



ODPP MEDIA UPDATE

ODPP Serious Crime (Non-Sexual Violence Offences) Statistics – August 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 71 people charged with a total of 96 counts of separate incidents in August. The offences were murder (2), aiding and abetting murder (1), attempted murder (8), aiding and abetting attempted murder (7), aggravated robbery (8), robbery (1), aggravated burglary (12), attempted aggravated burglary (1), burglary (3), theft (16), abuse of office (1), assault (1), assault causing actual bodily harm (10), act with intent to cause grievous harm (3), common assault (1), serious assault (3), criminal intimidation (1), arson (1), conspiracy to defeat justice (1), dangerous driving (2), driving with excess blood alcohol (1), careless driving (1), unlawful possession of illicit drugs (6), damaging property (2), breach of DVRO (1) and breach of bail conditions (2).

There were 51 victims of the 96 counts of separate incidents. There were six incidents where the accused and the victims were related to one another.

Of the 71 accused persons, 12 were juveniles and 7 were police officers.

The juveniles were charged with aggravated robbery, aggravated burglary and theft offences.

A 52-year-old police officer was charged with one count of abuse of office. The police officer allegedly used \$8,064.50 from the police exhibit to purchase items for the police. The DPP has sanctioned the charge and the file has been sent to police to charge the suspect.

A 24-year-old police officer was charged with two counts of assault causing actual bodily harm to a 21-year-old woman. The accused was also charged with breach of the DVRO.

In another incident, a 27-year-old police officer was charged with assault causing actual bodily harm to his 26-year-old wife.

There was one incident where a 29-year-old police officer was charged with dangerous driving while in another incident, a 28-year-old police officer was charged with driving with excess blood alcohol.

In another incident, a 46-year-old police officer was charged with one count of careless driving.

There was one incident where a 23-year-old police officer was charged with the unlawful possession of illicit drugs.

There was one incident where a 54-year-old former police officer was charged with assault causing actual bodily harm to a 42-year-old police officer.

A 38-year-old US national was charged with the murder of his 36-year-old wife at a resort.

In another incident, a lawyer with three others was charged with a total of 20 counts of serious offences. The charges were one count of murder, one count of aiding and abetting murder, seven counts of attempted murder, seven counts of aiding and abetting attempted murder, one count of criminal intimidation, two counts of assault causing actual bodily harm and one count of conspiracy to defeat justice.

A 52-year-old man was charged with the attempted murder of his 30-year-old wife, however, this matter was discontinued after the victim could not be contacted or located.

A 40-year-old man was charged with assault causing actual bodily harm to his 36-year-old wife while in another incident, a 35-year-old man was charged with an act with intent to cause grievous harm to his 29-year-old wife.

There was one incident where a 34-year-old man was charged with arson. The accused allegedly set fire to his de facto partner's home after a dispute.

There was one incident where a 37-year-old man was charged with assault causing actual bodily harm to a 29-year-old man and a 49-year-old man. The accused allegedly assaulted the victims with a cane knife after a dispute.

In another incident, a 28-year-old man was charged with an act with intent to cause grievous harm to his 29-year-old girlfriend with a hammer.

Cash and assorted items ranging from \$3 to \$314,325.17 were stolen during the alleged aggravated robbery, aggravated burglary and theft offences which consisted of home invasions, shop burglaries, carjacking, daylight and night street robberies.

There was one incident where a 35 year-old nightclub owner was charged with four counts of unlawful possession of illicit drugs and controlled equipment.

In another incident, a 43-year-old man was charged with the unlawful possession of illicit drugs. The accused allegedly possessed 88 cannabis plants, however, the matter was discontinued.

A total of five cases were withdrawn after discontinuances (*Nolle Prosequi*) were filed due to insufficient, inconsistent and incomplete evidence and the inability to locate the victims.

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

**ODPP Serious Crime (Non- Sexual Violence Offences) August 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	2	2	0	1	0
Aiding and abetting murder	1	1	1	0	0	0
Attempted murder	7	3	7	1	1	0
Aiding and abetting attempted murder	8	4	7	0	0	0
Aggravated robbery	8	15	8	0	0	0
Robbery	1	1	1	0	0	0
Aggravated burglary	12	24	11	2	0	0
Attempted aggravated burglary	1	2	1	0	0	0
Burglary	3	4	5	0	0	0
Theft	16	26	15	2	0	0
Abuse of office	1	1	0	0	0	0
Assault	1	1	1	1	0	0
Assault causing grievous bodily harm	10	10	10	1	2	2
Acts with intent to cause grievous harm	3	3	3	0	1	0
Common assault	1	1	1	0	0	0
Serious assault	3	3	2	0	0	0
Criminal intimidation	1	1	1	0	0	0
Arson	1	1	1	0	1	0
Conspiracy to defeat justice	1	1	0	0	0	0
Dangerous driving	2	2	2	0	0	1
Driving with excess blood alcohol	1	1	0	0	0	1

Careless driving	1	1	1	0	0	1
Unlawful possession of illicit drugs	6	3	0	1	0	1
Damaging property	2	3	3	0	0	0
Breach of DVRO	1	1	1	0	0	1
Breach of bail conditions	2	2	0	0	0	0
TOTAL	96	71*	51*	5*	6	7*
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.

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