



## ODPP MEDIA UPDATE

### ODPP Rape and Sexual Offences Statistics – May 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 sexual offences only.

There were 18 people charged with a total of 29 counts of separate incidents in May. The offences were rape (18), attempted rape (2), defilement (2), and sexual assault (7).

There were 18 victims of the 29 separate incidents of whom 13 victims were under the age of 18 years.

There were 2 male victims and 16 female victims while all 18 accused persons were male.

There were 7 incidents where the victims and the accused were related to one another.

A 27-year-old man was charged with the rape of his 2-year-old daughter.

There were two separate incidents where 65-year-old and 66-year-old grandfathers were charged with rape and sexual assaults of their 9 and 16-year-old granddaughters.

There were two other separate incidents where 46-year-old and 29-year-old uncles were charged with rape of their 12 and 9-year-old nieces. In one of these cases, the 12-year-old girl was also raped by her grandfather four years ago. He is currently serving a 13-year-old sentence.

In another incident a 22-year-old uncle was charged with rape and sexual assault of his 13-year-old niece. He was also charged with additional counts of rape, attempted rape and sexual assault of two boys aged 15 and 12 years.

A 22-year-old man was charged with defilement of a 15-year-old school girl. There was another case of defilement where a 30-year-old man was charged for defiling a 14-year-old girl. In this case the accused was earlier charged with multiple counts of rape and sexual assaults but the charge was later reduced to defilement after the complainant admitted she lied to the police.

Two cases were withdrawn after discontinuances (*Nolle Prosequi*) were filed. One case was withdrawn due to inconsistency in the victim's evidence while another case was withdrawn due to a false complaint. The charge of false complaint is being investigated.

Refer to the table entitled *ODPP Rape and Sexual Offences May 2018* for a break-down of these statistics.



### ODPP Rape and Sexual Offences Statistics May 2018

	Rape	Attempted Rape	Defilement	Sexual Assault	Total
No. of Counts	18	2	2	7	29
Total No. of Victims	14	2	2	6	18*
No. of Victims under 18 years	10	2	2	4	13*
Total No. of Accused Persons	14	2	2	5	18*
No. of Accused Persons under 18 years	0	0	0	0	0
No. of <i>Nolle Prosequi</i> filed	2	0	0	0	2
No. of incidents involving people in domestic relationships or relatives	6	2	0	3	7*
No. of False Complaints	1	0	0	0	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 June 2018.**

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