



6<sup>th</sup> August 2021

### **Police arrests 61-year-old male person for alleged rape of 15-year-old girl in Central Honiara**

Officers of the Royal Solomon Island Police Force (RSIPF) at the Central Police Station in Honiara have arrested a 61-year-old male suspect for allegedly raping a 15-year-old girl in Central Honiara recently.

Provincial Police Commander (PPC) Honiara City, Superintendent John Matamaru says, “It is alleged the rape incidents happened during two separate occasions at the victim’s house in Central Honiara. The first incident happened on 10 July 2021 and the second incident happened on 29 July 2021.”

PPC Matamaru says, “During the two separate occasions, the suspect threatened to kill the victim if she refused to have sexual intercourse with him. The first incident was not reported due to a threat against the victim by the defendant.”

“The sad thing about this rape incident is the suspect and the victim are related to each other and the rape incident happened inside the room of the victim’s dad which is supposed to be the safest haven for the victim.”

PPC Matamaru adds, “The defendant has been interviewed under caution and charged for two counts of sexual intercourse with a child under the age of 15 years, contrary to section 139(1)(a) of the penal code. The defendant appeared in the Honiara Central Magistrates’ Court on 3 August 2021 and has been granted a remand application. He will reappear in Court on 6 September 2021”

**//End//**

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

RSIPF Media Unit contact:

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, 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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