



## OFFICE OF THE ATTORNEY GENERAL LEGISLATIVE DRAFTING DIVISION

### EDITOR'S NOTE

#### INSIDE THIS ISSUE

"A well-constructed, well-written draft can ease the passage of proposed legislation through parliament and facilitate its faithful interpretation by courts. Skilled legislative drafting indeed contributes to that desirable combination of peace and good governance. As a Parliamentarian I have experienced first hand the importance of constructing a legally sound, coherent legislative document."

**Honourable Prime Minister Tuilaepa**

(Opening Address—4 Aug 2008—  
Legislative Drafting In Country Training)

#### *Malo le faatoatoa!*

*Ua faamalo le folau i le soifua maua ma le lagi e mama.* Welcome again to the Legislative Drafting Newsletter, Vol. 6, Issue 3. We continue to update you on the laws, workshops, trainings and other events that members of the Legislative Drafting Division attended from 1 July—30 September 2013. Aside from the normal events, we bid farewell to TWO members of our Division Principal Legislative Drafter Mrs. Salote Peteru and State Solicitor Ms. Martha Papalii.

We also like to Congratulate the Attorney General Tuatagaloa Aumua Ming C. Leung Wai for winning the "Community Participation Initiatives" award during Samoa's Public Service Day 2013 which honours a person who has played a major role for the successful development, management, design, implementation and delivery of a community participation initiative.

*"...with the assistance of our Lord Jesus Christ, he will take the Office of the Attorney General (OAG) from glory to glory as the OAG strives to serve our people through the provision of quality and effective legal services."* (OAG Corporate Plan 2012 – 2015)

Happy reading and have a nice day!

*Theodora F Matalavea and Nina Tala*

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### SAMOA PUBLIC SERVICE DAY

27 SEPTEMBER 2013



Minister of Health Honourable Tuitama Dr. Leao Talalelei Tuitama congratulates the Attorney General Tuatagaloa Aumua Ming C. Leung Wai (Photo Credit: Samoa Observer)

# **PARLIAMENT SITTINGS FOR AUGUST 2013**

MONTH	Monday (Week commencing)	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
AUGUST	-	6	7	-	-

**Next Parliament sitting is on 8 October 2013**

## **PARLIAMENT UPDATE FROM AUGUST 2013 SESSIONS**

### **Parliament sitting on 6 August 2013:**

#### **◆ Acts passed:**

1. Alternative Dispute Resolution Amendment Act 2013
2. Income Tax Amendment Act 2013

#### **◆ Bills introduced and completed 1st Reading:**

1. Unit Titles Amendment Bill 2013
2. Food Bill 2013
3. Apprenticeship Bill 2013
4. National Payment System Bill 2013

#### **◆ Bills completed 2nd Reading and referred to Select Committee:**

1. Telecommunications Amendment Bill 2013

### **Parliament sitting on 7 August 2013:**

#### **◆ Acts passed:**

1. Agriculture Store Corporation Repeal Act 2013

#### **◆ Bills completed consideration in detail:**

1. Audit Bill 2012
2. Constitution Amendment (No.2) Bill 2012
3. Road Traffic Amendment Bill 2013

## **BILLS WITH SELECT COMMITTEES**

1. National Health Services Bill 2013 (24/6/13)
2. Trade, Commerce and Industry Amendment Bill 2013 (24/6/13)
3. Lawyers and Legal Practice Bill 2013 (25/01/13)
4. Samoa Language Commission Bill 2012 (19/12/12)
5. Electricity Amendment Bill 2013 (13/06/12)
6. Counter Terrorism Bill 2013 (30/3/12)

