



29<sup>th</sup> December 2022

### Police arrests a 24-year-old male person for stabbing a 19-year-old

Officers of the Royal Solomon Islands Police Force (RSIPF) in Honiara have arrested a 24 year-old male person for stabbing a 19 year-old male person at King George (KG) market area on 24 December 2022.

Provincial Police Commander (PPC) Supervising, Superintendent Chris Laekalia says, “The victim and his friends dropped from a public bus at Uncle Alick bus stop and walked towards KG market where the victim resides.”

PPC Laekalia adds, “The victim and his friends were about to reach the KG betel-nut market stalls when a short booth car drove slowly beside them and the driver swore at them. However, the car went ahead and pulled over.”

“The victim then approached the driver (suspect) and asked him as to why he swore at them. A friend of the victim saw that they were about to argue and so approached them and tried to calm down the situation,” says PPC Laekalia.

Mr. Laekalia says, “The suspect reached into his vehicle, pulled out a screw driver and tried to stab the victim. Fortunately the screw driver fell out of the suspect’s hand, causing him to run into his car and drive away.”

“The suspect drove to Custom Garden where he parked his vehicle, took a knife from one of the market vendors and walked back to KG market. As he reached KG market he shouted, challenging the victim and his friends to fight him,” he says.

Superintendent Laekalia says, “The victim ran towards the suspect, the suspect took out the knife he hid behind his back and stabbed the victim on his left ribs.”

A police patrol was around the vicinity during the time of the incident and so they attended to the report and arrested the suspect. The matter is currently under police investigation.

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#### 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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