



**4 November 2020**

### **Police arrest and charge 38-year-old male person for alleged rape of 11-year-old girl in Honiara**

The Sexual Assault Team (SAT) of the Royal Solomon Islands Police Force (RSIPF) have arrested and charged a 38-year-old male person for allegedly raping a 11-year-old girl at Tuaruhu in Central Honiara on 28 October 2020.

Assistant Commissioner (AC) Crime and Intelligence Patricia Leta says, “The defendant in this alleged rape incident is from the Reef Islands, Temotu Province and is an uncle of the victim. The defendant lived with the victim’s family in the Tuaruhu area during the time of the alleged offence.”

AC Leta says, “It will be alleged in court that on 11 September 2020, the victim was home at Tuaruhu when the alleged offence was committed. The victim was watching movies on the defendant’s mobile phone when he allegedly raped the young girl.”

“The defendant was interviewed and charged with one count of rape contrary to Section 136F (1) (a) & (b) of the Penal Code Cap 26 as amended by the Penal Code (Amendment) (Sexual Offences) Act, 2016.”

The defendant appeared in the Honiara Central Magistrates’ Court on 29 October 2020 and has been remanded at the Correctional Centre in Honiara. He will reappear in Court on 12 November 2020.

**//ENDS//**

#### **Media inquiries**

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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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