## **ACTS PASSED BY PARLIAMENT IN 2013 (FROM JANUARY 2013, TO DATE)**

	TITLE	DATE PASSED	COMMENCEMENT DATE
1.	Supplementary Appropriation Act (No.1) 2012/2013	24 Jan 2013	25 Jan 2013
2.	Unit Trust of Samoa Loans Act 2013	24 Jan 2013	25 Jan 2013
3.	Samoa International Finance Authority Amendment Act 2013	24 Jan 2013	To be nominated by the Minister
4.	Samoa Institute of Accountants Amendment Act 2013	24 Jan 2013	30 Jan 2013
5.	Personal Property Securities Act 2013	26 Mar 2013	To be nominated by the Minister
6.	Labour and Employment Relations Act 2013	27 Mar 2013	5 Apr 2013
7.	Family Safety Act 2013	27 Mar 2013	1 Jun 2013
8.	Customary Land Advisory Commission Act 2013	27 Mar 2013	5 Apr 2013
9.	Canine Control Act 2013	27 Mar 2013	5 Apr 2013
10.	Crimes Act 2013	27 Mar 2013	1 May 2013
11.	Prisons and Corrections Act 2013	30 May 2013	To be nominated by Minister
12.	Ombudsman (Komesina o Sulu-faiga) Act 2013	30 May 2013	5 Jun 2013
13.	Supplementary Appropriation Act (No.2) 2012/2013	20 Jun 2013	25 Jun 2013
14.	Appropriation Act 2013/2014	20 Jun 2013	25 Jun 2013
15.	Attorney General's Office Act 2013	24 Jun 2013	8 Jul 2013
16.	Income Tax Amendment Act 2013	24 Jun 2013	1 Jan 2013
17.	Constitution Amendment Act 2013	24 Jun 2013	- Other parts of the Act commences 25 Jun 2013 - Section 2 commences on polling day of the next general Election
18.	Alternative Dispute Resolution Amendment Act 2013	6 Aug 2013	9 Aug 2013
	Income Tax Amendment Act 2013 (2)	6 Aug 2013	1 Jul 2013
	Agriculture Store Corporation Act 2013	7 Aug 2013	To be nominated by the Minister of Finance

*"...a good legislation, is like a good sentence; or a good piece of music. Everybody can recognise it. They say, 'Huh. It works. It makes sense.'"*  
Barack Obama

## SUBSIDIARY LEGISLATION

(Signed/promulgated by Head of State, Cabinet, Minister, Board or other appropriate authority)

1. General Price Order (No.1) 2013 commenced 25 January 2012.
2. Forestry Management Act 2011—Order for Fees commenced 31 January 2013.
3. Notice of Changes Tariff per unit of Electricity—Order of the Regulator/E10 commenced 28 Feb 2013.
4. Notice of Commencement—Casino and Gambling Control Act 2010 commenced 8 March 2013.
5. General Price Order (No.2) 2013 commenced 8 April 2013
6. Casino and Gambling Control (Fees) Regulations 2013 commenced 26 April 2013.
7. Customs Prohibited Imports (Turkey Tails) Order 2013 commenced 10 May 2013.
8. Water Resources Management Regulations 2013 commenced 13 June 2013.
9. Attorney General's Office Act 2013 Commencement Notice commenced 8 July 2013.
10. Mediation Rules 2013 signed 26 August 2013. Commencement date is to be nominated by the Honourable Chief Justice.

## SUMMARIES OF ACTS PASSED BY PARLIAMENT FOR JULY - SEPTEMBER 2013

### INCOME TAX AMENDMENT ACT 2013

The Act amends the Income Tax Act 2012 to encourage locals to invest in the development and construction of first-class tourism accommodation in Samoa. The Act allows tax credit on a minimum of \$100,000 investments, which will then be deducted from the investor's yearly tax liability until the tax credit is exhausted. The Act will only apply to investment made between 1 July 2013 and 30 June 2018. This is a continuation of the hotel development incentive scheme initiated from 1 July 2008 to 30 June 2013.



