



**Supreme and
National Courts of Justice**



2019

**REPORT OF
THE JUDGES**

The Independent State of Papua New Guinea

Cover image: CMJA Conference held in Port Moresby, September 2019.

TABLE OF CONTENTS

Contents Pages	1-2
Executive Summary	3
The Supreme Court Profile	1
List of Sitting Judges for the year 2019	4
Total Workload and Clearance Rate	5
Supreme Court Performance for the year 2019	6
Supreme Average duration of a case 2019	6
Supreme Court Percentage of Appeals 2019	6
Supreme Court cases disposed through Circuit Court 2019	6
Supreme Court Judgements for 2019	6
2019 Landmark Decisions	7
National Court Profile	8
National Court Tracks-Judges Administrators	8
Judges Postings in 2019	8
Measuring Court Performance and Workload 2019	9
The National Court Clearance Rate 2019	9
National Court Performance by Court Locations 2019	10-11
National Court Criminal Jurisdiction	12
National Court Criminal Jurisdiction Performance for Criminal Matters 2019	12
National Court Civil Jurisdiction	13
National Court Average duration of a case for 2019	14
National Court percentage of Appeal for 2019	14
National Court percentage on Appeals Dismissed for 2019	14
National Court percentage on Appeals overturn for 2019	14
National Court Judgements for 2019	15
Summary of Court Performance for 2019	16
National Courts—Locations of Circuit Courts	17
National Court legal aid for 2019	18
Judicial Complaints Committee	18
Percentage of Complaints Received—Judicial Officers	18
Percentage of Complaints Received—Court Staff Member	18
National Court average number of cases per Judicial Officer for 2019	18
National Court average number of cases per Court Staff Member.	18
Annual Reports published for Public	18
Court Services Information	19
Publication of Court Judgement	19
Areas in Need of Improvement For Improved Court Performance	20
21st Century Court Structure	20
Judges Simultaneously serving two high courts	20
Inadequate Number of Judges	20
Case Backlog in both Courts	21
Under Resourced Constitutional Offices	21
Unexecuted Bench Warrants in Criminal Courts	21
Reserved Judgements	21
Underutilized Mediation Services	21

Strategic Administration	22
Chief Justice Calendar	22
International Aspects	22
Memorandum of Understanding for the Courts 2019	22
International Mediation and Arbitration Conference (IMAAC)	23
Commonwealth Magistrates and Judges Association Conference (CMJA)	23
Judicial Appointment in Year 2019	24
Court User Forum (CUF)	25
Office of the Registrar	26
Registrar's Performance Commitment with the Judiciary	26
Electronic Court Database (E-Courts)	27-28
Integrated Criminal Case System Database (ICCS)	29
Integrated Electronic Case Management System (ECMS)	30
PNG Sentencing Database	31
Office of the Sheriff	32
Objectives of the Sheriff Office	33
Other achievements of the Sheriff in 2019	33
International Aspects for Sheriff in 2019	33
Papua New Guinea Centre for Judicial Excellence	34
Strategic Highlights for 2019	34-35
Office of the Secretary	36
Secretary's Performance Commitment with the Judiciary	36
The Courts Information Communication and Technology (ICT) Satellite	37-38
Internal Audit for NJSS 2019	39
Finance and Budget for NJSS 2019	40
Court Buildings and Facilities	41
High Court - Construction and Upgrade	41
Centre for Judicial Excellence Training Building	42
Uneapa Court House-West New Britain Province	43
Bialla Court House-West New Britain Province	44
Wewak Court Complex, East Sepik Province	45
Table Acronym	46

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

It is my great pleasure to release the 2019 Annual Judges Report as required by the Constitution of the Independent State of Papua New Guinea. The Judiciary is the branch of the government which administers justice accordingly to Law.

The core function of the Judiciary and the judges is the timely dispensation of justices through cases that comes to the Court. The main aim of the judiciary is to provide effective and efficient judicial services to the people of Papua New Guinea. The Judiciary always strive to administer justice based on the principles of independence, impartiality, fairness, timely, accessible and affordable. These principle guides the administration of the Court where the Judiciary positions itself to meet the expectations of the modern-day Court user and stakeholders.

An independent Court Administration is essential for maintaining judicial independence. The Chief Justice is the administrative head of the Courts and he is responsible for the administration of the Courts' business, in consultation with the other Judges: Constitution, s 169 (3). The Chief Justice receives support from the Courts three support service divisions—The Registry Services, Sheriff Services and the Corporate Services.

Reflecting on the past years, one of the most striking observations is that excellent Annual Reports are constantly evolving and reflect the dynamism and innovations being introduced by the courts during the reporting year.

Clearance Rates

Supreme Court

The Supreme Court commenced 2019 with 973 pending cases, 456 cases were filed during the year and 223 were completed. An indication of 49% clearance rate.

National Court

The National Court commenced 2019 with 22446 pending cases, 6911 cases were filed during the year and 4633 were completed. An indication of 67% clearance rate.

2028 cases were filed in 2019 and 1431 cases were completed in 2019. An indication of 65% clearance rate for the criminal matters.

4612 cases were filed in 2019 in the civil division and 2726 cases were completed. An indication of 59% clearance rate for the civil matters.

The work throughput was affected by numerous challenges like the cyber-attack on the Court's system in 2019 and other constitutional issues, and as a result the clearance rate as a percentage has dropped during the reporting year. However, the Court has taken drastic measures to improve the clearance rate like increasing the number of Judges as well as introducing new systems to manage its cases. The effect of this change will be reflected in the 2020 report.

THE SUPREME COURT PROFILE

Judge Administrator for the Supreme Court— Chief Justice Sir Gibbs Salika, Waigani
List of Sitting Judges by seniority for 2019

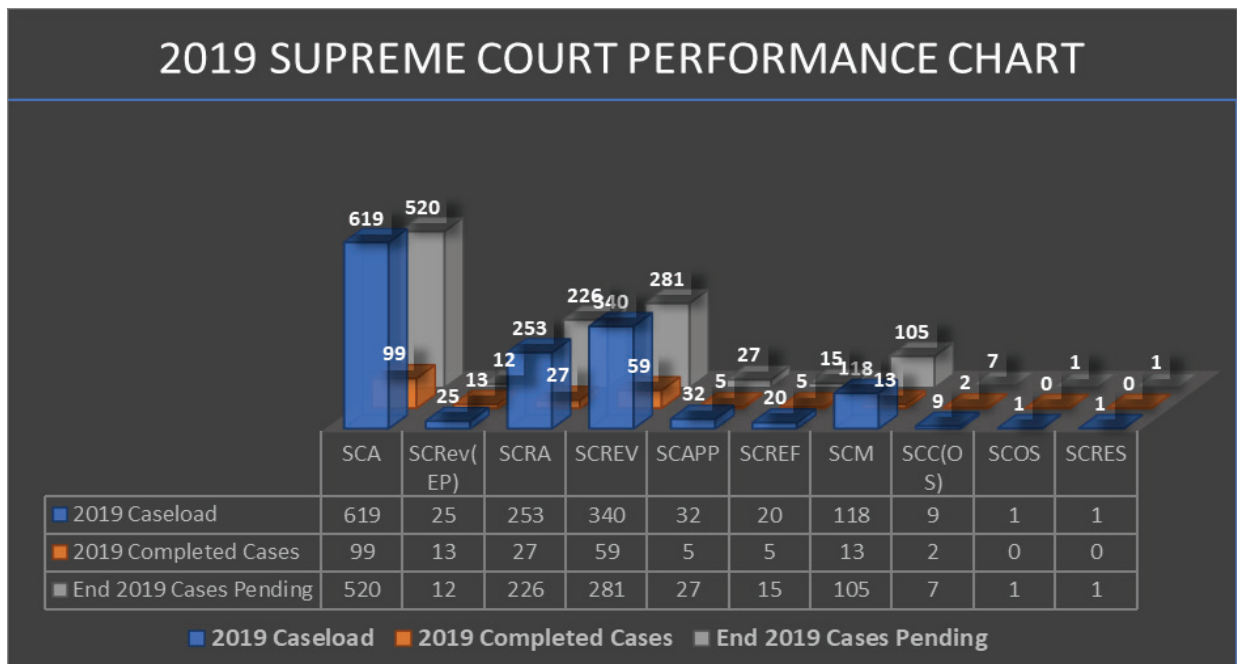
- 1 Chief Justice, Chief Sir Gibuma Gibbs SALIKA GCL KBE CSM OBE
- 2 Deputy Chief Justice, Ambeng Kandakasi CBE
- 3 Justice Nicholas Robert Pakek Kirriwom CMG
- 4 Justice Les Gavara-Nanu OBE CSM
- 5 Justice Ellenas Vitata Batari CSM MBE
- 6 Justice Panuel Mogish CSM
- 7 Justice David Lionel Cannings CBE
- 8 Justice George Sulai Manuhu CSM
- 9 Justice Allen Kingsley David
- 10 Justice Derek Richard Hartshorn ML
- 11 Justice Colin Kenway Makail
- 12 Justice Joseph Malinu Yagi CBE
- 13 Justice Ere Kariko MBE
- 14 Justice Stephen Kassman
- 15 Justice Jacinta Murray (Her Honour)
- 16 Justice Berna Joan Collier (Her Honour)
- 17 Justice John Alexander Logan RFD
- 18 Justice Iova Geita
- 19 Justice Lawrence Kangwia ml
- 20 Justice Peter Toliken
- 21 Justice Sir Kina Bona KBE
- 22 Justice Hitelai Dorothy Polume-Kiele (Her Honour)
- 23 Justice Frazer Pitpit
- 24 Justice Kenneth Frank
- 25 Justice Leka Nablu (Her Honour)
- 26 Justice Robert Lindsay
- 27 Justice William Neill
- 28 Justice Jeffery Shepherd
- 29 Justice Danajo Koeget
- 30 Justice Thomas Anis
- 31 Justice Ravunama Auka
- 32 Justice Daniel Liosi
- 33 Justice Jim Wala Tamate
- 34 Justice Oagile Bethuel Key Dingake
- 35 Justice Royale Thompson (Her Honour)
- 36 Justice Teresa Berrigan (Her Honour)
- 37 Justice Nicholas Miviri
- 38 Justice John Richie Bernaud Kaumi
- 39 Justice John Numapo
- 40 Justice Sinclair Peniel Gora

Supreme Court Clearance Rate

The Supreme Court commenced the year 2019 with 962 pending cases. 456 new cases were filed during the year and 223 were completed, a total of 49% clearance rate.

Year	Total Case Filed	Total Case Final-ized	Total Case Pending at Years End	Clearance Rate as %
2013	366	344	984	93.99%
2014	323	296	989	94.64%
2015	328	376	914	114.63%
2016	380	434	908	114.21%
2017	485	517	930	106.60%
2018	495	484	973	97.78%
2019	456	223	1195	48.90%

The Chart below shows the performance of the Supreme Court by type of case, the total caseload and the pending caseload at the end of the year.



SCA = Supreme Court Appeal; SCRA = Supreme Court Review/Appeal; SCM = Supreme Court Motions; SCREF = Supreme Court Reference; SCOS = Supreme Court Originating Summons; SCREV = Supreme Court Review; SCRES = Supreme Court Reservation; SCAPP = Supreme Court Application; SCREV(EP) = Supreme Court Review (Election Petitions); SCC(OS) = Supreme Court (Constitutional) Originating Summons.

