal aid service delivery.

### d. MAINTENANCE/SUPPORT

Team ICT continues to provide technical support and maintenance to all ICT infrastructure including servers, hardware and software installed throughout the PSO establishment including other ICT projects that is funded by either GoPNG or AusAID.



Insert: PSO ICT Team



Institutional Staff Housing – Yfig, 8 Mile Kennedy Estate

ICT currently supports that following;

- ▶ All ICT services and its infrastructure.
- ▶ Development of the Case Management System Database in phases (Phase 1-4)
- ▶ Improve Communication (Email/Telephone) by using Telkom Network Infrastructure.

### OFFICE ADMINISTRATION

Office Management is responsible for management of the office logistical support, facilities and assets. Under Corporate Plan 2018 to 2022 this section comes Under KRA no. 11 Institutional Staff Housing. Similarly in the 2019 Annual Plan it's planned Activity no. 2 Institutional Housing.

### INSTITUTIONAL STAFF HOUSING – YFIG

- ▶ There was a total of 2 PSC committee meetings convened in 2019, the representatives of the committee comprised of the following; a representative from the Office of the Solicitor General, Department of Treasury, Department of National Planning and Monitoring and the Department of Finance.
- ▶ Continuous dialogue saw the necessary reporting requirements met by the OPS,

which resulted in the full payment of 4 duplexes. Then towards the end of the year 2019 deposit was made for another duplex. Which brings to total six (6) duplexes to be purchased by the OPS through YFIG group of companies at 8 mile Kennedy Estate.

- ▶ Currently, four duplexes are now completed awaiting Certificates of Occupancy.

### PROVINCIAL BRANCH STAFF HOUSING & OFFICE RENTAL

In Vanimo, Manus, and Alotau, projects are on going and progressive work have been done. Previously the OPS was renting properties in the following locations; Mendi, Kavieng, Goroka and Maprik. By constructing Institutional housing, the organization is saving from it's recurrent budget and funding it's operational needs.

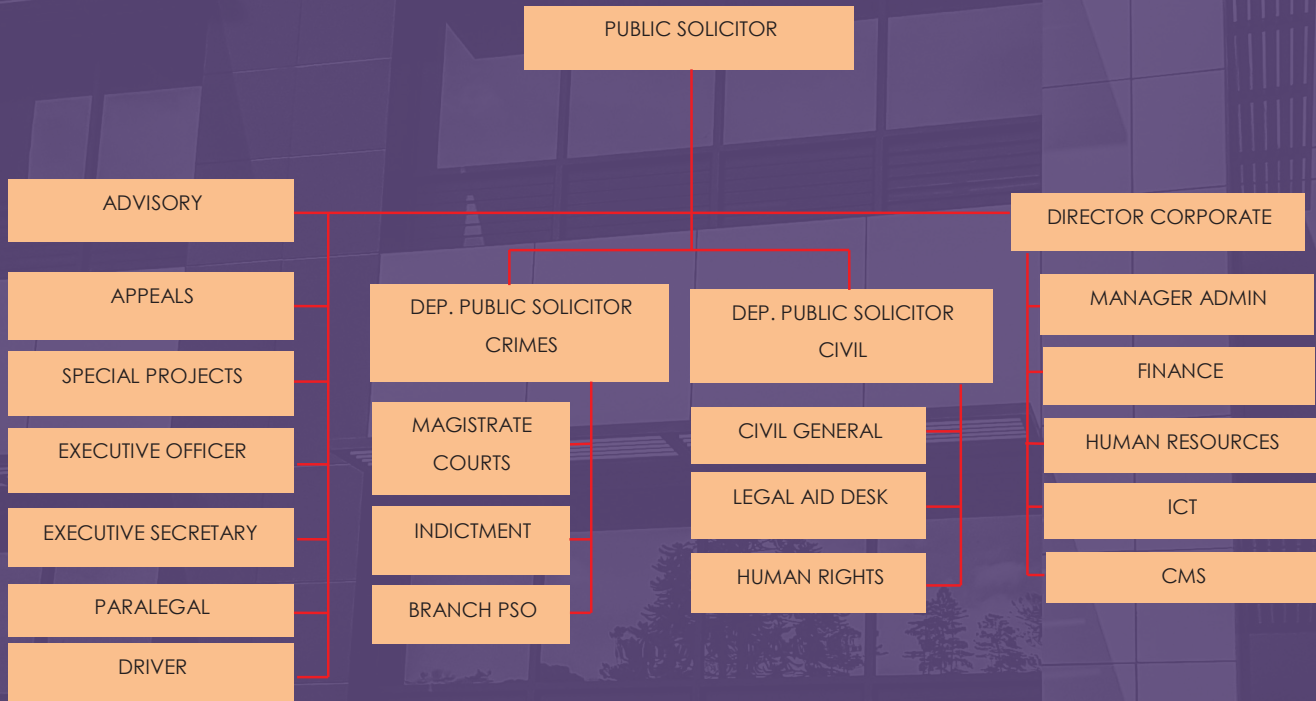
### PROVINCIAL STAFF HOUSING

- ▶ Vanimo – Building board approval obtained, contractor yet to be paid for construction to commence
- ▶ Alotau – Fencing completed, building board approval obtained, contractor yet to be paid for construction to commence
- ▶ Manus – Provincial Government allocated funding for construction of staff housing. Transfer of Title of the Land still in progress.






