

## 5. HOW MANY JUVENILE DETENTION CENTRES DO WE HAVE IN PORT MORESBY?

- There are three (3) Juvenile Centres in Port Moresby. They are located at Bomana, Hohola and Laloki respectively.
- Around the country there is Erab Boys town in Lae and the Boys town in Wewak.
- The rest of the prison centres in the country have a section for the juveniles within the main prison camps to separate the juveniles from the rest of the adult prisoners.



# Magistrates and Juvenile Courts

For further information contact the Office of the Public Solicitor, P.O BOX 5812, BOROKO, NCD. Ph. 325 8866 and our other provincial offices.

Please note any further legal advice is subject to approval by the Public Solicitor.

*Providing Access to justice  
for impecunious persons in  
Papua New Guinea*

## MAGISTRATES AND JUVENILE COURTS

### *IMPROVING ACCESS TO JUSTICE AND JUST RESULTS THROUGH LEGAL REPRESENTATION OF JUVENILES IN CONFLICT WITH THE LAW.*

#### 1. WHO ARE JUVENILES?

- Juveniles are person aged not less than seven (7) years and less than eighteen (18) years.

#### 2. WHAT TO DO IF A JUVENILE IS ARRESTED BY THE POLICE?

- In accordance with Section 37 (4) (b) of the Constitution, the juvenile must be informed promptly in a language which he understands and in detail the nature of the offence with which he is charged.
- In accordance with Section 21 of the *Juvenile Courts Act*, the officer in charge of the police station where the juvenile is detained must immediately notify a parent or a responsible person and a Juvenile Court Officer and allow

access by all or any of them to the juvenile.

- The juvenile must be placed in a remand centre or other place approved by the director for that purpose.
- The Officer in charge of the Police Station must notify a Juvenile Court Officer of the arrest, the reasons for the arrest and the place of detention.
- If, however a juvenile is arrested by a person other than a member of the Police Force, the person must notify the Police immediately.
- Where a juvenile has been charged and placed on remand the Juvenile Court Officer notified must notify a parent of the juvenile or a responsible person if they have not been notified by the police yet, of the arrest of the juvenile.

#### 3. WHERE A JUVENILE IS DETAINED?

- The Juvenile shall be detained in a remand centre or other place approved by the Director for that purpose.

#### 4. WHAT IS THE DUTY OF THE JUVENILE COURT OFFICER?

- Section 12 of the *Juvenile Courts Act* provides for the functions of Juvenile Court Officers. It provides that a Juvenile Court Officer must establish and maintain an adequate system of confidential records, and prepare and submit reports and records as required by a Court or the Director of the Juvenile Court. They are also required to perform other functions specified in the Juvenile Courts Act or the director may reasonably require by the Director from time to time or other functions prescribed.
- When a juvenile is arrested, it is a requirement by law that the Police must notify the Juvenile Court Officer as well as the parents of the juvenile.