Supreme Court—Average Duration of a Case

Code	Cases Completed	Average Disposal Rate (In Days)
SCAPP	5	69
SCA	99	652
SCREV	59	688
SCM	13	816
SCREF	5	336
SCC(OS)	2	98
SCRev(EP)	13	251
SCRA	27	759
TOTAL	223	635

Supreme Courts—Percentage of Appeals

Case filed year	Case Code	Total Case filed	General Case filed	Percentage
2019	SCA	215	466	46%
2019	SCRA	56	466	12%
2019	SCM	59	466	12%

Supreme Courts—Percentage of Cases Disposed through a Circuit Court

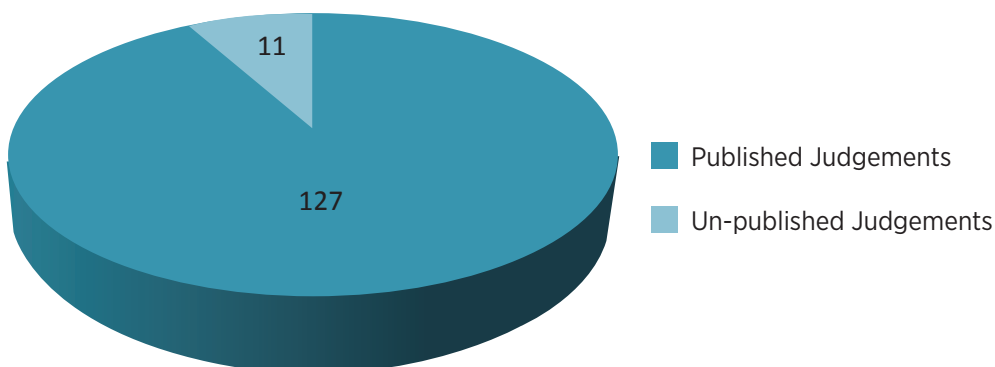
Out of the 223 total cases completed 22 cases were finalized in 2019 through a circuit court. A total of 10% clearance rate.

Circuit Year	Sitting Location	Total Cases Listed	General Case disposed	Percentage
2019	Kokopo	15	15	100%
2019	Wewak	7	7	100%

Supreme Court Judgements

There are a total of 138 Supreme Court Judgements Published on PNG SD Website. 127 are Published judgements which can be found in PAC LII too and 11 are Un-published judgements which are found in only PNG SD.

Year	Published Judgements	Un-published Judgements	Total Number of Judgements Published
2019	127	11	138



2019 LANDMARK DECISIONS

In 2019, the Judges have delivered a lot of decisions both in the Supreme and the National Courts. Some of the decisions pronounced new developments in the law whilst some decisions developed no new area of law.

A notable example of a decision that developed new principles of law in 2019 is the case of ***Supreme Court Appeals SCA No. 148 of 2015—Application Pursuant to Constitution Section 18(1) Application by Dr. Philip Kereme, PHD Chairman of the Public Service Commission***. In this Supreme Court Reference, the Chairman of the Public Services Commission had sought the Supreme Court's interpretation on the validity of certain constitutional amendments. The Supreme Court was presented with two issues. The first was a procedure issue and the second a substantive issue. The procedural issue before the Supreme Court was whether the amendments to ss.193 and 208B of the constitution complied with the requirements of s.14(2) (b) of the Constitution and the requirements of s. 14(2) (b) are mandatory. The sub-stantive issue raised was whether the amendments of ss.193 and 208B of the Constitution are valid.

The Supreme Court (as per Injia CJ, Gavara Nanu & Batari J) held that certain requirements of s.14(2) (b) were not complied with when amending the ss.193 and 208B of the Constitution. The court held that the requirements of s. 14(2) (b) of the Constitution were mandatory and the Courts have no power to strike down the mandatory nature of s.14(2) (b).

The Court further held that the mandatory procedural requirements of s.14(2) (b) of the Constitution had not been complied with when amending the ss.193 and 208B of the Constitution. The end result of such procedural irregularity was that those amendments and the consequential amendments to the statues mentioned were declared invalid. This decision only had a prospective effect. Appointment of senior public servants done under the amendment provisions were assumed to have been validly made and therefore the decision had no retrospective effect.

The second landmark decision delivered by the Supreme Court was in ***Supreme Court Reference SC Ref No. 3 of 2018—Reference by the Public Solicitor Pursuant to Constitution, Section 19(1) Re-Jurisdiction of the Public Service Commission***. The Public Solicitor had sought the Supreme Court's interpretation of whether the Public Service Commission had jurisdiction to review personal matters regarding officers or employees of the Office of Public Solicitor. The Supreme Court (as per Salika CJ, Kandakasi DCJ, Kirriwom, Cannings and Yagi J) held that the Office of the Public Solicitor is not part of the National Public Service; its officer and employees are not members of the Public Service; personnel decisions of the Public Solicitors are not sufficiently connected to the National Public Service; the Public Service 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 Service Commission would provide an avenue for review of personnel decisions affecting all Public Services Commission but even if that were the intention, the words of the Constitution are so clear that such an intention has been over-riden; and the fact that the Public Solicitor for many years without challenge or resistance is of no consequences. The Supreme Court ruled that the Public Services Commission had no jurisdiction to determine personal matters relating to officers of the Office of the Public Solicitor.

NATIONAL COURT PROFILE

National Court Tracks—Judge Administrators

Crimes General	-	Justice Mogish, Waigani
Crimes (FCOT)	-	Justice Berrigan, Waigani
Civil General	-	Justice Hartshorn, Waigani
Election Petitions	-	Justice Makail, Waigani
Appeals & Judicial Review	-	Justice Gavara-Nanu, Waigani
Commercial	-	Justice Hartshorn, Waigani
Human Rights	-	Justice Cannings, Madang
State Claims	-	Justice Polume-Kiele, Waigani
Mediations & ADR	-	Deputy Chief Justice Kandakasi, Waigani
Leadership Tribunal	-	Justice Manuhu, Waigani

Judges Postings in 2019

Waigani		Lae		Kimbe	
1	Salika CJ	19	Murray J	31	Batari J
2	Kandakasi DCJ	20	Pitpit J	32	Miviri J
3	Gavara-Nanu J	21	Numapo AJ	Kundiawa	
4	Mogish J	Mt Hagen		33	Liosi J
5	Manuhu J	22	Frank J		Alotau
6	David J	23	Lindsay J	34	Toliken J
7	Hartshorn J	Kokopo		Wewak	
8	Makail J	24	Kassman J	35	Kirriwom J
9	Kariko J	25	Anis J	36	Geita J
10	Collier J	26	Susame AJ	37	Gora AJ
11	Logan J	Goroka		Buka	
12	Polume-Kiele J	27	Yagi J	38	Bona J
13	Nablu J	28	Neill J	Kavieng	
14	Shepherd J	Madang		39	Kangwia J
15	Tamate J	29	Cannings J	Tari	
16	Dingake J	Wabag		40	Kaumi AJ
17	Berrigan J	30	Auka J	Daru	
18	Thompson J			41	Koeget J

Measuring Court Performance and Workload

There are many key indicators for measuring the workload and performance of the Courts. Those which have been adopted by the International Framework for Court Excellence are by far the most widely accepted as relevant to measuring the Court's performance and workload.

The National Court

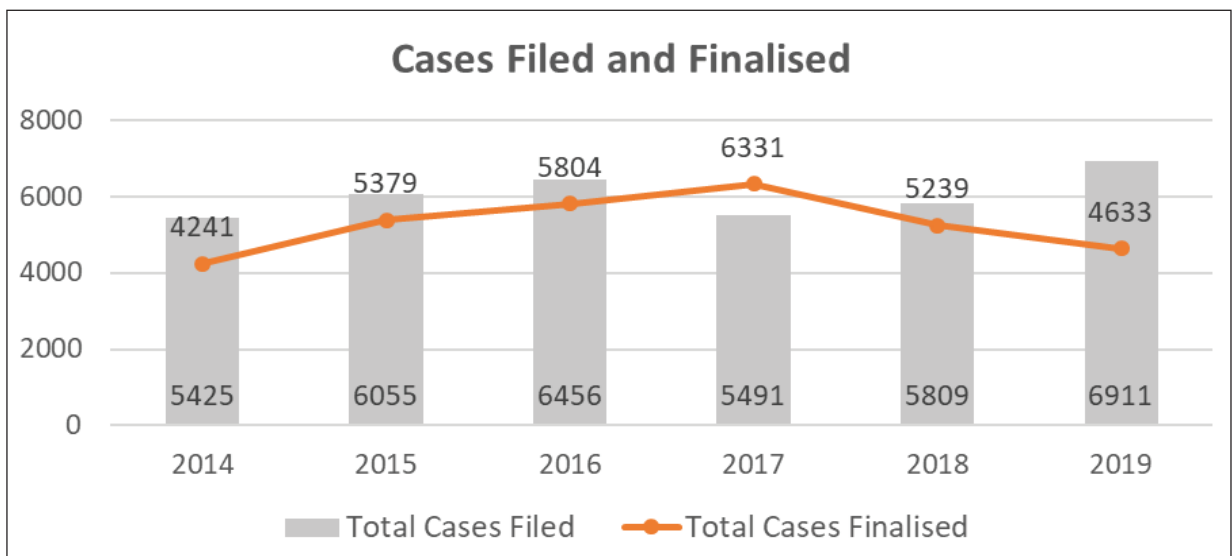
The work of the National Court is divided into two areas, civil and criminal. The civil work covers a wide range of topics, which for ease of administration is further divided into 25 subtypes identified by file reference.

The National Court Clearance Rate

As reported in the 2018 Report, the total number of National Court cases of all types brought forward from 2018 to 2019 was 23,038. A total of 6,911 new cases were filed in 2019, giving a total caseload of 29,949. The total number of National Court cases completed in 2019 was 4,633 that is less than the cases filed in the same period, hence the total caseload increased to 25,316 at the end of year 2019.

In 2019, the Court had embarked on a project to identify any duplicate cases in existence within its registries throughout the country and in the process have updated the statistics in the Court's databases. As a result, 592 discrepancies were discovered and were removed from the statistics. This brings the total caseload to 24,724 at the end of year 2019.

Year	Total Cases Filed	Filed	Total Cases Pending	Filed
2013	4632	5250	20204	
2014	5425	4241	21388	78.18%
2015	6055	5379	22064	88.84%
2016	6456	5804	22716	89.90%
2017	5491	6331	21876	115.30%
2018	5809	5239	22446	90.19%
2019	6911	4633	24724	67.04%
Total:	40779	36877	24724	90.43%



The work throughput was affected by numerous challenges like the cyber-attack on the Court's systems in 2019 and other constitutional issues, and as a result the clearance rate as a percentage has dropped in 2019. However, the Court has taken drastic measures to improve the clearance rate like increasing the number of Judges as well as introducing new systems to manage its cases. The effect of this changes will be reflected in the 2020 Report.

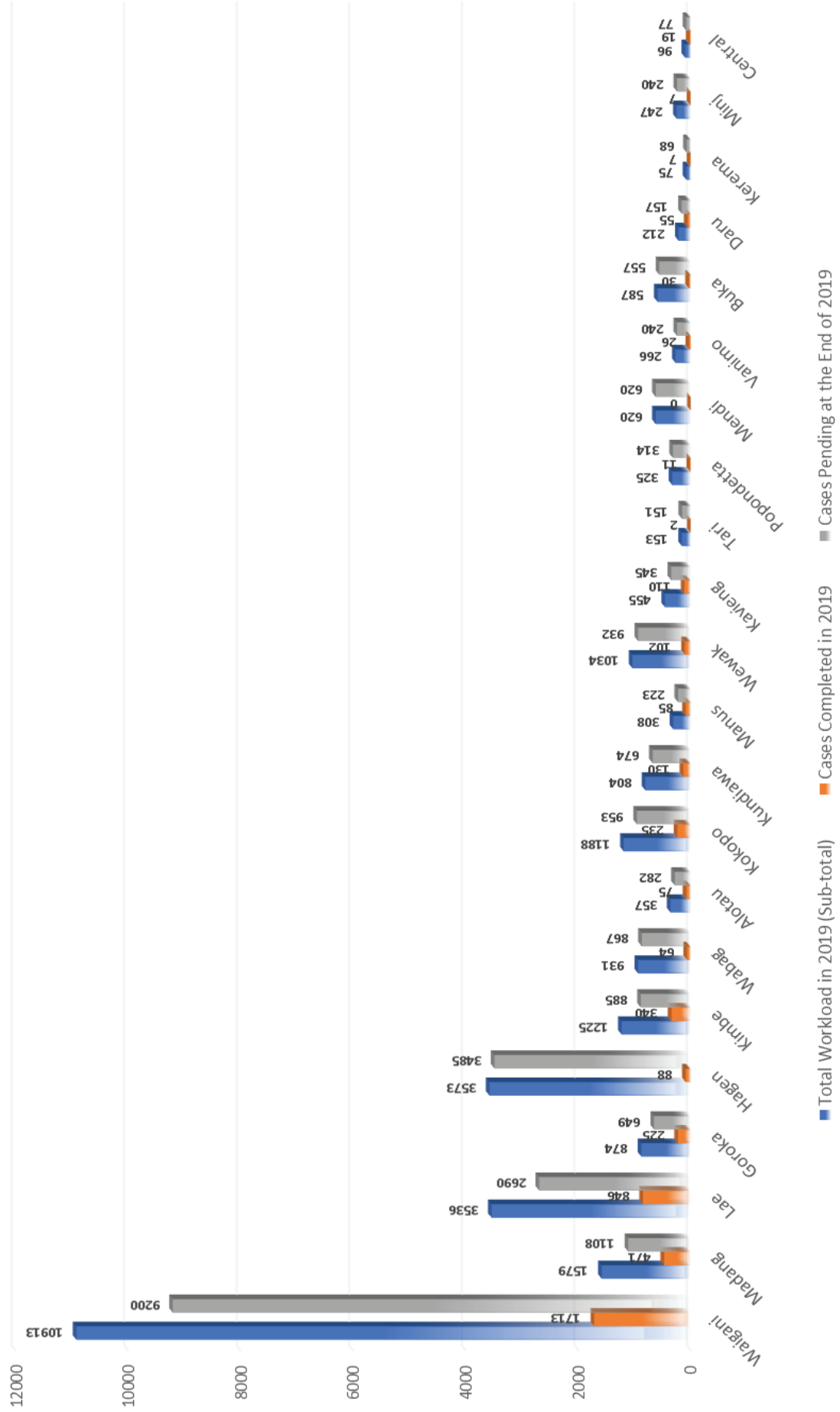
At the end of 2019 the total number of pending cases in the Courts registers was 24,724. 43.3% of these cases pending are criminal cases and the balance of 56.7% civil.

