



25 September 2019

### STATEMENT BY COMMISSIONER OF POLICE ON ALLEGATIONS OF BRIBERY RAISED BY MALAITA PREMIER

“I refer to the front page articles published yesterday, Tuesday 24<sup>th</sup> September 2019, in the Solomon Star and Island Sun newspapers alleging that unnamed Members of Parliament offered a bribe to the Premier of Malaita Province, Hon. Daniel Suidani.

Knowing the seriousness of these allegations, I immediately sent a letter to the Hon. Premier yesterday, 24<sup>th</sup> September, requesting him to meet with my officers and provide a report to police.

Today, 25<sup>th</sup> September I sent a senior RSIPF investigations team to Auki, led by the Assistant Commissioner of Crime & Intelligence. The Hon. Premier declined to provide a witness statement to police.

The RSIPF takes allegations of corruption seriously, as demonstrated by our actions. Without the Hon. Premier’s witness statement, or any other witness evidence, the RSIPF is unable to investigate the allegations made in the newspaper articles.

Should any person have relevant evidence to provide to police about this matter, I call on them to contact the RSIPF.”

//End//

Matthew Varley

Commissioner of Police

#### Media inquiries

RSIPF Media Unit:  
24016 or 23800 Ext 239

Email:  
[rsipf.media@rsipf.gov.sb](mailto: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.

For ongoing news and information, please go to [www.rsipf.gov.sb](http://www.rsipf.gov.sb)

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