

May 2015

Malo e lelei Bula Vinaka Kia orana Talofa

Disputes Tribunal

The Tribunal is a forum for hearing and determining disputes. The focus of the Tribunal is on practical dispute resolution and aims to resolve claims in an informal, inexpensive and speedy manner. In most Tribunal hearings, claimants or defendants are not allowed to make use of advocates. In these circumstances the responsibility of preparing for a hearing will fall on the parties themselves.

If you have a claim in contract or tort (negligence, injury or damage to property) then it is likely that the claim can be heard and determined by the Tribunal. However, the upper limit of any claim which can be heard by the Tribunal is \$15,000 (or \$20,000 by agreement between the parties).

To avoid delays, it is important that your claim is correctly lodged. This may seem obvious but mistakes are often made.

The Tribunal is a very accessible forum for the general public to use for resolving disputes. However, not having a legal representative can leave many wondering as to the best way of approaching a Tribunal hearing. Hopefully, the above will be a useful guide if you are preparing a Tribunal claim or defence or preparing for a hearing.

If you would like additional advice about the Tribunal process please contact our **Dispute Resolution Team** on (07) 838 2079.

Pacific Business Summit 2015

McCaw Lewis was fortunate to attend the Pacific Business Summit, hosted by the Pacific Business Trust in Auckland, which was an opportunity for aspiring and existing Pacific Business Owners and Entrepreneurs to focus their discussions on building the ground-work for improving best business practices with emphasis placed on growth of the economy, changes and shifts in various industries.

The keynote speaker Adrian Orr, CEO NZ Superannuation Fund, spoke on Change, Challenge and Opportunity through his lens of economic growth.

The summit was an opportunity for aspiring Pacific leaders, small Pacific business owners and entrepreneurs from within New Zealand and the Pacific region, to learn from key people in the sectors of construction, the export market and IT.

THE
PACIFIC
BUSINESS SUMMIT



Immigration Law

The Immigration Act 2009 ("the Act") modernises New Zealand's immigration laws but did not make major changes to the criteria under which people apply to travel to and stay in New Zealand.

The purpose of the Act is to manage immigration in a way that balances the national interest, and the rights of individuals.

The immigration system under the Act require persons who are not New Zealand citizens to hold a visa to travel to New Zealand, and be granted entry permission to stay in New Zealand.

Why do you need a lawyer?

New Zealand's immigration law and policies may be considered quite broad and the rules complex. Professional assistance ensures that the documentation you require is correct and complete, and ensures that you get the best possible result.

For general enquiries and assistance, please contact Jerome Burgess on 07 958 7427 or email jerome.burgess@mccawlewis.co.nz