



ODPP MEDIA UPDATE

ODPP Serious Crime (Non-Sexual Violence Offences) Statistics – September 2019

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 50 people charged with a total of 66 counts of separate incidents in September. The offences were murder (1), manslaughter (1), aggravated robbery (16), aggravated burglary (9), burglary (1), theft (15), assault causing actual bodily harm (2), assault causing grievous bodily harm (1), act with intent to cause grievous bodily harm (4), serious assault (1), common assault (2), arson (1), inciting arson (1), unlawful cultivation of illicit drugs (2), unlawful possession of illicit drugs (1), careless driving (1), giving false statement (1), breach of DVRO (1), resisting arrest (3) and escape from lawful custody (2).

Of the 50 accused persons, 8 were juveniles and 1 was a police officer. Six juveniles were charged with aggravated robbery, aggravated burglary and theft while one juvenile was charged with arson after he allegedly set his mother's home on fire. One police officer was charged with careless driving.

There were 37 victims of the 66 counts of separate incidents. Of the 37, there were 8 incidents where the accused persons and victims were related to one another.

A 39-year-old Congo national was charged with the murder of his Australian wife.

A 29-year-old man was charged with the manslaughter of a 26-year-old man who died as a result of a fight outside the nightclub.

A 27-year-old man was charged with assault causing actual bodily harm to his 26-year-old wife while a 54-year-old man was charged with assault causing grievous bodily harm to his 38-year-old wife.

In another incident, a 49-year-old man was charged with act with intent to cause grievous bodily harm to his 56-year-old wife. The accused allegedly assaulted his wife with a kitchen knife.

A 29-year-old man was charged with act with intent to cause grievous bodily harm for allegedly throwing a glass at his 19-year-old sister-in-law.

Two men were charged with act with intent to cause grievous bodily harm to a 34-year-old man during a drinking party. The accused persons were also charged with common assault.

In another incident, a 36-year-old man was charged with act with intent to cause grievous bodily harm to a 33-year-old man. The accused allegedly attacked the victim with a cane knife after an altercation.

Cash and assorted items ranging from \$30 to \$63,000 were stolen during the alleged aggravated robbery, aggravated burglary and burglary and theft offences which consisted of home invasions, shop break-ins, vehicle theft and daylight and night street robberies.

Ten cases were withdrawn after discontinuances (*Nolle Prosequi*) were filed due to insufficient evidence and inability to locate the complainant or witnesses.

Refer to the table entitled *ODPP Serious Crime (Non-Sexual Violence Offences) Statistics September 2019* for a break-down of these statistics.



ODPP Serious Crime (Non- Sexual Violence Offences) September 2019

	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
Manslaughter	1	1	1	0	0	0
Aggravated robbery	16	22	16	6	0	0
Aggravated burglary	9	10	6	3	0	0
Theft	15	11	8	3	0	0
Assault causing actual bodily harm	2	2	2	0	1	0
Assault causing grievous bodily harm	1	1	1	0	1	0
Act with intent to cause grievous bodily harm	4	5	4	0	2	0
Arson	1	1	1	0	1	0
Inciting arson	1	1	1	1	0	0
Unlawful cultivation of illicit drugs	2	3	0	0	0	0
Unlawful possession of illicit drugs	1	1	0	0	0	0
Careless driving	1	1	1	0	0	1
Giving false statement	1	2	1	0	0	0
Breach of DVRO	1	1	1	0	1	0
Resisting arrest	3	3	0	0	0	0
Escape from lawful custody	2	2	0	0	0	0
Total	66	50*	37*	10*	8	1
	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 October 2019.

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