



## ODPP MEDIA UPDATE

### ODPP Serious Crime (Non-Sexual Violence Offences) Statistics – October 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 56 people charged with a total of 97 counts of separate incidents in October. The offences were murder (9), attempted murder (2) aggravated robbery (8), aggravated burglary (15), theft (22), assault causing actual bodily harm (4), act with intent to cause grievous bodily harm (4), arson (1), failure to supply necessaries of life (1), money laundering (1), fraudulent falsification of accounts (26), making threats at an airport (1), conspiring to commit burglary (1), unlawful possession of illicit drugs (1) and criminal intimidation (1).

Of the 56 accused persons, 5 were juveniles and 1 was a police officer. The juveniles were charged with aggravated robbery, aggravated burglary and theft offences while the 24-year-old police officer was charged with assault causing actual bodily harm to a 27-year-old man.

There were 39 victims of the 97 counts of separate incidents. Of the 39, there were 9 incidents where the accused persons and victims were related to one another.

A 62-year-old man was charged with 5 counts of murder and 1 count of attempted murder. It is alleged that the accused killed 3 adults, 2 children and attempted to murder an 11-month old baby at the Nausori Highlands.

There were two separate incidents where a 34-year-old man and a 40-year-old man were charged with the murder of their 36-year-old and 34-year-old wives.

A 35-year-old man and a 36-year-old man were charged with the murder of a 23-year-old man. The accused persons allegedly attacked the victim for spilling beer during a drinking party.

A 25-year-old man was charged with the murder of a 24-year-old man, however, this case was discontinued due to a finding the death resulted from a boat accident.

There was one incident where a 49-year-old man was charged with the attempted murder of his 27-year old de facto partner.

A 56-year-old man was charged with assault causing actual bodily harm to his 49-year-old wife.

In another incident, a 29-year-old man was charged with assault causing actual bodily harm after he allegedly threw a kettle with scalding water on his 38-year-old wife and 4-year-old daughter.

There was one incident where a 28-year-old man was charged with act with intent to cause grievous bodily harm to his 22-year-old wife. The accused was also charged with a count of criminal intimidation.

A 24-year-old man was charged with act with intent to cause grievous bodily harm to his 29-year-old brother.

A 37-year-old woman was charged with failure to supply the necessaries of life to her 2-year-old son. The woman allegedly abandoned her child by locking him in a room.

A 34-year-old man was charged with arson for setting his father-in-law's home on fire.

Cash and assorted items ranging from \$10 to \$664,994 were stolen during the alleged aggravated robbery, aggravated burglary, theft offences which consisted of home invasions, shop break-ins, vehicle theft and daylight and night street robberies as well as laundering money through falsification of accounts.

There was one incident where two employees of Goodman Fielder Fiji Ltd were charged with 1 count of money laundering and 26 counts of fraudulent falsification of accounts. The accused persons allegedly laundered \$646,994. (This is an amended information from 15 counts of money laundering and 52 counts of fraudulent falsification of accounts).

In another incident, 3 former executives of Shop N Save supermarket were charged with theft of \$180,000. (The charge was reduced from multiple counts of money laundering to theft).

A 41-year-old man was charged with making threatening statements at an airport. The accused allegedly told the security officer that he was carrying a gun and a bomb.

Six 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 October 2019* for a break-down of these statistics.



**ODPP Serious Crime (Non- Sexual Violence Offences) October 2019**

	<b>Total No. of Counts</b>	<b>Total No. of accused persons</b>	<b>Total No. of victims</b>	<b>No. of Nolle Prosequi filed</b>	<b>Incidents involving domestic relations</b>	<b>No. of Police officers charged</b>
<b>Murder</b>	9	6	10	1	2	0
<b>Attempted murder</b>	2	2	2	0	1	0
<b>Aggravated robbery</b>	8	11	8	2	0	0
<b>Aggravated burglary</b>	15	22	10	1	0	0
<b>Theft</b>	22	21	9	0	0	0
<b>Assault causing actual bodily harm</b>	4	3	4	0	2	1
<b>Act with intent to cause grievous bodily harm</b>	4	4	4	1	2	0
<b>Arson</b>	1	1	1	0	1	0
<b>Failure to supply necessities of life</b>	1	1	1	0	0	0
<b>Money laundering</b>	1	2	0	0	0	0
<b>Fraudulent falsification of accounts</b>	26	2	0	0	0	0
<b>Making threats at an airport</b>	1	1	0	0	0	0
<b>Conspiring to commit burglary</b>	1	4	1	1	0	0
<b>Unlawful possession of illicit drugs</b>	1	1	0	0	0	0
<b>Criminal intimidation</b>	1	1	1	0	1	0
<b>Total</b>	<b>97</b>	<b>56*</b>	<b>39*</b>	<b>6*</b>	<b>9*</b>	<b>1</b>
	<b>Source: ODPP Fiji</b>					

**\* 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 November 2019.**

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