



## ODPP MEDIA UPDATE

**Date:** 26 June 2025

**Name of Accused:** Josaia Voreqe Bainimarama and Sitiveni Qiliho

**Charge:** Unwarranted Demand (x1)  
Abuse of Office (2)

**Update:**

This matter was called today (26.6.25) for first mention at the Suva High Court before Justice Thushara Rajasinghe.

The former Prime Minister Josaia Voreqe Bainimara is charged with one count of unwarranted demand made by a public official.

It is alleged that Bainimarama, between the 21st of May 2021 to the 18th of August 2021 in Suva, made an unwarranted demand with the menace to the Acting Commissioner of Police, Rusiate Tudravu, by threatening his employment and to influence Rusiate Tudravu to comply with his unwarranted demand for the termination of the employment of Sergeant Penieli Ratei and Police Constable Tomasi Naulu from the Fiji Police Force.

The former Commissioner of Police, Sitiveni Qiliho is charged with two count of abuse of office.

It is alleged that, between the 5th to the 18th of August 2021 in Suva, whilst being employed as the Commissioner of Police, directed the termination of employment of Sergeant Penieli Ratei and Police Constable Tomasi Naulu without due process which was an abuse of office of his authority as the Commissioner of Police and that the termination was prejudicial to the rights Penieli Ratei and Tomasi Naulu.

The State filed the Information in the matter. Both the accused persons have pleaded not guilty to their respective charges.

Justice Rajasinghe has fixed the matter for trial from the 5 to the 29 of August 2025.

The matter has been adjourned to 4 July 2025 for any pre-trial issues.

**-End-**