



ODPP MEDIA UPDATE

ODPP Serious Crime (Non-Sexual Violence Offences) Statistics – July 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 66 counts of separate incidents in July. The offences were murder (1), robbery (1), attempted aggravated robbery (2), aggravated robbery (18), aggravated burglary (12), theft (13), abduction (1), wrongful confinement (1), child stealing (1), assault causing actual bodily harm (3), assault causing grievous bodily harm (1), serious assault (1), common assault (1), assault (3), abuse of office (1), providing false travel documents (3), unlawful cultivation of illicit drugs (1), damaging property (1) and resisting arrest (1).

There were two juveniles who were charged with attempted aggravated robbery and aggravated robbery offence. In one of the incidents, a 17-year-old was charged for stealing \$2,068 worth of goods. He was also charged with resisting arrest. Four other suspects in this matter are still at large.

There were 42 victims of the 66 counts of separate incidents. Of the 42 victims, there were 2 incidents where the accused and victims were related to one another, 2 incidents where foreign nationals were robbed and 3 incidents where police officers were assaulted during arrests.

A 35-year-old woman was charged with murder after she drowned her 4-year-old daughter in the river. A 34-year-old man was charged with assault causing grievous harm after he assaulted his 32-year-old wife with a cane knife.

A 27-year-old man was charged with aggravated burglary and theft for allegedly breaking into a Chinese national's shop and stealing assorted goods and \$200 cash. Another suspect in this matter is still at large. In the other incident, 3 men were charged with aggravated robbery after they allegedly robbed an Indonesian national of \$19,000. This matter was withdrawn after the complainant left the country and could not be located.

A 35-year-old military officer and rugby player was charged with assault causing actual bodily harm after he assaulted a special constable in the execution of his duty.

In another incident three men were charged with assault on a woman police officer during arrest. They are also charged with assault causing actual bodily harm of a 43-year-old man.

There was one incident where a 38-year-old man assaulted a police officer when he resisted arrest. The accused was also charged with aggravated robbery of \$582 worth of property from a 34-year-old man at knife point.

There was one incident where a 38-year-old man was charged with abduction and wrongful confinement of a 13-year-old girl whom he also allegedly raped. ***(NB: The offence of rape was recorded separately).***

There was one incident where a 36-year-old man was charged with child stealing after he took a 1-year and 8 months old child as a means to get the mother's attention.

A 26-year-old school teacher was charged for assaulting a 9-year-old pupil.

A former Ministry of Foreign Affairs protocol officer was charged with abuse of office and providing false travel documents.

Cash and assorted items ranged from \$115 to \$19,000 were stolen during the alleged robbery, aggravated robbery and aggravated burglary offences which consisted of home invasions, shop break-ins, foreign exchange break-ins and daylight street robberies. Assorted items stolen during these offences include mobile phones, electronic items and household goods.

A 32-year-old man was charged with unlawful cultivation of illicit drugs. He is alleged to have cultivated 16 kilograms of cannabis.

Three cases were withdrawn after discontinuances (*Nolle Prosequi*) were filed. One case was withdrawn after the complainant left the country and was unable to be located and two other cases were withdrawn due to insufficient evidence.

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

**ODPP Serious Crime (Non- Sexual Violence Offences) July 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	1	1	1	0	1	0
Robbery	1	1	1	0	0	0
Attempted aggravated robbery	2	2	3	0	0	0
Aggravated robbery	18	27	20	2	0	0
Aggravated burglary	12	19	10	1	0	0
Theft	13	20	11	1	0	0
Abduction	1	1	1	0	0	0
Wrongful confinement	1	1	1	0	0	0
Child stealing	1	1	1	0	0	0
Assault causing actual bodily harm	3	4	3	0	0	0
Assault causing grievous bodily harm	1	1	1	0	1	0
Serious assault	1	1	1	0	0	0
Common assault	1	1	1	0		0
Assault	3	5	3	0	0	0
Abuse of office	1	1	0	0	0	0
Providing false travel documents	3	1	0	0	0	0
Unlawful cultivation of illicit drugs	1	1	0	0	0	0

Damaging property	1	1	1	0	0	0
Resisting Arrest	1	1	1	0	0	0
Total	66	61*	42*	3*	2	0
	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. The same applies to the number of *Nolle Prosequi* filed.

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

2 August 2018.

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