"Mediation is something new but very old in Samoa. Mediation has many similarities with the traditional Samoan way of settling disputes through the village council or the matai of a family. However, unlike our traditional dispute resolution system, **PROFESSIONAL MEDIATION** is a **FACILITATIVE PROCESS**, it is neither **ADVISORY** nor **DETERMINATIVE IN NATURE**. "

*His Honour Chief Justice Patu Falefatu Maka Sapolu*  
27 August 2013—Launching of the Mediation Rules

### ALTERNATIVE DISPUTE RESOLUTION AMENDMENT ACT 2013

The Act amends the Alternative Dispute Resolution Act 2007 to establish the Mediation Council and provide for its composition, appointment, functions, meetings and other related matters. The other important features of the Amendments

are:

- to expand internationally accepted exceptions to confidential communications protected under the Act;
- to give the parties entitlements to opt for mediation under the Act (mediation is not always pursuant to an order of the Court);
- to allow either party instead of both parties to apply to the court to formalise a mediated settlement agreement;
- to empower the Chief Justice if necessary to issue directives so that some proceedings may be referred to mediation process first before they are commenced in court; and
- to allow the making of Rules relating to mediation



## AGRICULTURE STORE CORPORATION REPEAL ACT 2013

### PRIVATISATION

The Government intends to privatise the Agriculture Store Corporation (Corporation) established under the Agriculture Store Corporation Act 1975. The Agriculture Store Corporation Repeal Act 2013 (Act) was produced in order to implement the privatisation.

The Act seeks to carry out the following:

- to dissolve the Agriculture Store Corporation established under the Agriculture Store Corporation Act 1975;
- to validate the incorporation of the Agriculture Store Corporation Limited;
- to transfer assets and liabilities from the Corporation to the Agriculture Store Corporation Limited with the exception of assets listed in the Schedule; and
- to repeal the Agriculture Store Corporation Act 1975.

An anti-monopolisation provision is included in the Act to prevent a person from having control of the market share in relation to goods and services offered by the Corporation as this would negatively impact our local farmers. Therefore, whilst Government is intending to privatise the Corporation, the process by which this is being carried out ensures our local people do not suffer as a result of the privatisation process.

PRIVATISATION

### PLAIN LANGUAGE DRAFTING TRAINING

18 JULY 2013—OFFICE OF THE ATTORNEY GENERAL CONFERENCE ROOM

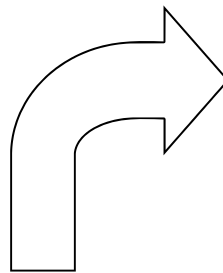
Ms. Gillian James a Parliamentary Counsel from New Zealand and also the Legislative Drafting Team's mentor for 2 months carried out a legislative drafting training on July 18. The main focus of the training was on Plain Language Drafting.

The training was delivered in four parts which are the components of plain language drafting:

1. Organisation and structure of content of Bill or regulations;
2. Organisation and structure of section/clause;
3. Plain language: Grammar;
4. Plain language: choice of words.

**1. ORGANISATION** and structure of a BILL is important and must be the FIRST thing to carry out.

General Matters should come before Specific Matters



### 3. Grammar: use simple sentences

a. Subject, verb, object—(verb + object = predicate):

[the owner of a dog] [must feed] [the dog].

“A person may apply in the approved form accompanied by the prescribed fee, to the management authority for a permit to export the specimen.”

b. Subject and predicate

- keep the subject and the predicate close together

*Instead of:*

“the Minister may, if satisfied that a person complies with the requirements, register the person to trade in endangered species.”

*Use:*

“The Minister may register a person to trade in endangered species if the Minister is satisfied that the person complies with the requirements.”

### 2. ORGANISATION and structure of Section/Clauses

- aim for no more than 5 subsections
- must keep a section to 1 general idea
- specific things that should be included in a section
  - (a) Heading—should be useful to readers trying to use the Act
  - (b) Subsection (1) - should state the main point of the section (which mainly deals with the general rule)
  - (c) Later subsections—are used to state exceptions, special cases, criteria, and other details relating to the general rule
- always make sure you get to the point early—Main clause first then subordinate clause
- try to adopt the narrative style (this approach helps avoid excessive cross-references and bracketed definitions).

### 4. Choice of Words: General Rule

#### Avoid ellipsis

- Do not leave out necessary words that would make sense of a sentence or a paragraph:

E.g. “I like to interview people sitting down”

Does it mean– while I am sitting down, while they are sitting down, or while all of us are sitting down?