## OFFICE OF THE PUBLIC SOLICITOR ORGANISATIONAL REPORTING STRUCTURE

The chart below shows the Corporate Structure of the Office of the Public Solicitor.



Public Solicitors Office Location - Goroka, EHP

## CONTACT LIST FOR PSO BRANCHES

		
<b>HEADQUARTERS</b>	Level 2, Garden City PO Box 5812, BORO KO 111 NCD	PH: 325-8866/325-8656 FAX:325-8844
<b>LAE BRANCH</b>	Morobe Provincial Government Building PO Box 4928, LAE, Morobe Province	PH: 472-1092   FAX: 472-6707
<b>MADANG BRANCH</b>	Beckslea Plaza PO Box 229, MADANG, Madang Province	PH: 422-1355   FAX: 422-2002
<b>GOROKA BRANCH</b>	Fresh Produce Development Authority Building PO Box 05, GOROKA, EHP	PH: 732-1697/ 532 1341   FAX: 732-1341/ 532 1054
<b>KUNDIAWA BRANCH</b>	Budget Inn Building PO Box 552, KUNDIAWA, Simbu Province	PH: 535-1121   FAX: 535-2178
<b>MT HAGEN BRANCH</b>	Gapina Building PO Box 575, MT HAGEN , WHP	PH: 535-1035/ 542-1055   FAX: 542-1295
<b>MENDI BRANCH</b>	Central Point Building PO Box 508,MENDI, SHP	PH: 549-2812   FAX: 549-2840
<b>WABAG BRANCH</b>	Potane Building PO Box 40, WABAG, Enga Province	PH: 547 -1129   Fax: 547-1296
<b>ALOTAU BRANCH</b>	Masurina Business Centre PO Box 69, ALOTAU, Milne Bay Province	PH/FX: 641-1015
<b>JIWAKA BRANCH</b>	Gapina Building PO Box 575, MT HAGEN , WHP	PH: 535-1035/ 542-1055 FAX: 542-1295
<b>LEGAL AID DESKS OFFICE</b>	BULOLO- PO Box 331 , LAE, Morobe Province KAINANTU- PO Box 73, GOROKA, EHP	PH/FX: 474-5488 PH: 537-1100 FAX: 532-1054
<b>WEWAK BRANCH</b>	Moore Stationery Building PO Box 202, WEWAK, East Sepik Province	PH: 456-1610   FAX: 456-1610
<b>VANIMO BRANCH</b>	Best Nation Building PO Box 70, VANIMO, West Sepik Province	PH: 457-1557   FAX: 457-1628
<b>MANUS BRANCH</b>	Sam Tasion Building PO Box 151, LORENGAU, Manus Province	PH: 970-9527   FAX: 970-9527
<b>KAVIENG BRANCH</b>	Arrow Trading Building , Niguria Street PO Box 637, KAVIENG,NIP	PH: 984-1844   FAX: 984-1867
<b>BUKA BRANCH</b>	Tsirin Motors Building PO Box 518, BUKA.AROB	PH: 973-9990   FAX: 973-9270
<b>KOKOPO BRANCH</b>	Pennlyn Haus PO Box 3415, KOKOPO. ENBP	PH: 982-9629   FAX: 982-5840
<b>KIMBE BRANCH</b>	Arrow Trading Building PO Box 52, KIMBE. WNBP	PH: 983-4930   FAX: 983-5840
<b>KEREMA BRANCH</b>	Kerema Urban Local Level Government Building PO Box 85, KEREMA . Gulf Province	PH/FAX: 648-1261
<b>POPONDETTA BRANCH</b>	Higaturu Building PO Box 103, POPONDETTA. Oro Province	PH/FAX: 649-7164
<b>HELA BRANCH</b>	Central Point Building PO Box 508,MENDI, SHP	PH: 549-2812   FAX: 549-2840
<b>ARAWA Sub – Branch</b>	C/- Po Box 318, BUKA Autonomous Region Of Bougainville	PH: 973-9990   FAX: 973-9270

