



ODPP Weekly Court Bulletin

28 September -2 October 2026

Case 1: State-v- Neil Sharma, Voreqe Bainimarama and Aiyaz Sayed-Khaiyum

Charges:

- 4 counts of abuse of office
- 1 count of Breach of trust by person employed in the public service
- 1 count of Obstructing the course of justice

Former Prime Minister Voreqe Bainimarama, former Attorney-General Aiyaz Sayed-Khaiyum and former Minister for Health Dr Neil Sharma appeared before the Suva High Court this week.

The former Health Minister Neil Sharma is charged with two counts of abuse of office and two count of breach of trust by person employed in the public service. The former Prime Minister, Josaia Voreqe Bainimarama is charged with one count of abuse of office while the former Attorney General is charged with one count of abuse of office and one count of obstructing the course of justice.

It is alleged that the accused persons failed to comply with the statutory requirements for tender process as stipulated under the 2010 Procurement Regulations while granting tenders involving the procurement of medical equipment by the Ministry of Health in 2011.

The State and the Defence have sought additional time to file their supplementary submissions in relation to the no-case-to-answer applications.

The Court has directed both parties to file their supplementary submissions and has indicated that all outstanding issues will be addressed in a single ruling.

The ruling on the no-case-to-answer applications is scheduled to be delivered on **4 December 2026**.

Bail for all accused persons has also been further extended.

Case 2: State-v-Vereti Tavisoro

Charges:

- One count of murder
- One count of burglary
- One count of theft

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

The matter was called to check on legal representation and the accused chose to represent himself despite advices from the court to seek legal.

The matter is adjourned to **12 October 2026** for plea.

The accused was further remanded in custody.

Case 3: State-v-Ratu Kinijoji Ratuva and Ratu Vula Ratuva

Charges:

- One count of murder
- Two counts of assault causing actual bodily harm

A father and son charged in relation to the death of a 38-year-old man appeared before the Lautoka High Court this week.

Ratu Vula Ratuva and his son, Ratu Kinijoji Ratuva, are jointly charged with one count of murder and two counts of assault causing actual bodily harm.

It is alleged that the accused persons assaulted the 38-year-old man, his 16-year-old son and another 16-year-old boy over issues relating to stolen horses. The alleged offence occurred on 9 August 2026 along Queens Highway in Sigatoka. The 38-year-old man subsequently died as a result of the alleged assault.

The State had filed the Information and the accused person pleaded not guilty to the charges.

The matter is adjourned to **14 October 2026**. Both accused persons were further remanded in custody.

Case 4: State-v- Joshua Ravula, Gina Choi and others

Charges:

- Unlawful possession of illicit drugs
- Unlawful supply of illicit drugs
- Possession of property suspected to be proceeds of crime

The accused persons charged in relation to the Rewa Street drug case appeared in the Suva Magistrates' Court this week.

Josua Ravula is charged with the unlawful possession of 42.295 grams of methamphetamine. Gina Choi, and Peniassi Delai are charged with the unlawful possession of 0.345 grams of methamphetamine.

Gina Choi is additionally charged with the possession of FJD\$977.60, PHP200 and USD\$4.00, suspected to be proceeds of crime.

Dai Ming Hui, Yu Yanfeng and Zhou Lan are charged with the unlawful possession of 39.509 grams of methamphetamine. Yu Yanfeng is additionally charged with the unlawful dealings with other persons for the transport and supply of methamphetamine and possession of FJD\$906.25, suspected to be proceeds of crime. Zhou Lan is additionally charged with the possession of FJD\$7,180.00, USD\$60.00, HKD\$1,520.00 and RMB¥1,600, suspected to be proceeds of crime.

The matter was called for mention for compliance on filling the closing submissions after the accused persons had opted to remain silent.

The State has filed its submissions and copies were also served on the Defence counsel.

The matter is adjourned to **6 October 2026** for closing submissions. All accused persons were further remanded in custody.

Case 3: State-v- Aiyaz Syed-Khaiyum & Ors

Charges:

- Unlawful carriage of firearms on an aircraft
- Receiving a corrupt benefit
- Giving corrupt benefit
- Breach of trust
- Abuse of office

The matter relating to the unlawful carriage of firearms on an aircraft was called earlier this week before the Lautoka High Court

Former Attorney General Aiyaz Sayed-Khaiyum faces charges relating to the unlawful carriage of firearms on an aircraft, receiving a corrupt benefit, breach of trust by a person employed in the public service and abuse of office.

Former Fiji Airways executive general manager corporate affairs Shaenaz Voss and Fiji Airways general manager safety, security and quality Sharun Ali face charges relating to giving a corrupt benefit.

Shaenaz Voss, Sharun Ali and Fiji Airways, trading as Fiji Link, also face charges relating to the mandatory reporting of security occurrences and airline security.

The accused persons are charged under the Civil Aviation (Security) Act 1994, Civil Aviation (Security) Regulations 1994 and Crimes Act 2009.

Counsel for the first and second accused have responded to the State's draft proposed agreed facts and documents. However, counsel for the third accused informed the court that they made representations to the State to consider before responding to the PTC minutes.

The State informed the Court that its representation filed at the Court Registry on 20 September 2026 addressed all concerns raised by the third accused and that the State will continue the proceedings against the third accused, with no amendments to, or withdrawal of, the charges.

The State further advised the Court that all disclosures within its custody are in order and sought that a trial date be secured expeditiously.

The State has informed the court of its intention to call approximately 20-25 witness and expects the trial to last at least four weeks.

A tentative trial date has been fixed from **10 May 2027 to 25 May 2027**.

A further Pre-Trial Conference is fixed for **21 October 2026**. Bail was extended for each of the accused.

Case 4: State v Leveni Vuebeti and Tevita Tora **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 earlier this week at 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 had filed the Information and the accused persons have pleaded Not Guilty to the charges.

The State informed the court that there are admissions in the caution interview and the State will be relying on the same. Counsel for the first accused informed the court that they are not challenging the admissions, however counsel for the second accused wants to look at the transcribed caution interview before confirming their position.

The matter is adjourned to **12 October 2026**. Both accused persons have been further remanded in custody.

Case 5: State v MRA
Charges

- Two counts of rape
- One count of sexual assault

A teacher charged with the rape and sexual assault of a 16-year-old student appeared at the Suva High Court earlier this week.

The accused faces two counts of rape and one count of sexual assault. The alleged offence occurred on an unknown date between 1st June 2026 and 20th July 2026.

The State had earlier filed the Information and the accused pleaded not guilty.

The matter is adjourned to **23 November 2026** for a Pre-Trial Conference and to fix a trial date.

The accused bail was further extended.

-End-

**For more information or clarification, contact ODPP MLO
ODPP Fiji**

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