

Media Release

13 August 2020

## **RSIPF** investigates suspicious death in Malaita Province

Officers of the Royal Solomon Island Police Force (RSIPF) at the National Criminal Investigation Department (NCID) Serious Crime Unit in Honiara are investigating the suspicious death of a one year and six months old baby at the Boeboe logging camp on Small Malaita on 30 June 2020.

Deputy Commissioner Ian Vaevaso says, "An initial report about the incident says the deceased was with the house girl at the Boeboe logging camp area when some Asian employee of the Global Logging Company arrived at the camp carrying the body of the deceased."

DC Vaevaso explains, "The father of the deceased was sleeping while the mother went into a coconut plantation to pick dry coconut prior to the incident. It is alleged that a Malaysian man reversed a company vehicle and accidently rolled over the deceased and was pronounced dead at the scene. The deceased was then taken to Tawaro Clinic and later transported to Honiara for medical examination on the same day."

"The incident was reported to police and the Serious Crime Unit in the National Criminal Investigation Department (NCID) is investigating the matter."

"The death of the deceased was suspicious and believe foul play may have been involved which could tantamount to an offence of murder."

"The deceased's parents were shocked to learn their child was death and through their physical observation on her body found nothing much as fracture or further injuries to her body."

DC Vaevaso says, "An investigation plan is being put together for officers of the Serious Crime Unit to travel to Malaita to do further investigation. Police is still to receive a report on the post-mortem carried out on the body of the deceased to determine the cause of death." "I call on people in the Boeboe area on Small Malaita to come forward to police with any information that maybe related to the incident."

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Media inquiries	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
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