National Court Performance by Court Locations

Location Code	Location	Pending Cases Brought Forward to 2019	New Case Filed in 2019	Total Workload in 2019 (Sub-total)	Cases Completed in 2019	Cases Pending at the End of 2019
WGN	Waigani	7856	3057	10913	1713	9200
MAD	Madang	1010	569	1579	471	1108
LAE	Lae	2777	759	3536	846	2690
GKA	Goroka	661	213	874	225	649
HGN	Hagen	3026	547	3573	88	3485
KIM	Kimbe	925	300	1225	340	885
WAB	Wabag	731	200	931	64	867
ALO	Alotau	268	89	357	75	282
KPO	Kokopo	915	273	1188	235	953
KND	Kundiawa	708	96	804	130	674
MAN	Manus	215	93	308	85	223
WWK	Wewak	855	179	1034	102	932
KAV	Kavieng	348	107	455	110	345
TRI	Tari	124	29	153	2	151
POP	Popon-detta	251	74	325	11	314
MDI	Mendi	592	28	620	0	620
VAN	Vanimomo	199	67	266	26	240
BKA	Buka	478	109	587	30	557
DRU	Daru	163	49	212	55	157
KER	Kerema	64	11	75	7	68
MNJ	Minj	207	40	247	7	240
CEN	Central	74	22	96	19	77
TOTAL		22447	6911	29358	4641	24717

The table above shows cases completed by location and the chart on the next page shows the same information together with the total case load and the pending cases at the end of the year. 7 cases are discovered to have no location.

2019 NATIONAL COURT LOCATIONS PERFORMANCE CHART

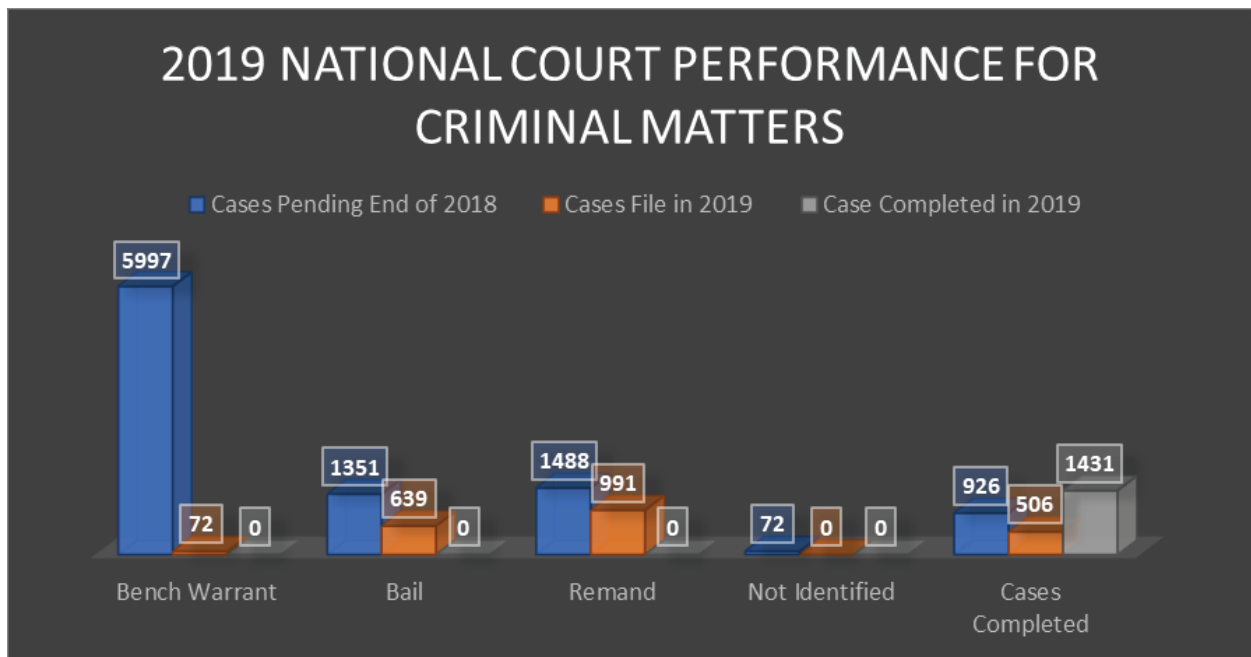


National Court Criminal Jurisdiction

At the end of year 2019, there were 10,268 pending in the National Court Criminal Jurisdiction. About 58 percent of these pending cases are bench warrant cases with some of these bench warrant cases dating back more than 10 years awaiting arrest of the accused by Police before the court can continue with the case.

The Court is continually refining pre-trial processes in an effort to deal with criminal cases in a more efficient manner. However, there must be a holistic approach and proper resourcing of the Public Prosecutor and the Public Solicitor are essential components of an efficient criminal trial system. The ability of the Judges to hear and finalize cases is affected by the lack of legal representation or unpreparedness of legal representation and also the lack of resident counsel in some locations.

Crime Status	Cases Pending End of 2018	Cases File in 2019	Case Completed in 2019	Total Pending Brought Forward
Bench Warrant	5997	72	0	6069
Bail	1351	639	0	1990
Remand	1488	991	0	2479
Not Identified	72	0	0	72
Cases Completed	926	506	1431	1
TOTAL	9834	2208	1431	10611



National Court Civil Jurisdiction

We report in 2018 Report that we finished the year 2018 with a total of 13,063 Civil National Court cases from all types of jurisdiction. In 2019 an additional 4,612 cases filed giving a total caseload of 17,675. However, 167 cases were discovered to be duplication so were removed from the statistics presented. 2,726 cases were complete during 2019 thus reducing the total caseload to 14,782 going into 2020.

Detailed result of National Court civil cases is shown in the following table.

Civil Case Code	Pre-2019 Cases Brought Forward	Cases Filed in 2019	2019 Total Caseload	Cases Completed in 2019	Cases Pending at End of 2019
Writ of summons	7632	1788	9420	1511	7909
Originating Summons	3144	951	4095	571	3524
Human Rights Applications	358	461	819	143	676
Civil Appeal	557	135	692	106	586
Human Rights—Writ of Sum-mons	138	715	853	28	825
Miscellaneous Proceedings	482	45	527	47	480
Human Rights—Originating Summons	79	68	147	18	129
Matrimonial Causes	139	30	169	29	140
Wills Probate Administration	237	189	426	106	320
Human Rights Complaint	21	52	73	25	48
Human Rights—Miscellaneous Proceedings	33	10	43	2	41
Lawyers Admission	40	153	193	132	61
Election Petition	12	0	12	3	9
Election Petition - Originating Summons	14	6	20	5	15
Election Petition - Writ of Summons	1	0	1	0	1
Election Petition—Miscellaneous Proceedings	0	8	8	0	8
Human Rights Own Initiative	3	1	4	0	4
Human rights	5	0	5	0	5
Leadership Tribunal	1	0	1	0	1
TOTAL	12896	4612	17508	2726	14782

National Courts—Average Duration of a Case

Case Code Detail	Cases Completed	Average Disposal Rate (In Days)
Writs of Summons	1,607	1,493
Human Rights—Application	155	397
Civil Appeals	109	1,246
Originating Summons	636	830
Criminal Appeals	350	96
Miscellaneous Proceedings	51	1,467
Wills Probate Administration	138	170
Matrimonial Causes	33	1,324
Human Rights—Originating Summons	19	346
Criminal	1,081	729
Criminal Fraud & Corruption	213	618
Criminal Appeals—Fraud & Corruption	19	99
Criminal Appeals	18	649
Human Rights—Writ of Summons	30	1,043
Lawyers Admission	137	13
Election Petition	5	687
Human Rights Complaint	25	154
Election Petition—Originating Summons	5	336
Human Rights—Miscellaneous Proceedings	2	3,538
Total	4,633	927

National Courts—Percentage of Appeals

Appeals	Appeals Listed	Deal With	Percentage of Appeals Dealt With
Criminal	21	5	24%
Civil	133	18	14%

National Courts—Percentage on Appeals Dismissed

Appeals	Appeals Listed	Deal With	Percentage of Appeals Dealt With
Criminal	21	3	14%
Civil	133	26	20%

National Courts—Percentage on Appeals Overturn

Appeals	Appeals Listed	Deal With	Percentage of Appeals Dealt With
Criminal	21	2	10%
Civil	133	2	2%

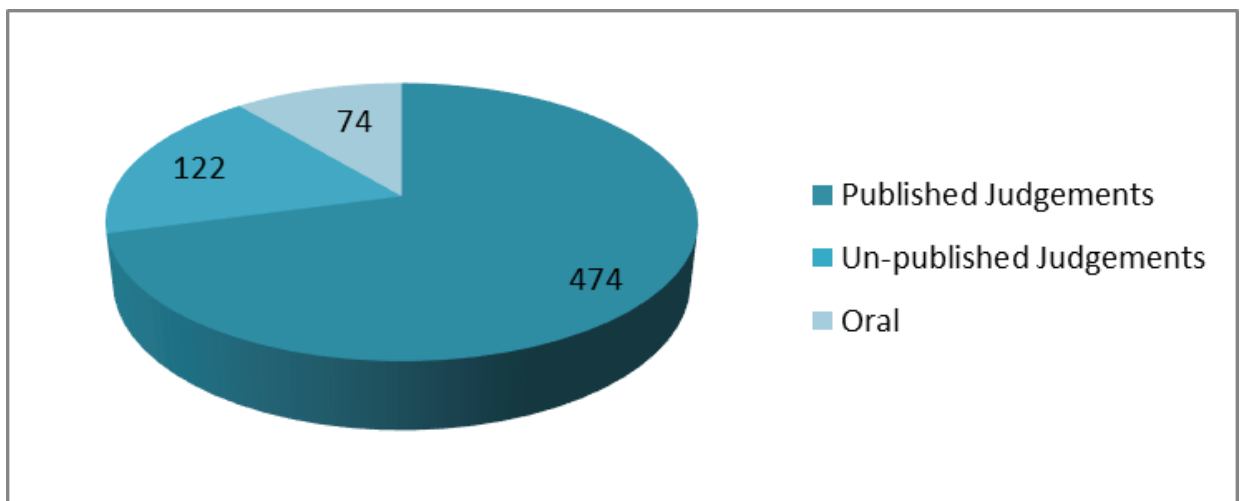
National Court Judgements

There are a total of 626 National Court Judgements Published on PNG SD Website.

