



24<sup>th</sup> November 2021

### **RSIPF appeals to business houses and schools to cooperate during this current situation**

Deputy Commissioner (DC) Operation Ms Juanita Matanga of the Royal Solomon Islands Police Force (RSIPF) is appealing to schools and business houses in and around Honiara to stay home until the lifting of the 36 hours lockdown that effective tonight (24 November 2021) and will end at 7am on 26 November 2021.

Speaking at a special RSIPF Media Conference today, DC Matanga says, "I am appealing to all good citizens of this country more especially those residing in Honiara and Guadalcanal to refrain from such illegal activities because at the end of it, our own actions can lead to unacceptable consequences we do not expect. Be mindful that we will make sure those involved are responsible for their actions."

Ms Matanga says, "I am very concerned about this as innocent people were now affected by these criminal acts. Obviously, we do not want to see any of this happen, we will try our best and we want to make sure that our streets, schools and businesses will reopen soon after the lockdown. Now the situation has escalated from what has been said to be a peaceful protest and turns out differently. I am asking for your cooperation until the situation turns normal. "

"Police will continue with high visibility security operations tonight, tomorrow and beyond to make sure that our streets remain calm and peaceful," says Matanga.

She says, "I'm calling on all leaders from the political level down to the community level, churches and parents to help us spread the message that there is no more need for protest on the streets. Advise our children to refrain and stay calm. Those who want to cause harm and those who want to cause damage or destruction in our communities must not be allowed to do so. Let us work together to stop such illegal acts."

**//End//**

#### **For any media inquiries**

RSIPF Media Unit contact:

The Royal Solomon Islands Police Force (RSIPF) was established in 1954. Its mission is 'To provide a safe, secure and peaceful Solomon Islands'. The RSIPF strive to provide efficient, capable and responsive policing service and expect RSIPF officers to adhere to the RSIPF values.

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24016 or 23800 Ext 239

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