



ODPP MEDIA UPDATE

Date: 6 February 2020

Name of Matter: State-v- Benedito Bolabiu & Ors

Name of Accused: Benedito Bolabiu, Laisenia Naiwau & Lasaro Turagadrau

Charges: Assault causing actual bodily harm (x1);

Acts intended to cause grievous harm (x1);

Aiding and abetting acts intended to cause grievous harm (x1) and

Conspiracy to defeat justice and interference with witnesses (x1)

Update:

This matter was called today (06.02.20) at the Suva High Court before Justice Thushara Rajasinghe.

The three police constables, Benedito Bolabiu, Laisenia Naiwau, and Lasaro Turagadrau, are jointly charged with one count of assault causing actual bodily harm. Benedito Bolabiu is also charged with acts intended to cause grievous harm and conspiracy to defeat justice and interference with witnesses while Laisenia Naiwau and Lasaro Turagadrau face additional charge of aiding and abetting acts intended to cause grievous harm.

It is alleged that the three police officers unlawfully wounded Manasa Rayasidamu by pouring hot water on his back and hitting his leg with a concrete block on 5 November 2019 at the Pacific Harbour Community Post.

The State filed and served the formal Information (Indictment) and disclosures this morning.

The case has been adjourned to 27 February 2020.

Bail has been extended for all accused person.

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