474 are Published Judgements which can be found in PAC LII too, 122 are unpublished judgements found only on PNG SD and 30 Oral Judgements (Extempore) which are criminal Sentencing judgements in National Court and found only on PNG SD.

Year	Published Judgements	Un-published Judgements	Oral	Total Number of Judgements Published
2019	474	122	74	626

Graphical representation of the Judgements Published in National Court in 2019 in the PNG Sentencing database.



District Court Judgements

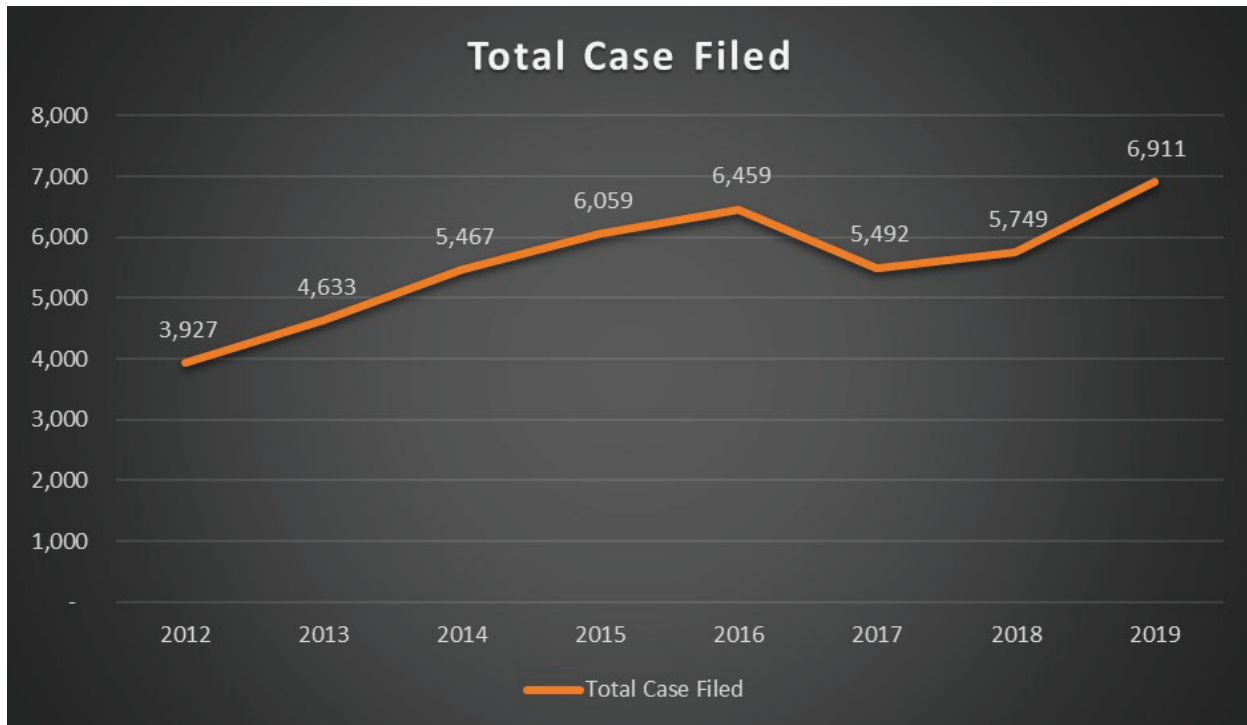
In 2019, a total of **17 District Court Judgements were Published on PNG SD Website.** These judgements are all Published judgements received from District Court.

SUMMARY OF THE COURT PERFORMANCE

Observation on the Court Caseload

As reported last year for the Supreme Courts, a total of 495 cases were filed. 499 cases were finalized during the reporting year including the 4 cases brought forward. A clearance rate of 100% was achieved.

On the National Court side, 5809 cases were filed in year 2018 compared to 6911 cases filed in year 2019. A total difference of 1101 increased in filing of new cases. This trend will increase as observed in the past 5 years. A total of 67% clearance rate was achieved during the reporting year.



Trend of the National Court Cases filed since year 2012

The case disposition rate for the reporting year for the Supreme court is 48.90% and for 67.04% for the National Courts.

Discussion among the Judges and the court staff have embarked on the E-Court potential to increase the clearance rate of case disposal. These discussions will be continued to improve the performance of the courts till the all backlog on the pending cases are reduced at an expected rate.

National Courts- Location of circuit court sittings in the country

Below is the map of PNG, the provinces and towns where circuit court sittings are conducted.



In the reporting year the National court sittings were conducted in the main court locations and the sub-court locations around the country. The court circuit published through the court calendar was prepared in consultation with the key agencies such as the Public Prosecutor, Public Solicitor, Police and Correctional Services. Below is the table of locations National Court sittings were conducted.

NATIONAL COURT REGISTRIES	SUB-REGISTRIES
Waigani	Popondetta
Lae	Daru
Kokopo	Vanimo
Mt Hagen	Kerema
Goroka	Minj
Wewak	Kainantu
Kimbe	Kwikila
Madang	Bereina
Alotau	Wapenamanda
Mendi	Bialla
Kundiawa	Arawa
Wabag	Lihir
Kavieng	Tabubil/Kiunga
Buka	Manus
Tari	

National Courts—Legal Aid

In the reporting year, 43 Applicants were represented and 96 defendants were represented by the Public Solicitors office for the criminal matters only. According to the PNG Legal training Institute, 332 cases that were registered in 2019 during the legal aid (pro-bono) period of the 332 cases only 13 were criminal matters whilst the rest were civil matters. 3 cases were each allocated to trainee lawyers to work on.

Judicial Complaints Committee

The Judiciary Complaints Committee is a new Committee created within the Judiciary and it is one of the many initiatives undertaken by the judiciary to ensure fair, transparent and efficient delivery of judicial services in Papua New Guinea.

The main function of the Committee is to receive, assess and investigate complaints from either internal or external lodged against the conducts of the employees of the judiciary (both judicial and non-judicial) and make recommendations to the appropriate authorities within the Judiciary for appropriate actions. The Committee is supported by a Secretariat who administers the day to day operations of the Judiciary Complaints Office and also executes the tasks assigned to them by the Committee.

The Judiciary Complaints Procedure Brochure explains thoroughly the establishment of the Committee, the types of complaints to lodge, the correct way of lodging complaints and sets out the internal investigation procedures on how to investigate complaints made against Court staff. The procedure enables the complaints to be investigated in a transparent, fair, effective and efficient manner without compromising established disciplinary procedures.

Percentage of Complaints Received Concerning a Judicial Officer

During the reporting year, 55 complaints were registered that included 15 complaints that were carried over from the year 2018. A total of 21 complaints were registered against the Judicial officers that included 3 complaints carried over from 2018. Out of the 7367 Supreme and National Court cases filed during the year, 0.28% of complaints received.

Percentage of Complaints Received Concerning a Court Staff Member

During the reporting year, 55 complaints were registered that included 15 complaints that were carried over from the year 2018. A total of 34 complaints were registered against the Court staff member that included 11 complaints carried over from 2018. Out of the 7367 Supreme and National Court cases filed during the year, 0.46% of complaints received.

Average number of cases per Judicial officer

The number of judicial officers in 2019 was 41. A total of 7367 Supreme and National Court matters were filed during the reporting year. The average number of cases per Judicial Officers was 180 in 2019.

Average number of cases per court staff member

The number of court staff in 2019 was 799 excluding contract officers, advisors and the casuals officers. The average number of cases per court staff members was 11 in 2019.

Annual Reports Published for Public

All annual judges' reports will be accessible through National Judiciary website on this link www.pngjudiciary.gov.pg

Court Services Information

The PNG Judiciary website provides a significant amount of information on its services. Of particular interest is the page on Interpreting Services including sign interpretation. Interpreting services is part of the National Court Registry. We provide and facilitate Interpreting services to all National and Supreme Court sitting through out the Papua New Guinea, without cost. Our services are in the following language areas. Pidgin language, Hiri Motu language and Police Motu language upon request by the client. We facilitate in providing interpreters for sign language upon request by the client.

Publication of Judgements

The Court publishes judgements on the internet (through PacLII and the PNG Sentencing Database)

From the 223 cases finalized in the Supreme Court in 2019, 128 Supreme Court judgements are available on PacLII (57% of cases decided)

From the 4633 cases finalized in the National Court in 2019, 473 National Court Judgements are available on PacLII (10% of cases decided)

AREAS IN NEED OF IMPROVEMENT FOR IMPROVED COURT PERFORMANCE

There are certain impediments that stand in the way of maximizing case disposition output that need to be addressed:

These impediments continue to be reported in past Annual Reports to Parliament and the Judiciary can raise Court performance if these impediments are addressed.

The areas needing attention are:

1. 21st Century Higher Court Structure
2. Judges simultaneously serving two High Courts
3. Inadequate number of Judges
4. Case backlog in both Courts
5. Unexecuted Bench Warrants in criminal cases
6. Reserve judgments
7. Judge-time in Court
8. Lack of cohesion in the development of case law and local jurisprudence
9. Statutory and administrative remedies not exhausted before using the Court as a last resort
10. National Court's mediation services under-utilized by the parties
11. Under-resourced Constitutional offices of the Public Prosecutor, Public Solicitor and Solicitor-General
12. E-Courts or Electronic Courts for the Judicial System in Papua New Guinea

21st Century Higher Court Structure

Proposals for Court structure reform for Papua New Guinea have been on government agenda for many years. The position on the proposal for Court reform is featured in the government's White Paper on Law and Justice in Papua New Guinea published in 2007. The main proposal noted therein is the separation of the Supreme Court from the National Court and the establishment of an intermediate appellate Court to be known as the Court of Appeal. The Supreme Court will remain the final appeals court. It was a setback for that the government's attempts to achieve the passage of the necessary constitutional amendment was not successful in the year 2016. The proposal to reform the Court structure in Papua New Guinea conforms to the government service delivery in the 21st century. It is highly recommended that this important and significant restructure for the future of the courts' is achieved in year 2021.

Judges simultaneously serving two High Courts

In order to reduce backlog matters in the Supreme and the National Courts, it is imperative that the Judges concentrate on a Three Tier Court structured system (21st Century Courts). Judges focus and continuity are adversely affected when they spread efforts between the 2 courts. Judiciary in its capacity to achieve its performance objectives continue to be hampered by the Judges simultaneously serving in 2 high courts.

Inadequate number of Judges

The statutory ceiling on the number of Judges and Judges appointed is inadequate to meet the increasing case load and the accumulation of court case backlogs in both the Supreme and the National Courts. This has been reported in the previous reports. With the growing population estimated at 8.6 million people, a ratio of a judge alone will serve an estimated of 195, 500 people. Coinciding with the growing trend of cases and caseload yearly, the clearance rate emphasizes the need to increase the number of judges.

Case backlog in both Courts

In the reporting year, a total of 1195 Supreme and a total of 24,724 National Court (Criminal and Civil) pending matters were brought forward to year 2020. The urgency of dealing with backlog is being fully felt by the Judiciary that has been constantly endeavoring and working towards improvement in judicial system in the country that in this direction the Judiciary embarks on computerization of court processes. Government's investment on improving physical and ICT infrastructure in the judiciary would be addressing issues of reducing court case backlog in the near future.

Under Resourced Constitutional Offices of the Public Prosecutor, Public Solicitor and the Solicitor General

It is evident, the Public Prosecutor, the Public Solicitor and the Solicitor General continues to face shortage of lawyers to defend/prosecute claims involving the State. The Courts expect the lawyers to cooperate with an effort to progress cases to finality.

Unexecuted Bench Warrants in criminal cases

In the reporting year statistics showed a total of 6069 pending bench warrant cases we brought forward to year 2020. Ongoing discussions will continue between the courts, the Police and the Sheriff of Papua New Guinea who is responsible for executing court process to find ways to improve the execution of the outstanding bench warrants.

Reserved Judgements

The Judges will need to continue to give priority to disposition of reserved decisions before conducting hearing of new cases. In order to improve on disposition of the reserve decisions, Judges may enhance their skill themselves to deliver judgements promptly. Delivery of ex-tempore and short adjournments for decision is to be encouraged.

