

ODPP MEDIA UPDATE

ODPP Serious Crime (Non-Sexual Violence Offences) Statistics – February 2024

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 59 people charged with a total of 90 counts of serious offences in February. The counts for serious crimes were murder (1), attempted murder (1), manslaughter (2), aggravated robbery (15), aggravated burglary (24), theft (27), receiving stolen property (1), assault causing actual bodily harm (4), act with intent to cause grievous harm (4), grievous harm (2), serious assault (1), unlawful wounding (1), wrongful confinement (1), providing false and misleading document (1), arson (1), dangerous driving occasioning death (1), dangerous driving (1) failure to comply with requirements after an accident (1) and criminal intimidation (1).

Of the 59 accused persons, three were juveniles and two were police officers.

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

A 47-year-old police officer was charged with one count of dangerous driving occasioning death, one count of dangerous driving and one count of failure to comply with requirements after an accident.

In another incident, a 40-year-old police officer was charged with assault causing actual bodily harm to his 45-year-old wife.

There were 60 victims of the 90 counts of serious offences.

There was seven incidents where the accused and the victim were related to one another.

An 18-year-old man was charged with one count of murder for allegedly striking a man with a chopper which resulted in the victim's death. The accused person was also charged with one count of aggravated robbery for allegedly stealing the victim's mobile phone and shoes.

There was one incident where a 25-year-old man was charged with manslaughter. The accused person allegedly assaulted a 47-year-old man causing him severe injuries which resulted in his death.

A 30-year-old man was charged with manslaughter. The accused person allegedly punched a 40-year-old man causing him severe injuries which resulted in his death.

There was one incident where a 48-year-old man was charged with the attempted murder of his 25-year-old nephew. The accused person allegedly tried to drown his nephew.

A 33-year-old man was charged with arson and criminal intimidation. The accused person allegedly set fire to his 66-year-old father's home.

A 58-year-old man was charged for allegedly causing grievous harm to his 59-year-old brother.

There was one incident where a 41-year-old man was charged with an act with intent to cause grievous harm to his 31-year-old sister. The accused person allegedly struck the victim's head with a pinch bar.

In another incident, a 33-year-old man was charged with an act with intent to cause grievous harm to his 28-year-old de facto partner. The accused person allegedly struck the victim's back with a cane knife.

A 40-year-old man was charged with one count of unlawful wounding. The accused person allegedly wounded his 21-year-old nephew with a cane knife.

Cash and assorted items were stolen during the alleged aggravated robbery and aggravated burglary offences which consisted of house and shop break-ins, and day and night street muggings.

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

Refer to the table entitled *ODPP Serious Crime (Non-Sexual Violence Offences) Statistics February 2024* for a break-down of these statistics.

| ĎPP | ODPP Serious Crime (Non- Sexual Violence Offences) February 2024 | | | | | |
|---|--|------------------------------|----------------------|-----------------------------------|---|-------------------------------------|
| | Total No. of Counts | Total No. of accused persons | Total No. of victims | No. of Nolle Prosequi filed | Incidents involving domestic relations | No. of Polic officers charged |
| Murder | 1 | 1 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Attempted murder | 1 | 1 | 1 | 0 | 1 | 0 |
| Manslaughter | 2 | 2 | 2 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Aggravated robbery | 15 | 17 | 18 | 1 | 0 | 0 |
| Aggravated burglary | 24 | 28 | 25 | 3 | 0 | 0 |
| Theft | 27 | 30 | 26 | 3 | 0 | 0 |
| Receiving stolen property | 1 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Assault causing actual bodily harm | 4 | 4 | 4 | 0 | 1 | 1 |
| Act with intent to cause grievous harm | 4 | 4 | 4 | 0 | 2 | 0 |
| Grievous harm | 2 | 2 | 2 | 0 | 1 | 0 |
| Serious assault | 1 | 1 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Unlawful wounding | 1 | 1 | 1 | 0 | 1 | 0 |
| Wrongful confinement | 1 | 1 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| False and misleading document | 1 | 1 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Arson | 1 | 1 | 1 | 0 | 1 | 0 |
| Dangerous driving occasioning death | 1 | 1 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 1 |
| Dangerous driving | 1 | 1 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 1 |
| Failure to comply with requirements after an accident | 1 | 1 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 1 |
| Criminal intimidation | 1 | 1 | 1 | 0 | 1 | 0 |
| TOTAL | 90 | 59* | 60* | 5* | 7* | 2* |

^{*} 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. Statistics on sexual violence offences are recorded and published separately.

6 March 2024.