



13<sup>th</sup> June 2022

### **RSIPF denied accusations published in Solomon Star newspaper with title “Who is MA LI PING and High Rank Money Laundering”**

The Royal Solomon Island Police Force (RSIPF) has denied claims made in Solomon Star newspaper published on Saturday 11 June 2022 and Monday 13 June 2022 with titles “Who is Ma LI PING and High Rank Money Laundering” as exaggerating and misleading.

RSIPF has no link to Ms Ma’s as alleged in the paper. Should the author and Mr. Chandana Suresh Guanthilaka Karunapedige have any evidence to support their assertion then they are welcome to produce those evidences to the Professional Standards and Internal Investigations Department (PSII) of the RSIPF to investigate those serious allegations other than speculating.

RSIPF is only acting on the formal complaint made by the victim, Ms Vicky Li Ping MA that they responded to arrest Mr. Chandana Suresh Guanthilaka Karunapedige on Thursday 2 June 2022 with the support of the Royal Papua New Guinea Constabulary (RPNGC) officers.

Unfortunately, Mr. Chandana Suresh Guanthilaka Karunapedige avoided police arrest at that time until he was arrested on Tuesday 7 June 2022 and charged with six counts of domestic violence related offences to appear before Honiara Central Magistrates’ Court on Wednesday 22 June 2022.

The RPNGC team were called in to assist the investigators in dealing with this matter at that particular time of the arrest because Mr Chandana Suresh Guanthilaka Karunapedige is a high risk suspect who was allegedly believed to be in possession of firearms at that time when he committed these domestic violence offences.

This allegation of threatening and possession of firearms is still investigated by RSIPF along with other criminal complaints raised against Mr Chandana Suresh Guanthilaka Karunapedige by the victim and others. The Local investigators and RPNGC teams conduct at that time is professional and does not fall outside of the law as claimed. This is a wild accusation at its fullest.

RSIPF wish to make it clear that there are previous charges laid against Mr Chandana Suresh Guanthilaka Karunapedige as well on the month of February this year (2022) where he was already charged for 3 counts of domestic violence (Physical Abuse) perpetrated against the same victim (Ms Vicky Li Ping MA) which is already before the Court.

In the recent months RSIPF has also investigated a case of assault against Ms. Vicky Li Ping MA reported by Chandana Suresh Guanthilaka Karunapedige as the victim of that case. Ms Vicky Li Ping MA was arrested and charged for common assault and her matter is still currently before the court. This clearly shows that RSIPF is fair and neutral when dealing with any matters that come through for investigation.

Your police, RSIPF is calling on Mr. Chandana Suresh Guanthilaka Karunapedige to come forward with more evidence regarding money laundering activities or whatever as reported in the newspaper for proper investigation. RSIPF is willing to investigate these serious matters with our law enforcement partners.

Police are appealing to Foreigners doing business in Solomon Islands to be honest and respect the laws of this country. RSIPF respects and honour those who truly invest and abide by the laws of this country.

**//End//**

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**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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