- Do not use unnecessary words:

E.g. “from time to time”.

#### **Avoid redundancy**

- The purpose and scope of the Act constraint and flavor all its provisions, so it is not necessary to restate that particular provisions are:
  - subject to the purpose;
  - exercised for the purpose, etc
- Everything done under the Act is affected by the purpose and context of the Act including provisions that are expressed very broadly.

#### **Definitions**

- Definitions should be intuitive and accurate, the meaning of a term should not be a surprise. For example, do not define the term “firearm” to include a knife, use the word “weapon” instead.
- Should not use a definition to carry the weight of a substantive provision, e.g. “approved form” means a form approved by the Ministry, instead “approved form” means a form approved under section X (section X authorizes the Ministry to approve forms).
- if creating a body with a function, use a term/name for the body that is meaningful, e.g. Management Authority/ Committee is self explanatory.

- Use simple and familiar words
- Use 1 word instead of a phrase
- Use verbs instead of nouns
- Use the same word for the same meaning and different words for different meanings
- Avoid jargon, archaic words

#### **Verbs v Nouns**

- Use verbs rather than nouns phrases (ie. Verbs turned into nouns) eg:

<i>Use</i>	<i>Avoid</i>
A person may apply for a permit	A person may make an application for a permit
The Minister must consult with	The Minister must carry out consultation with
An officer may investigate an activity	An officer may conduct an investigation into an activity

#### **Useful Tips:**

- Read a section as if it were a narrative paragraph. Consider the purpose of the Bill, the context of the other provisions of the Bill, then what is arguably sensible as an interpretation.
- Always send questions back to the instructor, there are no short cuts in DRAFTING! The Drafter needs to understand and be happy with every word in the Bill. Providing a draft Bill as instructions does not help the drafter and may delay the drafting process. Always try to write yourself a plain language summary, and then create your own first draft based on that summary.

### **PACIFIC AGREEMENT ON CLOSER ECONOMIC RELATIONS (‘PACER’) PLUS AND WORLD TRADE ORGANISATION WORKSHOP 22 JULY—26 JULY 2013, DEVELOPMENT BANK OF SAMOA CONFERENCE ROOM**

Theodora Matalavea and Loukinikini Vili attended the above workshop. The workshop was conducted by the officials from the Office of the Chief Trade Adviser (‘OCTA’) based in Port Villa Vanuatu (Dr. Edwini Kessie and Mr Roberto Fiorentino). The main purpose of the workshop was to

- Provide for an overview of the PACER Plus negotiations, linkages between the WTO and the PACER Plus;
- To provide an update on the priority areas of PACER Plus negotiations which took place in Samoa 18 July; and
- To discuss Samoa’s commitments and notification obligations under the WTO agreements.

#### **PACER Plus Negotiation.**

##### **Overview of the PACER Plus**

PACER Plus is a proposed trade and economic cooperation agreement currently negotiated between the Forum Island Countries (FICs) and Australia and New Zealand. The officials informed the stakeholders that during the FIC Trade Ministers talk in Apia Samoa (18 July) the Ministers endorsed the new priority issues for negotiation namely, **Trade in Services, Investment and Trade in Goods**. In relation to this new priority, negotiations have concluded on customs procedures while considerable process has been made on Sanitary and Phytosanitary measures (SPS) and Technical Barriers to Trade measures (TBT) and Rules of Origin.

The Seasonal Workers Programmes (SWP) proved to be a very successful approach, however, the FICs made it clear to Australia and New Zealand, that the SWP should not be a substitute for the FICs main or core demands. FICs also relayed to Australia and New Zealand, to extend the labour schemes to other sectors.

The possible implication of the negotiation issues, relates to the triggering of the MFN (most favoured nation) clause. For that reason, Australia and New Zealand may have to extend to other regional trade agreement partners the preferential conditions on labour granted to FICs.

#### **Rules of Origin**

- is a criterion used to determine the economic origin of a good. The problem with the rules is the lack of harmonization.
- seek the rules that would facilitate FICs exports
- FICs prefer Change in Tariff Classification (CTC) and also a low threshold for Regional Value Content (RVC) (15%).
- Technical and financial assistance would be required for the FICs.

