



8<sup>th</sup> August 2022

### **RSIPF officers attend sexual offense training**

Royal Solomon Islands Police Force (RSIPF) officers attended a sexual offence training at the Rove Academy last Friday.

RSIPF's Assistant Commissioner for Crime and Intelligence, Patricia Leta, opened the one-day 'Specialist Investigation – Sexual Offences' training.

Advisers from the Australian Federal Police (AFP) were pleased to support and facilitate the training which was conducted by staff of the Office of the Director of Public Prosecution (ODPP).

RSIPF officers from the Sexual Assault Squad (SAS), Transnational Crime Unit (TCU) and Provincial Criminal Investigation Departments (PCID) from White River, Naha and Central Police Station participated in the training.

In her opening remarks, Assistant Commissioner (AC) Leta said the RSIPF, in partnership with the Ministry of Women, Youth, and Children & Family Affairs (MWYCFA) remains committed to upholding, promoting, protecting and fulfilling the rights of women, youth, children and families in the Solomon Islands and ending all forms of violence against women.

She said this is reflected in its commitment to support the government's passed Penal Code (Amendments) (Sexual Offences) Act 2016.

AC Leta said the training will allow ODPP staff to impart in-depth information to RSIPF officers about changes brought about by amendments the government done to the Penal Code (Amendments) (Sexual Offences) Act 2016.

During the training, ODPP staff provided practical guidance to RSIPF staff on how to support victims of sexual offences and facilitated group discussions aimed at identifying practical steps to progress investigations and undertaking reviews of historical and current investigations.

Assistant Commissioner Leta said course participants are not only RSIPF members but are women and men, who are wives, husbands, children, parents, brothers and sisters.

She said she hopes the officers will gain better understanding of how they can work together to protect women, youth, children, vulnerable people and families across the Solomon Islands.

AC. Leta encouraged the participating officers to take what they learn and use them in their workplace to benefit their communities and country.

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**For any media inquiries**

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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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