



ODPP MEDIA UPDATE

Date: 6 April 2026

Name of Accused: Josaia Voreqe Bainimarama & Sitiveni Qiliho

Charges: Inciting to mutiny (x2)

Update:

The former Prime Minister Josaia Voreqe Bainimarama and former COMPOL Sitiveni Qiliho have been charged with inciting to mutiny contrary to section 72(1) (b) and section 46 of the Crimes Act.

This matter was called today (6.5.26) for Pre Trial Conference at the Suva Magistrates' Court before Magistrate Yogesh Prasad.

For count one, it is alleged that between 1 January and 31 July 2023, the former PM sent Viber messages to Brigadier General Manoa Gadai in his attempt to incite him to take over command and overthrow the authority of the Commander of Republic of Fiji Military Forces (RFMF) Major General Jone Kalouniwai.

For count two, it is alleged that between 1 July and 31 July 2023, the former PM and former COMPOL spoke to several senior officers of the RFMF in their joint effort to incite them to unlawfully arrest and take over the authority of the Commander of RFMF Major General Jone Kalouniwai.

The State informed the Court that proposed Agreed Facts had been provided to counsel for the accused and that responses are still pending.

The State also made an application to amend the charges. Leave was granted by the Court, and the amended charges were subsequently filed and served. The amended charges were then put to both accused, who elected to be tried in the High Court.

The matter has been transferred to the Suva High Court for first mention on 5 June 2026.

The accused persons bail has been further extended.

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