Underutilized mediation services

Parties and courts need to utilize this service by increasing the number of cases referred to Mediation. The courts, mediators and lawyers need to meaningfully discuss and encourage parties to use the court annexed mediation service that is available within the courts. The court may be driven to this dominant approach if parties and lawyers do not show enthusiasm for this modern effective method of dispute resolution.

STRATEGIC ADMINISTRATION

CHIEF JUSTICE CALENDAR

The judicial strength depends on the budgetary support we get in implementing our objectives and how much is paid to the judiciary every calendar month.

We are optimistic that going electronic will help us increase our case disposition rate and reduce our backlogs and promote access to justice all at the same time. This will enhance the maintenance of the Rule of Law and Good Governance.

The Calendar is a guide and strict adherence to it depends on budgetary and other unforeseen factors as to whether a circuit will be mounted or not. Lawyers are a big part of the success of a Court Calendar. Their availability is dependent largely on budget support as well.

The Calendar has information on judicial administration, Judges postings, Court Registries and Sub-registries in the provinces.

INTERNATIONAL ASPECTS

On the 7th March of 2019, on my recent appointment as the Chief Justice, I was visited by the Chief Justice of Supreme Court of Queensland, Catherine Holmes, here in Port Moresby and in June 2019 her honorable Chief Justice visited Port Moresby again to give a presentation at the Fraud and Corruption Conference and to deliver the annual Sir Buri Kidu Lecture.

Partnership and cooperation with overseas Judiciaries and institutions:

Since 2009, the PNG Judiciary has developed strong partnerships with a number of overseas jurisdictions and institutions to share expertise and channel assistance. Amongst the different forms of engagement with overseas bodies, the PNG Judiciary has successfully introduced an MOU scheme.

In 2019, the Chief Justice, Sir Gibbs Salika KBE CSM OBE, visited the Judicial Commission along with the Registrar, Supreme and National Courts of PNG, the Secretary of National Judiciary Staff Services and other senior officers. Key discussions with the Chief Executive Officer of the New South Wales Judicial Commission and the Deputy Chief Executive Officer were the Integrated Criminal Case System Database (ICCSDB) and the PNG Sentencing Database (PNGSD). The NSWJC continues to maintain and host these 2 databases.

Memorandum of Understanding (MOU)

- MOUs now exist with the Federal Court of Australia for technical cooperation and appointment of Federal Court Judges to the PNG Courts
- MOU with the Supreme Court of Queensland for technical cooperation and exchange of personnel
- MOU with the Solomon Islands Judiciary for technical cooperation and appointment of PNG Judges to the High Courts of Solomon Islands
- MOU with the Judiciary of Nauru for technical cooperation and appointment of a PNG Judge to the newly established Court of Appeal in Nauru
- MOU with the Judicial Commission of New South Wales for technical assistance in developing the PNG Sentencing Database
- MOU with the Judicial Commission of New South Wales for ICCSD development
- MOU with the Sheriff's Office in Sydney for support services for the PNG Sheriff's Office
- MOU with the University of South Pacific, Vanuatu Campus School of Law, to run PACLII and for technical cooperation in judgment writing, editing and publication
- MOU with the University of Queensland (for legal research support for Judges)
- Discussions are underway for PNG to enter into an MOU with Samoa (for judicial assistance from PNG, including the appointment of PNG Judges to the Court of Appeal of Samoa) and Kiribati.

The Judiciary as a member of the common Law Judications has the obligation to enhance the rule of law. In the reporting year, the Judiciary has provided the leadership and took the initiative in hosting two major but significant events as a fulfilment to its international obligations.

International Mediation and Arbitration Conference (IMAAC)

The International Mediation and Arbitration Conference was held in Port Moresby from the 25th to the 29th of March 2019 with the theme “Enhancing Rule of Law and Increasing Business Confidence in a Globalized Economy”. The objective of this conference was to assist remaining South Pacific countries accede to the New York Convention, put in place implementing law and ensure effective implementation through capacity building.

Participants in this conference included Judicial officers, lawyers, government officials, policy makers and private sector executives from the Asia-Pacific region as well as Europe and America. The Arbitration Conference is a component of the wider International Mediation and Arbitration Conference organized by the PNG Government. Deputy Chief Justice of Papua New Guinea, Justice Ambeng Kandakasi, CBE is the Chairman of the PNG Judiciary’s Alternative Dispute Resolution Committee and presently oversees the development and implementation of all court annexed mediation in the country.

Commonwealth Magistrates and Judges Association Conference (CMJA)

The annual Commonwealth Magistrates and Judges Association Conference was held for the first time in Papua New Guinea from the 8th to the 12th of September, 2019. More than 280 Judges, Magistrates and Court Staff from 45 Commonwealth countries had attended the event. The theme for this year’s conference was “Parliamentary Democracy and the Role of the Judiciary”.

The CMJA Conference is held annually to:

- promote better understanding amongst judicial officers from all parts of the Commonwealth of judicial independence issues, and to explore approaches to those issues in different Commonwealth countries;
- promote greater awareness amongst the magistrates and judges of the Commonwealth, of international treaties and law relating to the development and access to justice, and to consider the practical application of that body of law; and
- enhance networking within the Commonwealth Magistrates’ and Judges’ Association on judicial developments



Images of the International Mediation and Arbitration Conference (IMAAC) was held for the first time in Papua New Guinea from the 25th to the 29th of March, 2019

JUDICIAL APPOINTMENTS IN YEAR 2019

Re-Appointments

Hon. Justice Colin Makail was reappointed for another term (10 years) and Hon. Justice Ere Kariko (MBE) was reappointed for another term (10 years)

Hon. Justice Derek Hartshorn was reappointed for another term (3 years), Hon. Justice David Cannings was reappointed for another term (3 years) and Hon. Justice Jeffery Shepherd was reappointed until re-tirement
Acting Judges appointed Permanent in 2019

Justice Nicholas Miviri, Justice John Richie Benaud Kaumi, Justice Sinclair Peniel Gora and Justice John Numapo were appointed permanent Judges in year 2019

New Judges Appointments

Justice Dr. Vergil Narokobi was appointed a full time Judge on the 28th October 2019, Acting Judge Elizabeth Nalaih Suelip, Acting Judge Paulus Dowa were appointed to act as a Judge for 1 year on the 19th of December 2019. Justice Regina Sagu was appointed a full time Judge on the 17th of December 2019

Defence Force Judges

- Justice Panuel Mogish, Waigani
- Justice Allen K David, Waigani

Overseas Judicial Appointments

Justice Gavara-Nanu, Waigani - Court of Appeal—Solomon Islands
Justice Kirriwom, Wewak - Court of Appeal—Nauru

Judges Passed-On in 2019

Female Justice Late Leka Nablu was appointed Full Judge for 10 years, however, sadly passed on Sunday, 28th July 2019. Her Honour was assigned to the Appeals & Judicial Review track until her untimely passing.

Federal Court Judges who are present only for Supreme Court week

- Justice Berna Collier
- Justice John Logan, RFD

COURT USER FORUM (CUF)

On 13th April 2019 Justice Panuel Mogish organised a CUF at Hula with invitation extended to Makail J, Tamate J, Allan David J including other members of the law and justice sector agencies. Further to that program a request was made for the team to revisit Hula of which Judge Mogish agreed and also proposed to conduct training for the Village Court Magistrates.

Kimbe hosted a CUF from the 16th - 18th May 2019 which required the involvement of one officer from Wagani. All funding arrangements were catered for by the Kimbe Imprest Account except costs for the officer which was met by NJSS.

Court User Forum Way Forward (2020 -2022)

CUF is one of the special projects set under the Judicial Administration Manual with its ultimate goal focused on identifying improved processes across the indictable case stream to ensure cases are progressed in a timely, just and cost effective and affordable manner.

The CUF have so far contributed to the core business of the service areas aligning with the Government's priorities and objective by:

- improving service delivery through business innovation;
- continuing to develop innovative models for frontline justice service delivery; and
- continuing to encourage innovation that leads to improved service delivery efficiencies including red tape reduction.

In order for Court User Forum to achieve its visions and objectives for the years 2020 and beyond the following has been recommended;

- A similar program for the Supreme and National Court Registry and Corporate Service has been approved in Management Meetings and will be implemented starting next year. It is a venue to make awareness to the public and other court users of the developments and reforms happening within the courts. Judges are invited to use this avenue to address certain issues they think appropriate to do so.

OFFICE OF THE REGISTRAR

The constitution states that the Courts of Law are “Court of Records” and that the Supreme and National Court are “superior Court of Records” The administrative of justice from the bench is based on Court records that supply the information required to dispense justice. The quality of justice that is administered and the efficiency with which it is derived depends on the existence of a number of essentials of which an effective Court information management system is one. It is the court themselves through the court registries to determine how the Court processes and proceedings are to be captured, recorded and processed to be made available to Judges and Court users for effective decision making.

Judiciaries in the common law world, through very much traditional, have embraced modern technology towards the turn of the 21st century. A modern ICT-based and court case management system has become a critical and important tool for securing, processing and effective dissemination of court information to improve the court performances and standards.

REGISTRAR’S PERFORMANCE COMMITMENT WITH THE JUDICIARY

1. A refocused registry and court user service
 2. A modernized registry business System
 3. An improved organizational and professional development
 4. A robust partnership and stakeholders participation
- A. Conduct Structured Community and Court User Consultations and awareness programs and forums**
 - Developing guidelines for public awareness programs and deliver those programs
 - B. Establish and implement the Registry-client service improvement program**
 - Implemented customer service programs and training to maintain a high customer focused service in the courts
 - C. Promote the use of the PNG Sentencing Database for all Court users**
 - Conducting training in Waigani and all throughout the Country
 - Increasing the number of users to utilize the PNGSD
 - D. Develop a safe and secure storage system to manage court files exhibits**
 - Implementation of safe storage facilities and standards for valuable archival information
 - E. Develop and implement a system to physically track the movement of court files and exhibits**
 - Developing policies on files and exhibit management
 - Developing registry policies and procedural manuals
 - Developing toolkits for each court tracks
 - F. Establish and use of the Integrated Electronic Case Management System (IECMS) Project**
 - Developing and pilot the IECMS in the Supreme and National Courts
 - Implementation of IECMS training programs
 - Conducting public awareness on the IECMS
 - Implementation of a sector wide Information Management System for the Law and Justice Sector
 - F. Roll out Integrate Criminal Case System Database (ICCSDB) for all criminal matters to all stake-holders**
 - ICCSD has now covered 7 court locations under the piloting phase and will continue to roll out plans to all court locations
 - G. Digitization of all court case records into electronic format**
 - H. Electronic Library Services (LIBERTY)**
 - I. Restructuring and realignment of Registry roles and responsibilities against the improved systems and processes**
 - J. Personnel and Professional development program for all Registry officers**
 - K. Enhanced court room services**

ELECTRONIC COURT DATABASES—E-COURTS

The traditional registry-based court case management system that is grounded in the adversarial system of justice has been proven to be unsuitable for managing an increased caseload and increasing complexity these days and requires new case management systems.

The judiciary has now embarked on implementing E-Court databases to support the Judges work in dispensing court cases effectively, efficiently and in a timely manner.

Case Docketing System Database (CDSDB)

The Judiciary uses the CDSDB for the administration and management of Supreme and National Court case records. It is a case-tracking system database that tracks each case from filing to disposition and it provides access to digital case file records of each case, which can be accessed, searched and downloaded. The current statistical information relating to a court case is generated from this database. The Judiciary has forward plans to gradually phase out CDSDB database and replace it with modern Integrated Electronic Case Management System that is now been developed and will be piloted by the year 2020.

Case Files Digitized

In 2014, the Judiciary commenced converting its entire case files to electronic formats. Scanning exercise was conducted utilizing 200 casuals all throughout the country to scan physical files and uploading electronic files to CDSDB.

A milestone has been achieved. In respect of the Supreme Court, by July 2018, 100% of case files have been scanned and uploaded to the CDSDB. A total of 3,508 files have been scanned and uploaded on CDSDB and are searchable.

