



## ODPP MEDIA UPDATE

### ODPP Rape and Sexual Offences Statistics – August 2017

The following data is authorised for release by the Office of the Director of Public Prosecutions (ODPP) and relates to the number of formal indictments (*Information*) filed in the High Courts of Fiji by the Director of Public Prosecutions throughout the month. This data is confined to incidents of serious sexual offences only.

There were 12 people charged with a total of 21 separate incidents in August. The offences were rape (9), assault with intent to rape (1), defilement (4), abduction with intention to have carnal knowledge (2) and sexual assault (5).

There were 12 victims of the 21 separate incidents of whom 8 victims were under the age of 18 years.

There were 3 incidents where the accused and the victims were related to each other.

Of these 3, there was one serious offence where a 53 year old grandfather is alleged to have raped and sexually assaulted his 7 year granddaughter. There was one serious incident where a 40 year old uncle is alleged to have raped and sexually assaulted his 13 year old niece.

There were two serious incidents where a 5 year old boy and a 14 year old boy were allegedly raped by 25 year old and 27 year old men.

There were two separate cases of abduction of girls under 18 with the intention to have carnal knowledge. In one of these cases, the accused was the victim's school teacher.

Three cases were withdrawn after discontinuances (*Nolle Prosequi*) were filed. Of these three, one was withdrawn due to a false statement from the victim's grandmother. The other two matters were withdrawn due to insufficient evidence and the inability to locate the accused.

Refer to the table entitled *ODPP Rape and Sexual Offences Statistics August 2017* for a break-down of these statistics.



### ODPP Rape and Sexual Offences Statistics August 2017

|  | Rape | Assault with intent to Rape | Abduction with intent to have carnal knowledge | Defilement | Sexual Assault | Total |
|--|------|-----------------------------|--|------------|----------------|-------|
| No. of Counts  | 9    | 1                           | 2  | 4          | 5              | 21    |
| Total No. of Victims   | 7    | 1                           | 2  | 1          | 4              | 12*   |
| No. of Victims under 18 years  | 2    | 0                           | 2  | 1          | 4              | 8*    |
| Total No. of Accused Persons   | 7    | 1                           | 2  | 1          | 4              | 12*   |
| No. of Accused Persons under 18 years                                    | 0    | 0                           | 0  | 0          | 0              | 0     |
| No. of <i>Nolle Prosequi</i> filed                                       | 2    | 0                           | 0  | 0          | 1              | 3     |
| No. of incidents involving people in domestic relationships or relatives | 2    | 0                           | 0  | 0          | 3              | 3*    |
| No. of False Complaints  | 0    | 0                           | 0  | 0          | 1              | 1     |

Source: ODPP Fiji

**\*Please note that a number of rape victims as well as victims under the age of 18 years and victims in domestic relationship were also victims of other serious sexual offences. Similarly, a number of accused persons were also charged with more than one offence.**

**1 September 2017.**

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