



ODPP MEDIA UPDATE

ODPP Rape and Sexual Offences Statistics – December 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 6 people charged with a total of 11 separate incidents in December. The offences were rape (7), indecent assault (3) and sexual assault (1).

There were 5 victims of the 11 separate incidents of whom 4 victims were under the age of 18 years.

There were 4 incidents where the victims and the accused were related to one another.

In one incident a 37-year-old uncle and a 48-year-old grandfather were charged with two counts each of rape and indecent assault of their 16-year-old niece and granddaughter.

There was another incident where a 35-year old brother-in-law was charged with rape and indecent assault of his 16-year-old sister-in-law.

In another incident a 40-year-old uncle was charged with raping his 14-year-old niece.

There was one incident of marital rape where a 29-year-old man allegedly raped his 26-year-old wife.

There was one incident where a 19-year-old student was charged with raping a 15-year-old female student. Both the accused and the victim were pupils from the same school.

Two cases were withdrawn after discontinuances (*Nolle Prosequi*) were filed. These matters were withdrawn due to insufficient evidence and the victim's failure to appear in court.

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



ODPP Rape and Sexual Offences Statistics December 2017

	Rape	Indecent Assault	Defilement	Sexual Assault	Total
No. of Counts	7	3	0	1	11
Total No. of Victims	5	2	0	1	5*
No. of Victims under 18 years	4	2	0	1	4*
Total No. of Accused Persons	6	3	0	1	6*
No. of Accused Persons under 18 years	0	0	0	0	0
No. of <i>Nolle Prosequi</i> filed	2	1	0	0	2
No. of incidents involving people in domestic relationships or relatives	4	2	0	1	4
No. of False Complaints	0	0	0	0	0

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.**

3 January 2018.

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