



ODPP MEDIA UPDATE

ODPP Serious Crime (Non-Sexual Violence 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 crimes other than sexual violence offences which are recorded and published separately. This data also includes offences committed by police officers.

There were 76 people charged with a total of 64 counts of separate incidents in August. The offences were attempted murder (1) aggravated robbery (23), attempted aggravated robbery (1), aggravated burglary (11), theft (8), receiving stolen property (1), money laundering (3) assault occasioning actual bodily harm (4), act with intent to cause grievous harm (1), trafficking in persons (4), domestic trafficking in persons (3), criminal intimidation (1) and sexual servitude (3).

Of these 76 people charged, 2 were police officers. One police officer was charged with theft and receiving stolen property while another police officer was charged with assault occasioning actual bodily harm.

There were 7 juveniles who were also charged with aggravated robbery, aggravated burglary and theft offences.

There were 49 victims of these serious offences. Three of whom were victims of domestic disputes. One of these incidents involved a 56 year old grandmother who is charged with a count of assault occasioning actual bodily harm. She is alleged to have assaulted her 10 year old grandson.

The attempted murder incident occurred after a wedding in the Western Division.

Cash amounts ranging from \$50 to over \$12,500 were stolen from individuals (including tourists), homes and taxis during the alleged aggravated robbery and aggravated burglary offences. Over \$35,000 was also stolen from a resort and their employees in the Western Division. Household items, laptops, mobile phones and jewellery were also stolen during these incidents. A number of aggravated robberies were daylight street mugging incidents.

Three Chinese nationals were charged with money laundering. They are alleged to have laundered amounts in excess of \$136,000 through a local bank.

Two cases were withdrawn after discontinuances (*Nolle Prosequi*) were filed. In one of these cases two Chinese men, one man from Thailand and one man from Hong Kong were convicted and sentenced for trafficking in persons, domestic trafficking in persons, rape and sexual servitude charges in 2012. They were released on bail in 2016 after filing an appeal. A retrial was ordered

after the Court of Appeal quashed their convictions, however, due to the inability to locate the complainants, a *Nolle Prosequi* was filed and the men were discharged.

Refer to the table entitled *ODPP Serious Crime (Non-Sexual Violence Offences) Statistics August 2017* for a break-down of these statistics.

**ODPP Serious Crime (Non- Sexual Violence Offences) Statistics August 2017**

	Total No. of Counts	Total No. of Victims	Total No. of accused persons	No. of Nolle Prosequi filed	Incidents involving domestic relations	No. of Police officers charged
Attempted Murder	1	1	1	0	0	0
Aggravated robbery	23	22	35	1	0	0
Attempted aggravated robbery	1	1	1	0	0	0
Aggravated burglary	11	11	21	0	0	0
Theft	8	11	20	0	0	1
Receiving stolen property	1	4	2	0	0	1
Money laundering	3	0	3	0	0	0
Assault occasioning actual bodily harm	4	4	3	0	3	1
Act with intent to cause grievous bodily harm	1	1	1	0	0	0
Trafficking in persons	4	6	5	1	0	0
Domestic trafficking in persons	3	3	4	1	0	0
Criminal Intimidation	1	1	1	0	0	0
Sexual servitude	3	3	4	1	0	0
Total	64	49*	76*	2*	3	2*

Source: ODPP Fiji

*Please note that a number of accused persons may also have been charged with other serious offences. Similarly, a number of victims for one crime have also been victims of other serious crimes.

*Please also note that sexual violence offences are recorded and published separately.

4 September 2017.

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