In relation to the National Court, 56,293 case files were registered on CDSDB during the reporting year. A total of 70,097 case files were scanned. That is 17,252 more files were discovered and scanned. Of the 56,293 registered on CDSDB, 52,845 case files (or 91%) have been scanned and uploaded on CDSDB and are searchable. The work is continuing to identify and process the remaining 3,448 (9%).

Audio Recordings

A new digital audio recording system, called “For The Record” (FTR) was installed in 2016. The system has significantly improved speed, quality and security of audio recordings, and speedy delivery of transcripts. The FTR system is run by highly skilled Court Reporting officers who are specially trained and skilled in-house by the Judiciary’s own Centre for Judicial Excellence. Digital recordings can be now accessed by Judges in their chambers using their computers.

Video Conferencing

The new Waigani Court Complex, under construction, will have modern video conferencing facilities in all the court rooms. In selected cases, subject to directions of the court, the court will direct or allow for testimony being given and appearances and submissions being made to the court by video.

After implementing ICCSD, and its potential to improve the administration of criminal cases, the Judiciary embarked on developing electronic case management system similarly for civil cases. Following public tendering and selection process, Synergy International and the Judiciary signed a contract in 2018 to develop what is now IECMS.

In 2019, Synergy International with the NJSS staff commenced the development of the Integrated Electronic Case Management System (IECMS). IECMS was designed with the aim to fully integrate crimes and civil case functionalities. Incorporating the use of systems artificial intelligence to develop proactive business process re-engineering, IECMS is a scalable database application that can meet the future plans of the Judiciary in achieving a single platform to expedite administration and records management of both criminal and civil cases.

At the end of 2019, IECMS training site was launched. The training site was used for user testing of the application and training of Registry Staff on the use of IECMS. During the user testing phase, any issues encountered were escalated to Synergy International. This information is then used by the developer to make changes to IECMS to suit PNG Judiciaries case requirements from point of arrest to disposition. The application testing is expected to be completed by early 2020. This will be followed by launching of the IECMS Pilot Phase in Port Moresby.

The Judiciary is on target to complete the implementation of IECMS in 2021, a milestone achievement for the PNG Judiciary Corporate Plan 2018-2022.

The successful implementation of IECMS compliments the roll-out ICCSD, and PNGSD. These smart solutions are major developments undertaken by PNG Judiciary for realising greater access to justice, legal empowerment. Integrated justice system have been identified as critical values and core components of sustainable development and economic growth, good governance, successful public policy and the legal system, which for a developing democracy like Papua New Guinea must be at the top of its priorities.

An effective Integrated Justice System needs to be implemented in order to increase the efficiency of the entire justice process by enabling agencies to electronically access and share information between justice sector institutions and/or across jurisdictional lines.

Integrated Criminal Case System Database—ICCSD

The ICCSD is a three tiered, web based database application, consisting of a central SQL – compliant data-base storage and search system, an intermediate dynamic web-service providing

In criminal case management, a collective approach among key players in the criminal justice system in collecting, processing and sharing case information is necessary to address impediments in the criminal justice process. ICCSD is a Law and Justice sector-wide initiative of the National Coordination Mechanism (a meeting of heads of Law and Justice agencies including the Courts) involving the Police, the District Courts, the Supreme and National Courts, Correctional Services and Community-Based Corrections of the Department of Justice and Attorney General (DJAG)

ICCSD is a modern technology based tracking system that can track a criminal case as it makes its journey through the criminal justice process: from the point of arrest by the Police, disposition by the Courts and processing offenders in the Corrective Institutions and Community-based Corrections. The National Court is providing the leadership for this project with technical assistance from the Judicial Commission of New South Wales (JudComNSW). The Project is piloted in Port Moresby, Lae, Mt. Hagen, Wewak, Kokopo, Madang and Alotau. The By 2023, the Judiciary will have completed the ICCSD project and will be able to generate full reports for the government and its stakeholders, commencing with indictable cases.

Integrated Criminal Case System Database

The Papua New Guinea Integrated Criminal Case System Database (ICCSD)
(URL: <https://pngiccsd-training.judcom.nsw.gov.au/auth/login>)



Prime Minister James Marape paying a visit to the National Judiciary and shown the ICCSD and IECMS data-bases. Chief Justice welcoming the Prime Minister.



ICCSD Participants with the Chairman of Justice Iova Geita and Justice Nich-olas Miviri in Kokopo.

IECMS

The NJS Integrated Electronic Case Management System (IECMS) will replace paper-based case records and the Case Docketing System Database (CDSDB), speed up case processing and expand citizen access to Justice, thereby fostering public trust in the justice system. The IECMS is a scalable software that is implemented to address the needs of a judicial body or of a country's entire justice sector

The IECMS has recently been developed and is focussed on Civil Case Management.

The entire civil process is managed from start to finish, this allows for accuracy, timeliness and reliability from start to finish.

The IECMS has the capability that can File Case Electronically, Automate Judicial processes, View hearing schedules and check the availability of judges, Allocate new cases to judges based on various criteria, Support information exchange among stakeholders, Generate forms and certificates from predefined templates, Monitor case activities with an interactive data visualization toolkit, Track cases across the justice institutions (law enforcement, courts, corrections), Ensure the security and confidentiality of sensitive legal data
The System has recently completed the design and development phase and now has been currently piloted in the Supreme and National Courts in Waigani only.

Similarly to the ICCSD criminal case management system, a collective approach among key players in the Law and Justice sector by collecting, processing and sharing case information is necessary to address impediments in the civil and criminal justice processes. IECMS will necessitate the Law and Justice sector-wide support through the National Coordination Mechanism to implement a sector wide IECMS.

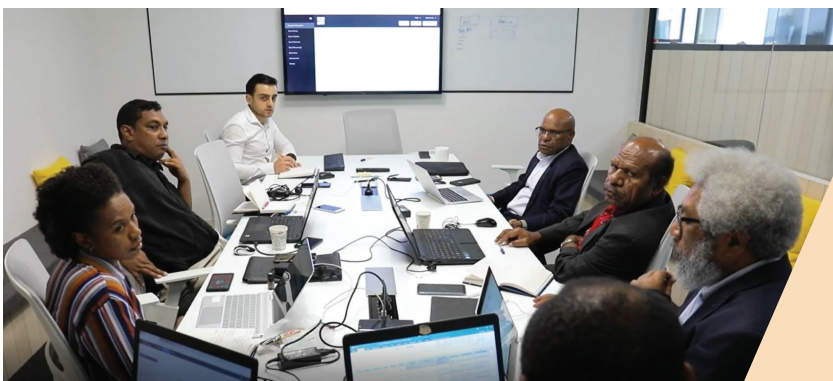
Integrated Electronic Case Management System

The Papua New Guinea Judiciary Integrated Electronic Case Management System (IECMS)

(URL: <https://iecms.pngjudiciary.gov.pg/en/>)



National Judiciary delegation headed by Deputy Chief Justice, Ambeng Kandakasi and the Registrar of Supreme and National Courts, Ian V Augerea at the Synergy office in the Republic of Armenia attended a 1 month intensive training program and the designing of the workflow and process for the Integrated Electronic Case Management System (IECMS) for PNG Judiciary in year 2019



The NJS IECMS design and implementation project team led by the Deputy Chief Justice with the Project Manager for the IECMS Levon Kirakoysan of Synergy International at Synergy Office in Yerevan, Republic of Armenia.

PNG Sentencing Database

This website contains sentencing data for various criminal cases imposed by the Supreme and the National Courts. The PNGSD is based on the Judicial Commission of New South Wales Judicial Information Research that reduces unjustified disparities in criminal sentencing. The database provides the Judges with statistics, similar cases and other reference materials to assist with their decision making.

The PNG Sentencing Database (PNGSD) is a web-based system which is based on the highly successful and widely recognized Judicial Information Research System developed by the Judicial Commission of NSW. PNGSD has been designed and developed by the Engineers in New South Wales Judicial Commission and adopted by the Papua New Guinea Courts. Hence, it is a joint project of the Supreme and National Court of Papua New Guinea and the Judicial Commission of New South Wales and was recently adopted from a court case management system used in New South Wales.

This information will then be used by Judges as a guide when handing down sentences in order to keep up the Consistency and Uniformity in handing down of sentences to prisoners in line with the sentencing trend.

The PNGSD when fully established will be the one website where users will have access to the Court Judgments, the Laws and Rules of Courts, including the recent laws passed and recent case Judgments, the sentencing statistics and the relevant international Courts of Appeal. The PNGSD is an online source of primary, secondary and statistical reference material for judicial officers, the courts, and the legal profession and government agencies that play a role in the justice system. PNG SD contains case law, legislation, sentencing statistics, court references and other information.

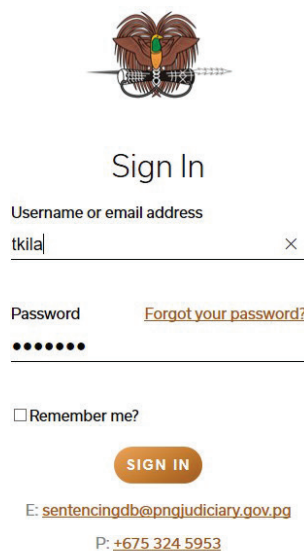
PNG Sentencing Database Website

The Papua New Guinea Sentencing Database (PNGSD) Website is divided into two major databases;
The Papua New Guinea Sentencing Database (PNG SD);

(URL: <https://pngsd.judcom.nsw.gov.au/>)

The Papua New Guinea Data Collection System (PNG DCS).

(URL: <https://pngdcs.judcom.nsw.gov.au/>)



The image shows a sign-in form for the PNGSD. At the top is the PNGSD logo, which features a stylized bird with its wings spread, holding a shield. Below the logo is the text "Sign In". The form has two input fields: "Username or email address" with the text "tkilal" and a small 'x' icon to the right; and "Password" with a series of dots and a "Forgot your password?" link. Below these fields is a checkbox labeled "Remember me?". At the bottom of the form is a blue "SIGN IN" button. Below the button, the email address "E: sentencingdb@pngjudiciary.gov.pg" and the phone number "P: +675 324 5953" are displayed.



A screen shot of the log in page of the PNGSD

Office of the Sheriff

In Papua New Guinea, the Sheriff Act governs the operation of Sheriff Office. On 17 April 1975, the Registrar of the National Court was appointed and gazette as the Sheriff, thereby determining that the same person holds the two offices (Sheriff and Registrar) concurrently. The Sheriff is appointed by the Head of the State and both he and his officers are responsible for enforcing Judicial Orders. Primary responsibilities include

- Serving documents including complaints and summonses for a fee
- Effecting executions e.g. seizure of property under a warrant or writ from the village court, District Court, National Court or the Supreme Court.
- Making affidavits and returns
- Escorting persons to court under a warrant of apprehension; or by a writ of Habeas Corpus

The sheriff's office has a sheriff trust account established in accordance with the sheriff regulation and it operates under the meaning of section 15 of the public finance (management) Act 1995 (PFMA). The trust was set up to deposit monies payable to or recovered by the sheriff's office in the execution of its duties.

The National Judicial Staffing services is the body that is responsible for providing corporate services and administrative support to the office of the sheriff of Papua New Guinea and other sections of the judicial system.

The sheriff and appointed officers execute judgments for the district court, National Courts, and Supreme Court. The process of execution are governed by the National Court Rules (1983), Order 13 – Enforcement of Judgment, the District Court Act section 160 -208 and the Sheriffs Regulations (chapter 55). The court orders come in the following form of writs/warrants of execution:

- Writ of levy of property
- Writ of possession
- Writ of delivery and writ of specific delivery
- Writ of sequestration
- Warrant of execution (district court only)
- Warrant of commitment to enforce a warrant of execution

The sheriff is unable to suspend execution of any writ, warrant or summons unless on instruction from a judgment creditor. The writs/warrants are entered into the sheriff's writ/warrant register and the sheriff and appointed officers are obligated to enforce the execution.

The sheriff offices operate at each of the National Courts. All writs, summons and warrants are received and executed/served by the sheriff office located at the nearest National Court. A filing fee must be paid before any writs, summons or warrants can be registered with the sheriff office for execution or service. These fees can be paid in Port Moresby at the Department of Finance and in other regions at the nearest Treasury Offices located at the Provincial District offices.

