



ODPP Weekly Court Bulletin

2 March 2026 – 6 March 2026

Case 1: State v Rusiate Lal & Ors

Charge:

- 1 count of murder

A family of five charged with murder appeared at the Lautoka High Court.

Rusiate Lal, Ronald Lal, Ron Lal, Sundar Lal and Balewai Waqabaca are charged with one count of murder of Eneri Abbas Ali. Sundar Lal and Balewai Waqabaca are husband and wife and the other accused are their children.

The victim was in a de facto relationship with the couple's daughter. The victim planned to meet the family to seek forgiveness for impregnating their daughter before marriage and to take her back home. It is alleged that on 19 September 2021, a day before the schedule meet, the accused persons assaulted the victim that resulted in his death.

The matter was set for trial at the Lautoka High Court this week however, it has been adjourned to 9 March 2026 for trial to commence.

Case 2: State v Ashneel Nath

Charge:

- 1 count of manslaughter arising from breach of duty

A 36-year-old man charged in relation to a ferris wheel death appeared at the Suva High Court.

Ashneel Nath is charged with one count of manslaughter arising from breach of duty. It is alleged that on 30 June 2023, whilst employed as an OHS inspector at the Ministry of Employment, Productivity and Industrial Relations, the accused failed to properly inspect a 12-seater ferris wheel, which contributed to the death of a 20-year-old woman.

The State is yet to file and serve the Information and Disclosures as on the last date, the Court and Defence raised some issues for the State to consider.

The matter is adjourned to 7 April 2026. The accused person's bail was extended.

Case 3: State v Randhir Naidu & Rajesh Prasad

Charges:

- 1 count of rape
- 1 count of abduction
- 1 count of breach of DVRO
- 1 count of giving false information to a public servant

Two men charged in relation to an abduction and rape matter appeared at the Labasa High Court.

Randhir Naidu is charged with one count of rape and one count of breach of a DVRO, while Rajesh Prasad is charged with one count of giving false information to a public servant. Both accused persons are jointly charged with one count of abduction.

It is alleged that Randhir Naidu, in the company of Rajesh Prasad, abducted a 24-year-old woman on 22 April 2025. Randhir Naidu, who was the victim's ex-boyfriend, allegedly raped her between 22 April and 24 April 2025.

The accused persons had earlier pleaded not guilty and the matter proceeded to trial last month. The matter has been adjourned for Judgment on Notice.

Randhir Naidu has been further remanded in custody while bail was extended for Rajesh Prasad.

Case 4: State v Peter Tuidraki

Charges:

- 1 count of Rape
- 1 count of rape
- 1 count of sexual assault
- 2 counts of Indecent Assault

Peter Tuidraki charged in relation to the rape and sexual assault of two tourists appeared at the Lautoka High Court.

The 25-year-old tour guide/snorkeling instructor is charged with one count of rape, one count of sexual assault, and two counts of indecent assault of a 25-year-old Chinese national and her 51-year-old mother.

The victims had hired the accused for a snorkeling services during their stay in Nadi on 31 December 2023 when the accused allegedly committed the offences.

The accused person pleaded not guilty to all counts.

Matter has been adjourned to 13 April 2026. The accused person's bail was extended

Case 5: State v Ilaisa Tanoa Degei

Charges:

- 1 count of rape
- 1 count of sexual assault

A 24-year-old man charged in relation to the alleged rape of a Virgin Australia cabin crew appeared in the Lautoka High Court.

The accused is charged with one count of rape and one count of sexual assault of a 21-year-old woman. It is alleged that the accused sexually assaulted and raped the victim between 31 December 2024 and 1 January 2025 in Nadi.

The accused person had earlier pleaded not guilty.

The matter has been adjourned to 15 April 2026 for a pre-trial conference and to confirm agreed facts. The accused person's bail was extended.

Case 6: State v Lui Bale Vuiberata

Charges:

- 1 count of causing harm by posting an electronic communication

Lui Bale Vuiberata charged in relation to making derogatory and harmful comments on *Tiktok* about Minister for Information Lynda Tabuya, appeared at the Suva High Court.

It is alleged that the accused person posted derogatory and harmful comments about the Minister on 14 September 2025.

The State filed and served the Information and Disclosures. The accused person has pleaded guilty.

Matter is adjourned to 13 March 2026 for summary of facts, sentencing and mitigation submissions.

Meanwhile, the accused has another matter before the Magistrate Court for breach of his bail conditions. The accused is charged with three counts of breach of bail for failing to surrender his travel documents, failing to deactivate his social media accounts, and continuing to post on his *Tiktok* account, conditions that were part of his bail.

This matter will be called on 17 March at the Suva Magistrates' Court.

The accused person is further remanded.