



ODPP MEDIA UPDATE

ODPP Serious Crime (Non-Sexual Violence Offences) Statistics – February 2018

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 61 people charged with a total of 58 counts of separate incidents in February. The offences were murder (2), attempted murder (1), aggravated robbery (15), attempted aggravated robbery (1), aggravated burglary (10), attempted aggravated burglary (1), theft (6), receiving property (1), assault (3), act with intent to cause grievous bodily harm (6), trafficking in persons (3), dangerous driving (1), careless driving (1), unlawful cultivation (2), possession of illicit drugs (1), criminal intimidation (1), damaging property (1), resisting arrest (1), and breach of DVRO (1).

There were 10 juveniles charged with aggravated robbery, aggravated burglary and theft offences.

Of the 61 people charged, four were police officers. One police officer was charged with receiving stolen property. He is alleged to have received two calves for \$300 which was stolen property. Another police officer was charged with dangerous driving whereby he allegedly fell asleep at the wheel while another police officer was charged with one count of careless driving which caused damage to the police vehicle. In another incident a police officer was charged with theft however this matter was withdrawn due to insufficient evidence.

There were 43 victims of the 58 counts of separate incidents. Of the 43, there were 8 incidents where the accused and victims were related to one another.

There were two separate incidents of murder. In one incident a 40-year-old man was charged for causing the death of his stepdaughter's partner.

In another murder case, the accused was earlier convicted and sentenced for burning his wife to death. A retrial in this case has been ordered.

There was one incident of attempted murder where the accused and the victim were in a defacto relationship.

There were three separate incidents of act with intent to cause grievous harm. One of the incidents involved a 32-year-old man who allegedly assaulted his wife. The accused was also charged with assault, damaging property and resisting arrest. In another incident, a 54-year-old man was charged for allegedly causing grievous harm to three of his family members.

Cash amounts ranged from \$136 to \$19,034 and assorted items ranged from \$130 to over \$23,980 were stolen during the alleged aggravated robbery and aggravated burglary offences which consisted of home invasions, office and shop break-ins, vehicle break-ins, crematorium break-ins and daylight street robberies.

The assorted items stolen ranged from wallets, mobile phones, jewellery, alcohol, electronic goods and household items.

There was one incident of aggravated burglary and aggravated robbery where the accused person was also charged with rape. He is alleged to have stolen \$200 worth of assorted items. ***(NB: The offence of rape is recorded separately).***

There was one incident of attempted robbery which was foiled by a police patrol.

A 46-year-old Fijian was charged with trafficking in persons. He is alleged to have trafficked three males from the Philippines to Fiji and exploited them for work.

There were two incidents of unlawful cultivation of illicit drugs. A 25 and 23-year old were charged for unlawfully cultivating 1,046 kilograms of *cannabis sativa* in Levuka and in another case a 38-year-old man was charged for unlawfully cultivating 15 kilograms of *cannabis sativa* in Kadavu.

A 45-year-old Australian national was charged with one count of possession of illicit drugs after 0.2 grams of methamphetamine was found in the accused person's flat.

Two cases were withdrawn after discontinuances (*Nolle Prosequi*) were filed due to insufficient evidence.

Refer to the table entitled *ODPP Serious Crime (Non-Sexual Violence Offences) Statistics February 2018* for a break-down of these statistics.

**ODPP Serious Crime (Non- Sexual Violence Offences) February 2018**

	Total No. of Counts	Total No. of accused persons	Total No. of victims	No. of Nolle Prosequi filed	Incidents involving domestic relations	No. of Police officers charged
Murder	2	2	2	0	2	0
Attempted Murder	1	1	1	0	1	0
Aggravated robbery	15	27	16	1	0	0
Attempted aggravated robbery	1	2	1	0	0	0
Aggravated burglary	10	13	9	0	0	0
Attempted aggravated burglary	1	1	1	0	0	0
Theft	6	8	5	1	0	1
Receiving property	1	1	1	0	0	1
Assault	3	3	3	0	2	0
Act with intent to cause grievous bodily harm	6	3	5	0	3	0
Trafficking in persons	3	1	3	0	0	0
Dangerous driving	1	1	1	0	0	1
Careless driving	1	1	0	0	0	1
Unlawful cultivation	2	3	0	0	0	0
Possession of illicit drugs	1	1	0	0	0	0
Criminal Intimidation	1	1	1	0	1	0
Damaging property	1	1	1	0	1	0

Resisting arrest	1	1	0	0	0	0
Breach of DVRO	1	1	1	0	1	0
Total	58	61*	43*	2	8*	4
	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.**

2 March 2018.

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