

MEDIA RELEASE

5 December 2025

Ex-Murdoch University employee receives 2.5 year jail term for corrupt conduct

The Commission welcomes the sentencing of Mr Dario Pacifici who received an immediate term of imprisonment of 2 years and 6 months yesterday in the District Court.

The prosecution, conducted by the Office of the Director of Public Prosecutions, was the outcome of Commission Operation Barrenjoey which resulted in the [Report on the actions of a public officer at Murdoch University in respect to maintenance contracts](#) tabled in January 2024.

Mr Pacifici was employed as Manager Facilities and Maintenance at Murdoch University from March 2021 to September 2022. Part of his role was to engage new contractors to the university. Mr Pacifici introduced BM OnDemand as a contractor and ensured that the company had an ongoing supply of work worth more than \$1,000,000. Mr Pacifici had been involved in the setup and ongoing management of BM OnDemand with the two listed directors: his wife, Joshna Shrestha; and friend, Nathan Hodder. In total, over the course of 2021 and 2022, Mr Pacifici used his position at Manager Facilities and Maintenance at Murdoch University to procure a total financial benefit of over \$70,000 for himself and Ms Shrestha.

In outlining the seriousness of the offending, Her Honour Judge Wallace noted Mr Pacifici's offending was not a momentary lapse of judgement, it was deliberate. It was meticulously planned and orchestrated over a long period of time - Mr Pacifici knew he was engaging in misconduct and took active steps to conceal it.

Prosecutions arising from Commission investigations are an important means of deterring serious misconduct in the government sector as well as stopping the commission of further offences by the person or persons investigated.

ENDS

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