



ODPP MEDIA UPDATE

Date: 21 August 2018

Name of Matter: State-v- Yvette Nikolic & John Nikolic

Name of Accused: Yvette Dainne Nikolic and John Geoffrey Nikolic

Charge: 1 Count of unlawful importation of Illicit Drugs contrary to section 4 (1) of the Illicit Drugs Control Act, 2004 (*John Nikolic*)

1 Count of unlawful possession of Illicit Drugs contrary to section 5 (a) of the Illicit Drugs Control Act, 2004 and (*John Nikolic and Yvette Nikolic*)

1 Count of failure to declare Arms and Ammunition to a Custom Officer contrary to section 21 (1) (a) of the Arms and Ammunition Act, 2004 (*John Nikolic and Yvette Nikolic*)

Update:

This matter was called today (21.08.18) at the Lautoka High Court before Justice Aruna Aluthge.

The Australian couple Yvette Nikolic and John Nikolic were charged after drugs, arms and ammunition were found on a yacht at Port Denerau Marina, Nadi on 22 June 2018.

The couple are jointly charged with one count of possession of illicit drugs and one count of failure to declare arms and ammunition to a custom officer while John Nikolic is additionally charged with one count of unlawful importation of illicit drugs.

It is alleged that John Nikolic imported 12.9 kilograms of cocaine and the couple had in their possession 34.4 grams of methamphetamine and cocaine tablets with an estimated value of between \$20 to \$30 million. It is also alleged that they failed to declare that they had in their possession one 9 millimetre Smith and Wesson pistol with 62 rounds of ammunition and one revolver with 41 rounds of ammunition.

The State filed a formal application to consolidate charges of both accused persons.

The matter has been adjourned to 28 August 2018 for the State to file a consolidated Information.

Both accused persons have been further remanded in custody.

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