The Provincial Sheriff Office are located in each National Court House and service the following areas:

- Port Moresby sheriff officers cater for Central, Gulf, Western and Milne Bay at this juncture does
- Kokopo National Court House sheriff officers also cater for Bougainville, Manus and New Ireland.
- Kimbe National Court House
- Lae National Court House sheriff officers cater for East and West Sepik respectively
- Madang National Court House
- Kundiawa National Court House
- Goroka National Court House
- Wabag National Court House Sheriff Officers cater for Southern Highlands Province and Hela Province respectively.
- Mt Hagen National Court House sheriff officers cater for Jiwaka Province at this juncture

Objectives of the Sheriff Office

To Effectively Execute and Enforce Judicial Orders

In the year 2019, the Sheriff Office commenced implementing the following;

- To increase number of auctions for all regions
- Commenced amendments to the Sheriff Act
- Introduced Sheriff training programs aligned to key Sheriff operations
- Commences Organizational Restructuring to align its workforce to meet the growing demand of cases ordered by the Supreme and National Courts and other key stakeholders
- Commenced recruitment for re-alignment
- Commenced production of the Sheriff manual
- Commence designing and development of a Sheriff Database to capture all Sheriff records electronically for effective and efficient information dissemination among all impacted stakeholders
- Converting of physical case files into electronic files (Scanning of physical court files to electronic format.
- The Sheriff division is strategically planning to host discussions with the Courts and the Police to find ways to improve the execution of outstanding Bench Warrants.

Other achievements

Court Security Amalgamation and training

In recent years, the Security division was amalgamated into the Sheriff Office. The Sheriff has implemented plans to utilize the sheriff security to uphold the protection of the Judicial officers and key important officers. Implementation of training programs will see upskilling of security personnel and realign key activities to support Sheriff operations.

International Aspects

During the reporting year in October 2019, A delegation led by the Sheriff of Papua New Guinea visited the Office of the Sheriff of New South Wales under the current MOU programs between the Sheriff of PNG and the Sheriff of NSW. An exchange program basically covered areas of Enforcement, Security and Policy and Procedures. Further intensive training and other key related programs will be undertaken un-der the MOU.

PAPUA NEW GUINEA—CENTRE FOR JUDICIAL EXCELLENCE

The Papua New Guinea Centre for Judicial Excellence ('PngCJE') was established in 2010 under a Memorandum of Understanding entered into between the Chief Justice, Chief Magistrate and the Secretary for the Department of Justice and Attorney General

The PngCJE is responsible for the delivery of judicial training programs for Judges, Magistrates, Court officers and other officers of the Law and Justice Sector ('LJS') agencies that play a part in the Court process. The three key objectives for the establishment of the PngCJE are to:

1. Promote judicial excellence;
2. Promote professional development and training; and
3. Foster an awareness of judicial administration, developments in the law, and social/community issues

STRATEGIC HIGHLIGHTS

a) Delivery of Judicial Education and Training

A total of 25 Judicial Training Programs were delivered in 2019. Below is a list of the training activities that were conducted in the last quarter of the year. For more information regarding the other training activities conducted during the year, please refer to the 2019 PngCJE Annual Report on the PngCJE website:

www.pngcje.gov.pg

1. Certificate in Court Administration

2019 saw the second CCA program conducted as a training course for the PngCJE. 20 staff involved in the court system from within NJSS as well as other Law and Justice Sector agencies were involved in the training

2. Commonwealth Magistrates and Judges Association Conference

The annual Commonwealth Magistrates and Judges Association Conference was held for the first time in Papua New Guinea from the 8th to the 12th of September, 2019. More than 280 Judges, Magistrates and Court Staff from 45 Commonwealth countries had attended the event. The theme for this year's conference was "Parliamentary Democracy and the Role of the Judiciary"

The CMJA Conference is held annually to:

- promote better understanding amongst judicial officers from all parts of the Commonwealth of judicial independence issues, and to explore approaches to those issues in different Commonwealth countries;
- promote greater awareness amongst the magistrates and judges of the Commonwealth, of international treaties and law relating to the development and access to justice, and to consider the practical application of that body of law; and
- enhance networking within the Commonwealth Magistrates' and Judges' Association on judicial developments.

3. Human Trafficking and Combatting

The International Organization for Migration (IOM) has been working closely with the Government of PNG on a number of initiatives. These include supporting legislative and policy development and supporting victims of human trafficking across the country.

In late 2019, the PNG Centre for Judicial Excellence had partnered with the organization to deliver a series of trainings on the prosecution of trafficking cases in Buka, Daru, Wewak, Popondeta, Kavieng and Mt. Hagen. Content of training included materials on Trafficking in Persons in PNG, Standard Operating Procedures of Trafficking in Persons, Criminal Code Amendment Act 2013 and international reports on Human Trafficking around the world. Cohort for this training had included District Court Magistrates, Village Court Magistrates and Lay Magistrates from the six provinces.

b) Request for Information for Learning Management System (RFI)

To assist with the delivery of training programs, the PngCJE has begun the process of requesting for information (RFI) from suitable Learning Management System vendors to provide e-learning platforms for delivery of training. Three (3) suitable vendors have already been selected to do live demonstrations of their products in 2020. These are;

- Proprofs
- Acorn, and
- Cornerstone

Out of these three, PngCJE will nominate the one that has the following features:

- Suitable tracking system to make reporting, course delivery and scalability easier
- Always developing other suitable features other than a front end system;
- Has Artificial Intelligence plus other collaborative features; and - Is able to link to other divisions' records of training and tracking

c) Research and Publications

The following publications were produced towards the last quarter of 2019:

- 1 2019 Annual Report See copy of report on PngCJE website: www.pngcje.gov.pg
- 2 PngCJE Update Newsletter First issue (October – December) published in December 2019. Copy of newsletter is available on the PngCJE website: www.pngcje.gov
- 3 Prospectus of 2020 training activities available on www.pngcje.gov.pg

Operating Highlights

Infrastructure The new office building is at its final stage of completion. The building has been built under a budget of K3 million and will contain a training/conference room that is able to accommodate up to 100 people. It will be fitted with modern conference equipment and built-in IT and multimedia equipment for interactive learning. The office will also accommodate the 20 plus PNGCJE staff.

In 2019, the Centre has held many capacity building workshops for the PngCJE Team which was largely facilitated by the Pacific Judicial Strengthening Initiative (PJSI). Their commitment to supporting the institution and team to be able to deliver world class judicial education and training programs is unwavering and PNGCJE is very grateful for that.

Looking Ahead

With 2020 approaching, PNGCJE has strategically aligned some key project areas to work on in order to improve its service delivery which are:

- taking on a leading role in being the Pacific Island Centre for Judicial Excellence;
- recruitment of three (3) Regional Program Officers to coordinate and/or conduct professional judicial training for Lay- Judicial Officers, Judicial Officers and Court Staff of the Pacific region;
- improvement in IT set up for PngCJE - with fast and efficient internet connection for Judicial training purposes;
- design and development of a variety of Training Toolkits to aid delivery of training programs;
- revision and maintenance of publications such as the Bench Books;
- conduct of systematic research into Judicial Education and other related subject areas;
- introduction of e-learning platform to assist in the delivery of training to provincial centres as well as other Pacific Island countries;
- work in collaboration with stakeholders and international partners to source funding for training

In June 2019, officers from the PngCJE spent 2-weeks secondment at the New South Wales Judicial Commission. The officers learnt about our judicial education programs and activities and gained experience in planning and executing a workshop. They were also introduced to the Commission's publications library and observed how the various publications supplemented to NSWJC education program.

OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

To support the Judges in performing their core functions in the dispensation of Justice, it is vital to have an effective and efficient support administration system. The implementation plans currently undertaken by the National Judiciary Staff Services are aligned to the Government's overall Policy Framework, including the PNG Vision 2050 as well as the Law and Justice Sector Strategic Framework.

The expected outcome of the Office of the Secretary is to provide the necessary support to maintain the performance of the core operations of the Judiciary. Key activity projects such as the development and roll-out of the E-Court System databases to all key stakeholders, Organizational Restructure to align all support services to support deliver Justice in a timely manner, transforming the Courts into E-Judiciary in this modern day era and continued commitment to the completion of the new Waigani Court Complex.

SECRETARY'S PERFORMANCE COMMITMENT WITH THE JUDICIARY

1. An established E-Judiciary
 2. An Improved access of the Courts
 3. An Improved Institutional Performance
 4. Strengthen and support the Social, Law and Justice Sector Programs and Initiatives
- A. Strengthen and Support the E-Judiciary and E-Court Programs**
- Continued support to deliver successfully the Electronic Courts
 - Continued support to connect all court locations to the Kasifik 1 satellite for effective and efficient information flow through all courts and all stakeholders
 - The Judicial Information Management System (JSIMS) is back online and rolled out to all court locations
- B. Operate a dedicated shared court facilities**
- Continued commitment to complete fully the new Waigani Court Complex
- C. Facilitate the establishment of the National Court into Provinces**
- Continued commitment to construct court complex in Mt. Hagen, Kokopo and Lae
 - Establishment of court facilities in Daru, Manus, Popondetta, Vanimo, Minj and Central
- D. Facilitate the establishment of Sub-Registries into Districts**
- Establishment of sub-registry office in Lihir, Bulolo, Wapenamanda, Porgera, Ialibu, Aitape, Maprik, Bialla, Arawa, Bereina, Louisa, Esa'ala, Kiunga, Namatanai and Bogia and Finshafen
- E. Strengthening systems and processes of Governance**
- Reviewing of the NJSS Act and related legislations
 - Reducing disciplinary matters registered in NJS/NJSS
 - Organizational Restructure
 - Establishing audit findings are in compliance with the Public Finance Management Act
 - Reviewing of the Administration Orders
 - Establishing a systemic Policy and Planning and Evaluation and reporting mechanism
 - Continued to improve Information Communication and Technology (ICT) systems and networking
- F. Facilitate the establishment of Home Ownership Scheme**
- Secure and Develop land for Home Ownership Scheme for the Judiciary Staff
- G. Increase Coordination between NJS and NCM to address sector wide requirements**
- Continued strengthening the participation with the National Coordination Mechanism
 - Implementation of the MOUs with the provinces and districts
 - Effective participation in the Social and Order Sector (SLOS)

THE COURTS INFORMATION COMMUNICATION AND TECHNOLOGY—ICT

The PNG Judiciary has a ICT system developed in 2012 and supporting more than 700 users throughout the country. Improvements in the ICT services undertaken by the Judiciary; includes Electronic Case Management Systems and Implementation of the Kasific Satellite communication system.

Kacific 1 Broadband Satellite for the Judiciary

The Court Information Management system will require an appropriate physical infrastructure to support the ICT-based system and Court Processes. ICT-based Court information system is the “the nerve centre” of the Courts operations should reflect the strategic importance of this function.

Over the last eighteen months, the Judiciary under the direction of the Chief Justice, has been seeking a connectivity solution to support all court databases online learning and the growing number of Internet connected e-Judiciary projects taking the Judiciary from paper-based systems to electronic and supporting the wider Law and Justice Sector in the tracking of offenders. It was recognised that the connectivity solution would need to be stable, affordable and fast, and would be required to meet the Judiciary mandatory requirements for security, availability, access and controllability. Fibre optic cable networks are subject to frequent damage from natural disasters and accidents and are not suitable for extensive coverage of rugged and remote terrain such as we have in Papua New Guinea. It soon became clear that only a satellite solution could meet our requirements.

Our initial research indicated that there were satellite solutions available but none that would meet all our mandatory requirements for coverage, security, reliability and stability across the whole of PNG including remote areas where access to Justice is currently minimal, and access across neighbouring Pacific Island jurisdictions with which we have close relationships and share information. We became aware that Kacific Broadband Satellites Group (Kacific) would be launching a new satellite named Kacific 1 at the end of 2019, that would meet our mandatory requirements and could be guaranteed to provide the Judiciary with its own space segment and uncontended service with high availability, scalability and the ability to apply multiple levels of security. By securing our space segment via a Letter of Intent pre-launch, we were able to secure favourable early bird pricing for bandwidth, such that the Judiciary data costs will be significantly reduced.

