



MEDIA RELEASE
FCCC Charges Hardware & Timber Business for
Unfair Trade Practice
Wednesday 10 November 2021

The Fijian Competition and Consumer Commission (FCCC) has charged a hardware and timber business three separate times for breaching Section 88 of the FCCC Act 2010.

This followed a recent rise in complaints received by FCCC against the same business for alleged breaches of the FCCC Act 2010, whereby the business was accepting payments, yet failing to provide services and deliver products in a timely manner. The business is further alleged to have published bait advertisements on Social Media to lure customers to purchase items without having ample stocks of hardware. There are another 19 cases under investigation against this particular business.

“FCCC will not condone negligent behaviour from traders. As such, strict enforcement is vital, and will act as a deterrent for those thinking of acting outside the FCCC Act 2010,” said FCCC CEO Joel Abraham.

“These complaints have been identified as a common concern in the hardware and timber industry whereby hardware businesses do not maintain sufficient stocks, yet still accept payments from their clients – and this is not acceptable. Further to this, there are 19 separate matters from these investigations that are currently filed before the Nausori Court.”

Abraham also noted that businesses in the hardware and timber industry have begun charging separate fees for delivery services which was not commonly practised before the COVID-19 pandemic.

“Due to the increased number of complaints against businesses in the hardware and timber industry, we will be thoroughly looking at both these issues,” he added.

Fijians are encouraged to report any suspected unfair trade practice to FCCC.

For more information/details on this please contact the FCCC at their
Facebook page: <https://www.facebook.com/FijianCCC/>, on their website:
www.fccc.gov.fj, via <https://fccc.app/> or simply call 8921991.

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