



## ODPP MEDIA UPDATE

### ODPP Serious Crime (Non-Sexual Violence Offences) Statistics – June 2020

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 66 people charged with a total of 79 counts of separate incidents in June. The offences were murder (6), aggravated robbery (6), attempted aggravated robbery (1), aggravated burglary (8), burglary (1), theft (9), receiving stolen property (1), assault causing actual bodily harm (13), acts intended to cause grievous harm (8), aiding and abetting assault causing actual bodily harm (2), aiding and abetting acts intended to cause grievous harm (2), common assault (3), arson (2), damaging property (1), conspiracy to defeat justice and interference with witnesses (2), giving false statement on oath (8), unlawful cultivation of illicit drugs (2), unlawful possession of illicit drugs (2) and resisting arrest (2).

Of the 66 accused persons, 11 were juveniles and 13 were police officers. The juveniles were charged with aggravated robbery, aggravated burglary and theft offences.

Five police officers were charged with various serious offences in relation to a case in Naqia consisting of acts intended to cause grievous harm, assault causing actual bodily harm, common assault and conspiracy to defeat justice and interference with witnesses.

Eight police officers were charged with various serious offences in relation to a case in Tavua consisting of assault causing actual bodily harm, acts intended to cause grievous harm, aiding and abetting assault causing actual bodily harm, aiding and abetting acts intended to cause grievous harm, common assault, giving false statement on oath and conspiracy to defeat justice and interference with witnesses.

There were 34 victims of the 79 counts of separate incidents.

There were eight incidents where the accused and the victims were related to one another.

A 33-year-old man was charged with the murder of his 27-year-old wife. The accused allegedly stabbed his wife with a knife.

In another incident, a 53-year-old man was charged with the murder of his 47-year-old wife. The accused allegedly slit his wife's throat with a kitchen knife.

A 21-year-old woman was charged with the murder, however, this case was discontinued due to inconsistent evidence in regards to the cause of death.

In another incident, a 38-year-old Bangladeshi male was charged with the murder of his two flatmates.

A 26-year-old man was charged with the murder of a 3-year-old boy, however, this matter was discontinued due to insufficient evidence.

There were two separate incidents of arson. In one incident, a 40 year old man was charged with arson for setting his brother-in-law's house on fire while in another incident a 48-year-old man was charged with arson for setting his sister's house on fire.

A 38-year-old man was charged with acts intended to cause grievous harm to his 37-year-old brother. The accused allegedly struck his brother with a cleaver.

There was one incident where a 45-year-old man was charged with acts with intent to cause grievous harm to his wife and stepdaughter.

In another incident, an 18-year-old woman was charged with act with intent to cause grievous harm to her sister-in-law. The accused was also charged with one count of criminal intimidation.

Cash and assorted items ranging from \$19 to \$5,933 were stolen during the alleged aggravated robbery, aggravated burglary and theft offences which consisted of home invasions, shop burglaries, and daylight and night street robberies.

A 21-year-old man was charged with unlawful possession of illicit drugs. The accused allegedly had in his possession 117 kilograms of *cannabis sativa*.

Seven cases were withdrawn after discontinuances (*Nolle Prosequi*) were filed due to insufficient and inconsistent evidence.

Refer to the table entitled *ODPP Serious Crime (Non-Sexual Violence Offences) Statistics June 2020* for a break-down of these statistics.



**ODPP Serious Crime (Non- Sexual Violence Offences) June 2020**

	<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>	6	5	6	2	3	0
<b>Aggravated robbery</b>	6	15	2	2	0	0
<b>Attempted aggravated robbery</b>	1	1	0	0	0	0
<b>Aggravated burglary</b>	8	21	8	1	0	0
<b>Burglary</b>	1	2	0	0	0	0
<b>Theft</b>	9	23	9	1	0	0
<b>Receiving stolen property</b>	1	2	0	0	0	0
<b>Assault causing actual bodily harm</b>	13	12	3	0	0	12
<b>Acts intended to cause grievous harm</b>	8	6	7	0	3	2
<b>Aiding and abetting assault causing actual bodily harm</b>	2	2	0	0	0	2
<b>Aiding and abetting acts intended to cause grievous harm</b>	2	2	0	0	0	2
<b>Common assault</b>	3	3	3	0	0	3
<b>Arson</b>	2	2	2	0	2	0
<b>Damaging property</b>	1	5	1	0	0	0
<b>Conspiracy to defeat justice and interference with witnesses</b>	2	4	0	0	0	4
<b>Giving false statement on oath</b>	8	8	0	0	0	8
<b>Unlawful cultivation of illicit drugs</b>	2	2	0	2	0	0

<b>Unlawful possession of illicit drugs</b>	2	1	0	0	0	0
<b>Criminal intimidation</b>	1	1	1	0	1	0
<b>Resisting arrest</b>	2	2	2	0	0	0
<b>Total</b>	<b>79</b>	<b>66*</b>	<b>34*</b>	<b>7*</b>	<b>8*</b>	<b>13*</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.

\* Due to an oversight at the time of publication, certain statistics were inadvertently omitted. The Serious Crime (Non-Sexual Violence Offences) Statistics for the month of June 2020 have been updated as of 3 August 2020.

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