#### **SPS and TBT measures in PACER Plus**

- The main objective of the WTO agreements on these two measures is to ensure that food safety and animal and plant health regulations are not used as disguised barriers to international trade, and ensure that technical regulations and standards do not create unnecessary obstacles to international trade.

Main negotiation issues for FICs under this heading, are:

- to establish a framework for cooperation on SPS and TBT issues;
- to Facilitate equivalence and harmonization within PACER Plus;
- to have access to technical assistance so that FICs are able to meet SPS and TBT requirements.

#### **WTO Workshop**

In relation to the WTO workshop, the officials made an informative presentation on the obligations of Samoa. The presentation covered the following areas;

- Functions of the WTO,
- Legal Texts of the WTO,
- WTO Institutional Structure,
- Non-Discrimination Principles,
- Trade Related Investments Measures,
- Trade Related Aspect of Intellectual Property Rights, and
- WTO Notification Requirements.

The workshop was very intense and technical but with the help of officials, the participants thoroughly learnt a lot on the obligations of Samoa under the WTO and the steps to be taken by Samoa to ensure we comply with the rules of WTO and how to use the rules for Samoa's benefit from trading with other WTO countries. It was also a good opportunity for all stakeholders in Samoa to have a background update on PACER Plus negotiations.

### **YOUTH PARLIAMENT PROGRAMME**

**6 – 7 AUGUST 2013, OFFICE OF THE CLERK OF THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY**



Monique Vaai and Leitu Moananu attended the above Programme. The Youth Parliamentary Programme (Programme) was a 2 day programme hosted by the Office of the Clerk of the Legislative Assembly (OCLA). The aim of the Programme was basically to familiarise participants on the process and importance of the role of Parliament; and the OCLA when preparing for Parliament and dealing with procedures such as passing of Bills etc. The first day was mainly the briefing of the participants on Parliament sessions etc. The second day of the Programme was dedicated to a 'mock Parliament' session where the participants had to play the roles of different Members of Parliament, the Clerk, Chairperson and other roles identical to those in sitting Parliament. The participants also had the opportunity to sit in and observe the Parliament during the Programme.

The presentations delivered were presented by the senior members of the OCLA. The first presentation was about the 'Roles and Functions of Parliament' and was presented by Fepuleai Letufuga A.M. Ropati, Clerk of the Legislative Assembly of Samoa. The second presenter was Tigaina Laupepa, ACEO, Maota (Chamber and Procedure) who presented on the 'Passage of Bills' (i.e. 6 stages – 1<sup>st</sup> Reading, 2<sup>nd</sup> Reading until it reaches its final stage) and the last presentation was about 'Community Relations' presented by Urkia Seumua, Principal for Community Relation, OCLA. The practical side of the Programme was participating in the mock Parliament. Participants took part in role-playing members of Parliament and took part in Parliamentary debates. The Bill under discussion was the Marriage Amendment Bill which required an urgency certificate. The participants especially those who played the roles of Ministers and the members of the Opposition Party were able to express their views during the debate on the Bill. The Bill was passed and the mock Parliament ended with a prayer.

This Programme was very useful for networking with other young professionals from different sectors of Government.

## PROCEEDS OF CRIME AND MONEY LAUNDERING TRAINING

### 13 AUGUST—16 AUGUST, OFFICE OF THE ATTORNEY GENERAL CONFERENCE ROOM



The Proceeds of Crime and Money Laundering training (the training) was an initiative by the Office of the Attorney General to educate and provide guidance to select Government Ministries, In-House Legal Counsels and Prosecutors on the legal requirements under the Proceeds of Crime Act 2007 (the Act).

Mr. David Boldt from the New Zealand Crown Law Office in Wellington, spent one week mentoring and training members of Police—Transnational Crime Unit, Fraud Intelligence Unit, Customs and Prosecutors in relation to the Act.

