



ODPP Weekly Court Bulletin

24-28 August 2026

Case 1: State-v-Reena Devi Chand

Charge:

- One count of murder

Reena Devi Chand, who is charged with one count of murder, appeared at the Suva High Court this morning (4.9.26).

It is alleged that on Christmas Eve last year, the accused intentionally set fire to a house in Samabula, resulting in the death of a 19-year-old woman who became trapped inside the burning house.

The matter was for plea today, however, the defence sought time till Monday.

The matter is adjourned to 7 September 2026 for plea and bail.

The accused was further remanded in custody.

Case 2: State-v-Merril Nand

Charges:

- Four counts of rape
- One count of assault causing actual bodily harm

A national footballer charged with multiple counts of rape appeared today (4.9.26) at the Suva High Court.

Merril Nand is charged with four counts of rape of which two are representative counts of rape and one count of assault causing actual bodily harm. It is alleged that the accused raped and assaulted the victim between 6 February and 28 April 2025 in Suva.

The State had filed the Information and this morning the matter was for plea. The accused pleaded not guilty to all five counts.

Matter is adjourned to 30 November 2026 for PTC and to fix a hearing date. The accused person's bail was further extended.

Case 3: State-v-Vereti Tavisoro

Charges:

- One count of murder
- One count of burglary

Vereti Tavisoro charged with the murder of an elderly man appeared at the Lautoka High Court this week.

The accused is charged with one count of murder and one count of burglary. It is alleged that the accused murdered a 77-year-old man in Matintar Nadi during the course of burglary in July.

The State had filed and served the disclosures on the last mention and has sought time to file the Information.

The matter was adjourned to 14 September 2026.

The accused person was further remanded in custody.

Case 4: State v Sahil Thomas Valentine

Charges:

- Two counts of rape

A 21-year-old footballer charged with rape appeared at the Lautoka High Court yesterday (3.9.26)

Sahil Thomas Valentine is charged with two counts of rape. It is alleged that the accused person raped a 17-year-old girl and an 18-year-old woman in May this year.

His former Legal representative had withdrawn from representing him, therefore, Legal Aid Commission came on board as his new counsel.

The matter was for plea. The accused pleaded not guilty to both counts of rape,

The State has been given time to prepare and finalise the Pre-trial conference matters.

The accused is on bail and has been warned by the court to not interfere with any of the state witnesses including communicating directly or indirectly with the two complainants.

The matter is adjourned to 24 September 2026 for PTC.

Case 5: State v Tevita Tora and Leveni Vuebeti

Charges:

- One count of rape
- One count of murder

Two men charged in relation to the rape and murder of an 18-year-old woman appeared yesterday (3.9.26) in the Lautoka High Court.

Tevita Tora and Laveni Vuebeti face one count each of rape and one count each of murder. It is alleged that on 4 December 2025, the accused persons raped and murdered the woman. The victim was found lying motionless in a park in Lautoka.

The State filed and served the disclosures.

The accused persons had earlier applied for bail, however, the defence needed more time to file supplementary bail affidavits for both accused person.

The matter is adjourned to 21 September 2026 for Information, plea and bail.

Both accused persons have been further remanded in custody.

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