



ODPP MEDIA UPDATE

ODPP Serious Crime (Non-Sexual Violence Offences) Statistics – March 2022

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 67 people charged with a total of 79 counts of separate incidents in March. The offences were murder (2), attempted murder (1), manslaughter (1), manslaughter arising from breach of duty (1), aggravated robbery (10), aggravated burglary (15), burglary (3), theft (19), receiving stolen properties (2), receiving a bribe (1), assault causing actual bodily harm (6), act with intent to cause grievous harm (2), assault (1), dangerous driving (2), drinking and driving with excess blood alcohol (2), drunk and disorderly (1), disorderly conduct in a police station (1), criminal intimidation (1), criminal trespass (1), unlawful cultivation of illicit drugs (3), failure to comply with orders (1), damaging property (1) and resisting arrest (2).

Of the 67 accused persons, four were juveniles and 10 were police officers.

A 16-year-old boy was charged with the murder of a 14-year-old boy. The juvenile allegedly shot a spear gun which killed the victim, however, this matter was discontinued and the file was sent to police for further investigations.

A 26-year-old police officer was charged with dangerous driving and drinking and driving with excess blood alcohol while in another incident, a 28-year-old police officer was charged with dangerous driving.

A 49-year-old police officer was charged with drinking and driving with excess blood alcohol.

In another incident, a 32-year-old police officer was charged with disorderly conduct at a police station. The accused allegedly caused a commotion at a police station by shouting and swearing whilst heavily intoxicated.

There was one incident where a 24-year-old police officer was charged with drunk and disorderly conduct, criminal trespass and failure to comply with orders. The accused allegedly tried to gain entrance into the maternity ward of the CWM Hospital whilst drunk and refused to leave the premises.

A 42-year-old police officer was charged with receiving a bribe. The police officer allegedly demanded a \$130 bribe to not charge the victim over his vehicle.

A 25-year-old police officer was charged with the assault of his 24-year-old wife.

There was one incident where a 21-year-old and two 27-year-old police officers were charged with assault causing actual bodily harm to a 28-year-old man. The DPP has sanctioned the charges and the file has been sent to police to formally charge these officers.

There were 49 victims of the 79 counts of separate incidents. There were five incidents where the accused and the victims were related to one another.

There was one incident where a 25-year-old man, a 28-year-old man and a 45-year-old man were charged with the murder of a 42-year-old man. The accused persons allegedly attacked and beat the victim which resulted in his death.

In another incident, a 49-year-old man was charged with the attempted murder of his 27-year-old de facto partner. The accused allegedly tried to strangle the victim, however, this matter was discontinued after the victim could not be located.

There was one incident where a 49-year-old man and a 42-year-old man were charged with manslaughter. The accused persons allegedly assaulted the victim which resulted in his death.

A 31-year-old woman was charged with manslaughter arising from breach of duty after her 1 year and 7 months old baby drowned.

A 37-year-old man was charged with an act with intent to cause grievous harm to his 25-year-old cousin. The accused allegedly stabbed the victim with a knife at a drinking party.

A 73-year-old man was charged with assault causing actual bodily harm to his 36-year-old wife. The accused allegedly threw boiling water over the victim.

In another incident, a 66-year-old man was charged with assault causing actual bodily harm to a 34-year-old man.

A 25-year-old man was charged with an act with intent to cause grievous harm to a 22-year-old man. The accused allegedly hit the victim with an iron plate during a drinking party.

Cash and assorted items ranging from \$10 to \$33,600 were stolen during the alleged aggravated robbery, aggravated burglary and theft offences which consisted of home invasions, shop burglaries, taxi car jacks, daylight and night street robberies.

Of the 10 counts of aggravated robbery, three of the victims were taxi drivers who were allegedly robbed of cash and assorted items.

A 19-year-old man was charged with the unlawful cultivation of illicit drugs. The accused allegedly cultivated 62 plants of *cannabis sativa* while in another incident, a 49-year-old man was charged for allegedly cultivated 230 plants of *cannabis sativa*.

In another incident, a 19-year-old man and a 26-year-old man were charged with unlawful cultivation of illicit drugs. The accused persons allegedly cultivated 880 plants of *cannabis sativa*.

Five cases were withdrawn after discontinuances (*Nolle Prosequi*) were filed due to insufficient evidence and the inability to locate the victims.

Refer to the table entitled *ODPP Serious Crime (Non-Sexual Violence Offences) Statistics March 2022* for a break-down of these statistics.

**ODPP Serious Crime (Non- Sexual Violence Offences) March 2022**

	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	2	4	2	1	0	0
Attempted murder	1	1	1	1	1	0
Manslaughter	1	2	1	0	0	0
Manslaughter arising from breach of duty	1	1	1	0	1	0
Aggravated robbery	10	15	10	1	0	0
Aggravated burglary	15	19	15	1	0	0
Burglary	3	4	3	1	0	0
Theft	19	27	19	1	0	0
Receiving stolen properties	2	4	2	0	0	0
Receiving a bribe	1	1	1	0	0	1
Assault causing grievous bodily harm	6	6	5	1	1	2
Act with intent to cause grievous harm	2	2	2	0	1	0
Assault	1	1	1	0	1	1
Dangerous driving	2	2	2	0	0	2
Drinking and driving with excess blood alcohol	2	2	0	0	0	2
Drunk and disorderly	1	1	1	0	0	1
Disorderly conduct at a police station	1	1	1	0	0	1
Criminal intimidation	1	1	1	1	0	0
Criminal trespass	1	1	1	0	0	1
Unlawful cultivation of illicit drugs	3	4	0	0	0	0

Failure to comply with orders	1	1	0	0	0	1
Damaging property	1	1	1	0	0	0
Resisting arrest	2	2	2	0	0	0
TOTAL	79	67*	49*	5*	5	10*
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.**

5 April 2022

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