

Media Statement



Tuesday, 27 July 2021

Rule of law prevails in Samoa

All comments to be attributed to Law Council President, Dr Jacoba Brasch QC.

“The Law Council of Australia welcomes news of the peaceful transition of power in Samoa following Friday’s decision by the Court of Appeal, which found the swearing in of Prime Minister Fiame Naomi Mata’afa and the Fa’atuatua i le Atua Samoa ua Tasi (FAST) party government on 24 May 2021 was constitutional.

Samoa’s first female Prime Minister, and her government officially took office this morning.

The judges of Samoa’s Supreme Court have fulfilled their role with great courage and integrity, determining the constitutional questions before them in the face of sustained political and public pressure.

The Law Council also acknowledges the tireless work and dedication of the Samoa Law Society, its informed court interventions and sustained public advocacy, which has helped to produce this result. This underscores the vital role of an independent legal profession, and particularly independent legal professional bodies, to defend and promote the rule of law and the independence of the judiciary.”

ENDS

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The Law Council of Australia is the national voice of the legal profession, promoting justice and the rule of law.