

Royal Solomon Islands Police Force Media Release

8 March 2019

RSIPF calls on owner of fire arm discharged during arson incident to surrender it

Commissioner of the Royal Solomon Island Police Force (RSIPF) Matthew Varley calls on the owner of the fire arm discharged during the arson incident at Kukwisi village, West Kwara'ae in North Malaita on 23 February to surrender it to police.

Commissioner Varley says, "I understand a reconciliation ceremony between both parties involved in the arson incident happened in Auki today (7 March 2019). The police welcomes this initiative by leaders of the two groups to ensure there is peace in the community but this will not hinder the police investigating the incident."

He says, "Police will try its best to find the firearms which are believed to be still in the communities but it needs the assistance of members of the community. You know anyone in your village that may be holding onto a firearm, report them to the nearest police station."

Commissioner Varley adds: "I am calling on all community leaders, including chiefs, youth, women and church leaders to work closely with the police to minimize any escalation in the situation between the two groups of people. There are ways to solve such problems rather than resorting to violence which only makes the situation worse."

"Working together between community leaders and our people is more important at this time as the period of political campaign by the candidates who have been confirmed to contest in the National General Election on 3 April 2019 is underway, says Commissioner Varley.

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Media inquiries

RSIPF Media Unit: 24016 or 23800 Ext 239

Email: rsipf.media@rsipf.gov.sb

The Royal Solomon Islands Police Force (RSIPF) was established in 1954. Its mission is 'To provide a safe and peaceful Solomon Islands by strengthening relationships with the community'. The RSIPF strive to provide efficient and effective policing services for the Solomon Islands and expect RSIPF officers to adhere to the RSIPF values.

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