Mr Boldt took time to plan the training with members of the Office of the Attorney General in order to gauge the strengths and weaknesses in understanding the Act and its application in Samoa.

The training took place in two parts. Firstly the Training of Police and Government Ministries on the evidential requirements to prosecute cases of money laundering and proceeds of crime. Secondly, the training focused on prosecution requirements and the practical applications of the Act.

The participants involved in the training enhanced their skills in regard to drafting and submitting legal documents such as motions, applications, affidavits and submissions. At the conclusion of the training, Prosecutors were required to complete a practical component which was a moot based on an exercise discussed during the course of the training. We want to acknowledge with gratitude our sincere thanks to David Boldt for conducting the trainings.



#### The **STATE** can **FORFEIT** Proceeds of Crime

- Instrument of a crime
- Benefits derived from a crime



## INDUCTION TRAININGS FOR NEW LAW CLERKS

### 26 AUGUST—OFFICE OF THE ATTORNEY GENERAL CONFERENCE ROOM



**Back Row:** Sioa Sioa, Losa Kelekolio, Leitu Moananu, Theodora Matalavea, Esekia Soloi.

**Front Row:** Steffany Meredith, Titilua Aiono, Gemma Nelson and Siovia Liu.

The Legislative Drafting Division conducted an induction training for the new law clerks. The training was an opportunity for the new law clerks to learn what they will be expecting from the Legislative Drafting Division.

The main features of the trainings were:

- The Legislative Division Staff;
- The roles of the Division namely:
  - drafting laws as directed by the Attorney General,
  - reviewing all laws drafted externally by assisting and ensuring continuing liaison with government Ministries and agencies in the development and finalisation of draft laws,

- preparing drafts in final form for the Attorney General’s approval;
- Attend Bill’s committee hearings;
- Provide legal advice to the government regarding the interpretation of legislation;
- Attend Parliament sittings along the Attorney General or the Assistant Attorney General
- Consolidation of laws; and
- Any other work that the Attorney General assigns to the Division;
- explanation of the Legislative Process in Samoa; and
- General practice and Protocols for smooth running of work

New law clerks that have recently joined our Office are Siovia F Liu, Steffany Meredith and Titilua Aiono (Volunteer Law Clerk) for the Legislative Drafting Division, Esekia Soloi for the Civil Team, Gemma Nelson and Lucymaria Sio for the Criminal Division. A warm welcome to you all.

*“Manuia o outou faiva.”*

## Legislative Drafting Handbook

The Legislative Drafting Division have a **Legislative Drafting Handbook**, which MUST be followed by all drafters who draft laws for Samoa. The Handbook contains **requirements and standards** that must be met by all draft laws submitted to the Office of the Attorney General to review. Visit the Office of the Attorney General’s website and find under Publications Link to download a Handbook. For more information visit our website:

[www.ag.gov.ws](http://www.ag.gov.ws)

Please note that the Legislative Drafting Handbook is now being reviewed.

*“He who sticks to the letter of the law only gets to the bark of the tree i.e. the substance of the law, the effect of the law are matter far weightier than the niceties of form or circumstances. The law is made for a purpose.”*

### OTHER EVENTS FROM JULY—SEPTEMBER 2013

#### OFFICE MANAGEMENT TRAINING

5 AUGUST—9 AUGUST, OFFICE OF THE ATTORNEY GENERAL CONFERENCE ROOM



Twenty participants from the Office of the Attorney General, Samoa Law Reform Commission and Ministry of Justice, Courts and Administration participated in a five day training course in “Office Management Skills” from **5 to 9 August 2013** held at the Attorney General Office’s Conference Room.

In his opening remarks, Attorney General, emphasized how vital it is to undergo the training :

*“This training is very important because I want our Offices’ Corporate Services to be professional and efficient, not only in how we deal with our clients, but also internally amongst both the lawyers and corporate services staff.”*

*“We need to have systems in place that promote efficiency and professionalism.*

*family or a team where we all work together for the betterment of our offices. Where each person knows his or her role well and where communication is vital.”*

#### Main objective of the Course were:

- To promote the development of efficient and effective office management practices within the Corporate Services work environment.
- To develop understanding of and skills in good office management and practice.
- To increase participant’s awareness, knowledge, skills and confidence in creating a suitable and efficient filing system, acquiring sufficient basic computer skills to manage email, file management, basic word processing and archiving, and understanding procedures for conducting meetings and recording minutes.

