Chief Registrar v Vosarongo (No 1); Chief Registrar v Lagilevu-Vodo (No 1) ILSCJ08/2016; [2016] FJILSC 6 (23 September 2016)

This summary is not intended to be a substitute for the reasons of the Independent Legal Services Commission or to be used in any later consideration of the Commission's reasons

Facts

This case involved allegations of negligence made by the Chief Registrar against Mr Vilimone Vosarogo and Ms Laisa Lagilevu-Vodo, principal and trustee of Mamlakah Lawyers and Lagilevu Law respectively, regarding their dealings with clients' trust accounts. This interlocutory judgment relates to an application by Mr Vosarogo and Ms Lagilevu-Vodo for an interim renewal of their practising certificates (whose cases were heard jointly).

Judgment

The Commissioner examined the serious nature of the allegations and the importance of protection of public at large. He considered the judgment of the Commissioner Connors in *Cevalawa* [2010] FJILSC 27 (18 October 2010) ('*Cevalawa*'), which noted the effects of Commission sittings being conducted parttime, namely the detrimental impact this may have on legal practitioners. Following consideration of *Cevalawa*, the Commissioner granted both Mr Vosarogo and Ms Lagilevu-Vodo their application for renewal of their respective practising certificates until 7th December 2016.