Key Achievements

- The Kacific 1 satellite launched successfully from Cape Canaveral, Florida on the 17th December 2019, witnessed by a delegation from the Judiciary
- The satellite reached its designated orbital slot in January and started communications back to earth.
- An initial trial dish was installed at the Judiciary on the 21st March 2020 and was configured to receive data on 23rd March.
- The trial dish will be used to test the core Judiciary applications to detect any issues with latency.

The first trial dish will be used to connect the video-conferencing facility in the HR Conference Room to Bomana Prison to enable the remote hearing of cases in Waigani. A second trial dish for the exclusive use of the Chief Justice, Deputy Chief Justice and Registrar will be installed. The roll out of satellite dishes to every National Registry location is pending the signing of the final contracts with the broadband provider (Kacific) and the satellite integration partner (SatStream).



The Kacific 1 satellite launched successfully from Cape Canaveral, Florida on the 17th December 2019, witnessed by a delegation from the Judiciary headed by Justice Kirriwom

Internal Audit for National Judicial Staff Services—2019

The Internal Audit Annual Review is forecasted on the reporting in brief, of Audit Issues that have been captured internally and externally from the National Judicial Staff Services Management planned and authorized activities.

These activities have had the tendency of impact and its external reporting and acquittals requirements on the NJSS recurrent and at the minimum level the development budgets remain outstanding.

Data for the review is derived through several audit scope of works and procedures such as general and specific audit observations, verifications, evaluations, examinations, and analysis of various Management activities that have occurred between the financial periods of 2018 to 2019.

Other information derived for this review is based upon external audit reports for the same period of time and are obtained from the following sources;

- Annual Auditor General Reports;
- External High Level Reviews;
- Authorized Internal Projects Reports; and
- Other miscellaneous and confidential Management reports

The Office of the Secretary NJSS cannot be generally or specifically relied upon to draw or obtain conclusive remarks on;

- Fraudulent activities;
- Material discrepancies of financial data; and
- Reporting of all Planned and Approved Activities for purposes of this report.

It should be noted that the Internal Audits business structure does not include audit reviews of the Courts' core business and Courts' Registry Operations other than the Trust Accounts' Operations.

Purpose of the Review

- Draw the attention of the Management and make aware the inadequate reporting of several areas of high level Management issues through the formal reporting frameworks;
- Inadequate reliability of capturing these issues by internal Business Units charged with responsibilities of acquiring, reporting and acquitting information;
- Work in close support with the Office of the Secretary and provide advice on removing impediments to the achievements for the implementation of the Judiciary's Key Result Areas as documented in the Corporate Plan 2018 – 2022;

Objective of the Review

- Ensure that the Office of the Secretary is kept up to date with Governance and Accountability issues;
- Ensure that Management through the Office of the Secretary, NJSS is kept up to date with all necessary and required Management reporting;
- Ensure that Planned Annual Activities by Business Units are achieved;
- Ensure that the Auditor General is given access to the NJSS Annual Audit Reviews;
- Ensure reliable financial data is made available to enable accurate Management decision making plans.

Finance and Budget for National Judicial Staff Services—2019

In the reporting year, the NJSS commenced entering financial data in the new JSIMS database. This was one of a great milestone achieved as Judiciary was transiting all its financial data from the old PGAS to JSIMS. Transactions and payments process showed improvements by the usage of the system as the system was automated.

Unfortunately in the same year around June 2019 after its launch early that same year, there was a malware attack on NJSS ICT servers that included the JSIMS. Although no major cost was incurred in the recovery options, the JSIMS financial management system was forced to undergo a major overhaul to improve its security and system administration. Regardless the circumstances, the NJSS Finance team has resort to its normal manual operations and still can produce required financial information that is re-quired for reporting. All payments still go through the EFT (electronic fund transfer) a system process learnt and extracted from the JSIMS electronic financial administration process.

The information provided below are round figures for each month. It is not possible to provide detail figures in economic items. Take note, the table provided is expense by month and its only for goods and services, the salary and UR&PC component are retained by Treasury.

2019	Expenditure by Month	
January	6,050,041.34	
February	8,135,479.18	
March	8,989,418.97	
April	12,284,858.96	
May	8,156,819.97	
June	4,162,320.46	
July	3,864,308.76	
August	6,933,402.79	
September	6,766,023.55	
October	5,459,032.93	
November	6,624,508.71	
December	2,527,779.14	
Salaries	74,618,000.00	Treasury retains this component
Utilities, Rental & Property Cost	15,134,500.00	Treasury retains this component
TOTAL	169,706,494.76	

COURT BUILDINGS AND FACILITIES

High Court – Construction and upgrade

The Constitution requires the judicial function to be performed in a designated building – inside the Courtroom or in a Judge’s chamber, both situated within a Court building; Constitution, s 162(4), s 166 (5). In 2009, the Judiciary undertook its own Court infrastructure development, which received government support. The Judiciary has developed its own capacity to initiate and manage Court building projects.

The Waigani National Court Complex (WNCC) Project

The WNCC Main Construction contract is the majority of the WNCC Redevelopment project. The project supports the key priorities of developing a facility of national significance suitable for accommodating the proposed Judicial structure of the courts into three jurisdictions of the National Courts, Court of Appeal and the Supreme Court. The facility will provide an additional 14 courtrooms, 31 new Judges Chambers, new registries and supporting court services and an administration wing to house the new Registries.

PROGRESS - KEY MILESTONES/ACTIVITIES THIS QUARTER

- Project was further slowed-down on site this quarter due to lack of funding
- Project Manager, in conjunction with the client and CRCE, issued instructions to the contractor to program works to suit the available funding
- Contractor focus on structural, roofing, and glazing works for Building B (Courts Wing), Building C (Admin Wing), and Building D (Arrivals/Security). These works/trades were based on available funding
- Building C (Admin Wing) – internal partitioning works plus external aluminum facades installation commenced



Aerial Images of the Waigani Supreme and National Court Complex work under progress. It is expected to be completed by year 2022.

Centre for Judicial Excellence Training Building:

The new office building is at its final stage of completion. The building has been built under a budget of K3 million and will contain a training/conference room that is able to accommodate up to 100 people. It will be fitted with modern conference equipment and built-in IT and multimedia equipment for interactive learning. The office will also accommodate the 20 plus PNGCJE staff.

PROGRESS - KEY MILSTONES/ACTIVITY THIS QUARTER

- Three notable variations were quite necessary. The first was for the increased space from 307.62m² to 521.748m², a difference of 214.128m²
- Variation Two was for toilets relocation and also included additional work for architectural resubmission work
- The Third variation claim was for additional items not captured, after end user discussions.



Images of work of the PNGCJE Training Facility almost completed

Uneapa Court House, West New Britain Province

The proposed Court house will accommodate the functions of both lower (MS) & higher Courts (NJSS) for their circuiting arrangements. Function include Court room, office spaces for Lawyers, a Chamber for a Judge/Magistrate and their support staff officer. This building will include a cellblock building.

PROGRESS - KEY MILSTONES/ACTIVITY

- This project was a result of a court order which summoned the Provincial Administration to build a court facility in Unea Island of the Talasea District, West New Britain.
- The project was design and managed by the Kimbe Division of Technical Services and funded by the Provincial Administration to a tune of K0.6m.
- NJSS funded the purchase of all furniture and standby 10Kva Genset. Continuous servicing and maintenance and supply of fuel for the Genset will be the responsibility of NJSS.



Images of construction completed and the official opening By Justice Ellenas Vitata Batari , CSM MBE

Bialla Court House, West New Britain Province

The proposed court house will accommodate the functions of both lower (MS) & higher courts (NJSS). Functions include Court Rooms, Registry Offices, Chambers for Judges and Magistrates and officers for support administration functions including the sheriff, Information Technology, a library and the Archives office. A cell block and a guard house. Civil works including carparks, driveways, remandees and drop-off zone will undertaken.

PROGRESS - KEY MILSTONES/ACTIVITY

Design Documentation has been developed by the Architects (Tulait Architects) in close consultation with NJSS.

The design reflects the following;

- Bialla Court Site is located in the heart of Bialla Town and is within the vicinity of shops and other service providers.
- The geographical site has 3 different change levels to which the design has been built into. The change in levels addresses the different security access issues for the judges & magistrates, remandees and public comfortably.
- The design consists main block building with two separate wings.
- The main building in front will accommodate the standard requirements for both agencies which are Registry Offices, individual office spaces for administration functions (Registrar, Admin Officer, CRO, Sheriff, IT, library & Archives etc.). It will also include staff amenities (staff lunch area and toilets) which will be shared by both agencies.
- The left wing is designated for the Districts Court and will house the Magistrate chambers and its support staff whilst the right wing will accommodate the judge's chambers and support staff officers. A court room is also catered for in each wing for each agencies usage whereby the judge and magistrate access directly from their chambers.
- There are 4 access into the site which is for the Judge, Magistrate, Remandees and Staff. Public will access courts through the pedestrian gates at the main entrance.
- Cell blocks are located at the back of the site.
- Design Documentation completed by Tulait Architects Limited in December 2017



Construction in Progress and work expected to complete in year 2020

Wewak Court Complex, East Sepik Province

The Wewak Court Complex is a new building and will be on two levels including a mezzanine floor. The complex will accommodate all National & District Court functions including all support services, Public Solicitor and State Prosecutor.

Contract has been awarded to Gold Bell Construction for the sum of K16, 716,596.49. The Contractor has mobilized to site and has progressed work after the NJSS released the mobilization funds last month. An Independent Project Manager has also been recruited to manage the project on behalf of NJSS.

PROGRESS - KEY MILSTONES/ACTIVITY

- This project after being legally disputed by the previous contractor was revived in 2016 after decision handed down in court to proceed with construction.
- The project was designed by Frameworks Architects Limited and is managed by Architectural Allianz Limited to respective contract amounts mentioned in Table 3 of this document. (contract amounts mentioned above) and funded by the Provincial Administration to a tune of K0.6m.
- This project is wholly funded by NJSS at a tune K18.7m (including design, construction and Project Management Fees).
- Construction Contract was awarded to Goldbell Constructions at K17.01m.
- Current issues on site is the re-designing of floor layout to cater for increased staff and other structural defects not addressed in design. All rectification works addressed and works have commenced on this rectification works.
- Expected date of completed is December 2020.



Construction in Progress and work expected to complete in year 2020

TABLE OF ACRONYM

ADR	Alternative Dispute Resolution
NSWJC	New South Wales Judicial Commission
PJSI	Pacific Judicial Strengthening Initiative
RFI	Requesting for Information
SCAPP	Supreme Court Applications
SCRA	Supreme Court Review/Appeal
SCREV(EP)	Supreme Court Review (Electronic Petitions)
SLOS	Social Law and Order Sector
ICT	Information Communication and Technology
IECMS	Integrated Electronic Case Management System
IOM	International Organization for Migration
SCC(OS)	Supreme Court Constitutional Originating Summons
AJ	Acting Justice
CCA	Certificate in Court Administration
CDSDB	Case Docketing System Database
CJ	Chief Justice
CJE	Centre for Judicial Excellence
CMJA	Commonwealth Magistrate and Judges Associations Conference
CRCE	China Railway Construction Engineering
CRO	Court Reporting Office/Officer
CUF	Court User Forum
DCJ	Deputy Chief Justice
EFT	Electronic Fund Transfer
FCOT	Fraud and Corruption Track
FTR	For the Record
HR	Human Resource
ICCSDB	Integrated Criminal Case System Database
IMAAC	International Mediation and Arbitration Conference
IT	Information Technology
JSIMS	Judicial Services Integrated Management System
MOU	Memorandum of Understanding
MS	Magisterial Services
NCM	National Coordination Mechanism
NJSS	National Judicial Staff Services
NSW	New South Wales
PAC LII	Pacific Islands Legal Information Institute
PFMA	Public Finance Management Act
PGAS	Papua New Guinea Accounting System
PNG SD	Papua New Guinea Sentencing Database
SCA	Supreme Court Appeal
SCM	Supreme Court Motions
SCREF	Supreme Court References
WNCC	Waigani National Court Complex

