

Former Cook Islands Deputy PM Jailed for Fraud and Corruption

Date of Action

23 Mar 2024

1 of 3

SUMMARY



Robert Taimoe Tapaitau, 49

Deputy Prime Minister - Cook Islands (Oct 20–Jan 24)
Minister - Energy and Renewable Energy
Minister - Marine Resources

JURISDICTION

Cook Islands

LEGAL ACTION

Sentenced to two years and nine months imprisonment

REASON

Involvement in fraud and corruption charges, including the use of a document to obtain pecuniary advantage and conspiracy to defraud.

PEP CHECK



ADVERSE MEDIA CHECK



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2 of 3

MODUS OPERANDI

Between April 2019 and March 2021, Robert Tapaitau, along with two other officials, misappropriated \$70,000 (US\$43,074.67) in public funds.

SYNOPSIS

Robert Tapaitau was sentenced to two years and nine months in prison for fraud, including using a document to obtain a pecuniary advantage and conspiracy to defraud.

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3 of 3