



ODPP MEDIA UPDATE

ODPP Serious Crime (Non-Sexual Violence Offences) Statistics – November 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 71 people charged with a total of 73 counts of separate incidents in November. The offences were manslaughter (1), aggravated robbery (20), robbery (5), aggravated burglary (11), burglary (1), theft (15), assault occasioning actual bodily harm (3), acts intended to cause grievous harm (6), arson (2), dangerous driving causing grievous harm (1), dangerous driving (1), driving with excess blood alcohol (2), making threats at an airport (2), criminal intimidation (1), criminal trespass (1) and resisting arrest (1).

Of the 71 accused persons, 8 were juveniles and two were police officers. The juveniles were charged with robbery, aggravated robbery, aggravated burglary and theft offences while the one police officer was charged with dangerous driving and driving with excess blood alcohol and another police officer was charged with theft of \$300 cash and a taxi.

There were 49 victims of the 73 counts of separate incidents. There were 5 incidents where the accused and the victims were related to one another and 5 incidents where foreign nationals were robbed.

A 30-year-old man was charged with manslaughter and dangerous driving causing grievous harm for allegedly driving a motor vehicle in a manner which caused the death of a 32-year-old man and injured a 26-year-old woman. The accused is also charged with driving with excess blood alcohol.

A 23-year-old man and a 51-year-old man were charged with acts intended to cause grievous harm for allegedly assaulting their de facto wife and former wife with a cane knife and a baton respectively.

There was one incident where a 63-year-old father was charged with act intended to cause grievous harm for allegedly attacking his 30-year-old son with a cane knife and fork.

There was another incident where four convicted prisoners were charged with act intended to cause grievous harm after they allegedly attacked a 32-year-old inmate at the Natabua Correctional Centre, Lautoka.

In a separate incident, a 66-year-old Tongan man was charged with assault occasioning actual bodily harm of his 57-year-old wife.

There were two separate incidents where a 21-year-old and a 38-year-old man were each charged with arson. The 21-year-old man claimed he was trying to commit suicide and the fire to the house was an accident while the 38-year-old man was charged for allegedly setting fire to a vacant property belonging to the Civil Aviation Authority.

In two separate incidents, a Tongan national and a Fijian man were each charged with making threats at an airport. Both accused persons allegedly told security officers that they had a bomb in their possession.

Cash and assorted items ranging from \$7 to \$38,000 were stolen during the alleged robbery, aggravated robbery and aggravated burglary offences which consisted of home invasions, shop break-ins, restaurant break-ins, and daylight street robberies.

Assorted items stolen during the break-ins and day light robberies were wallets, mobile phones, vehicles, jewellery and alcohol.

In five separate incidents, 5 foreign nationals were allegedly robbed during robbery and aggravated burglary incidents. In one incident, a 27-year-old man was charged with aggravated burglary and theft for allegedly breaking into a Chinese national's restaurant and stealing a radio and assorted alcohol, while in another incident a 30-year-old man allegedly broke into another Chinese national's house and stole cash and assorted items. A 46-year-old Chinese tourist was allegedly robbed of cash, a handbag and mobile phone during a street mugging incident.

There was another incident where four men allegedly broke into a Chinese national's store and stole assorted items. One of the accused in this case was also charged with resisting arrest.

There was one incident where a 29-year-old man was charged with aggravated burglary and theft of cash, a dive suit and a boat belonging to a male tourist.

Three cases were withdrawn after discontinuances (*Nolle Prosequi*) were filed. Two cases were withdrawn due to lack of evidence, while another case was withdrawn due to evidence of police assaults.

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

**ODPP Serious Crime (Non- Sexual Violence Offences) October 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
Manslaughter	1	1	1	0	0	0
Aggravated robbery	20	30	23	2	0	0
Robbery	5	3	3	1	0	0
Aggravated burglary	11	20	11	0	1	0
Burglary	1	1	1	0	0	0
Theft	15	22	14	0	0	1
Act intended to cause grievous harm	6	8	5	0	3	0
Assault occasioning actual bodily harm	3	2	3	0	1	0
Arson	2	2	2	0	0	0
Dangerous driving causing grievous harm	1	1	1	0	0	0
Dangerous driving	1	1	0	0	0	1
Driving with excess blood alcohol	2	2	0	0	0	0
Making threats at an airport	2	2	0	0	0	0
Criminal intimidation	1	1	1	0	0	0
Criminal trespass	1	1	1	0	0	0
Resisting arrest	1	1	1	0	0	0
Total	73	71*	49*	3	5	2*

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.**

4 December 2018.

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