For five days, the participants were engaged in interactive brainstorming sessions and group work. The training helps in building the capacity of the corporate staff and to ensure that at the end of the trainings the participants understand the objectives of the course, and to use the new skills when carrying out their work.

## ADMISSION TO THE BAR



New lawyers for the Attorney General's Office were admitted and sworn in on August 16 by His Honour Chief Justice Sapolu. The Attorney General Tuatagaloa Aumua Ming C. Leung Wai moved the admission of Dominic Talouli and Lucymaria Tituatua Sio.

Chief Justice Patu Falefatu Maka Sapolu memorably offered invaluable guidance on their legal careers by stating *"this is not the end, this is the beginning of a new step for your legal career"*

*On that note, we would also like to congratulate Dominic and Lucymaria on being admitted to the bar.*

*"whatever your hands find to do, do it with all your might, for when we die, there is no work, knowledge or wisdom."* (Ecclesiastes 9:10)



## PUBLIC SERVICE DAY 27 SEPTEMBER 2013

The Office of the Attorney General joined the Samoa Public Service Day celebration with an early morning parade at 8am. The keynote address was delivered by the Acting Prime Minister Honourable Fonotoe Pierre Laufo. The Career and Awareness Exhibition took place at the Tui Atua Tupua Tamasese Efi Building. The representatives from each Division were Siovia F Liu (Legislative Drafting Division); Elia Tulifau (Civil Division); Taulesulu Matau (Criminal Division) and Leutu Leuluaialii (Corporate Services Division).



Salote Peteru



## UPCOMING EVENTS

- Parliament Session in October 8th and December 17th 2013
- 32<sup>nd</sup> Annual PILON Meeting, Nukualofa, Kingdom of Tonga 5-7 November 2013.

## FAREWELLS

The Legislative Drafting Division farewelled two members of the Division.

Salote Peteru who was a Principal Legislative Drafter left the Drafting Division on 6 September 2013. Salote is a qualified and experienced legislative drafter who joined the Office of the Attorney General in 2008. She has been with our Office for more than 5 years. Salote now joins the Ministry of Finance as the newly appointed Assistant Chief Executive Officer for Legal Division.

Martha Papalii who was one of our State Solicitors left the Drafting Division on 12 July 2013. She was with the Attorney General's Office for almost 2 years. Martha joined the Office as a Law Clerk for the Criminal Division and later joined the Legislative Drafting Division. Martha is now a Legal Officer for the Development Bank of Samoa.

Salote and Martha's contribution to the drafting of laws of our country does not go un-noticed. We wish you both the very best. May God Bless.

*"E leai se mea e faigata i le Atua—Manuia tele lo oulua tulai mai i lua tofiga ua tofia ai e le Atua"*



Martha Papalii

## MEMBERS OF THE LDD DIVISION

Ming C. Leung Wai, Attorney General  
Loretta Teueli, Assistant Attorney General—Legislative Drafting  
Rupeni Nawaqakuta, Legislative Drafting Advisor  
Constance Tafua-Rivers, Legal Consultant—Government Corporations  
Fetogi Vaai, Principal Legislative Drafter  
Sioa Sioa, State Solicitor  
Leitu Moananu, State Solicitor  
Theodora F. Matalavea, State Solicitor  
Siovia Florina Liu, Law Clerk  
Steffany Meredith, Law Clerk  
Nina Tala, Part-time Law Clerk  
Titilua Aiono, Volunteer-Law Clerk  
Losa Kelekolio, Senior Legal Secretary

## DISCLAIMER

Please note that the information contained in this Newsletter is not intended to be taken as legal advice and therefore should not to be relied upon as such. Any fault in the accuracy of the information in this Newsletter is ours alone.