

Media Release

6<sup>th</sup> February 2023

## Police investigates murder incident in Makira-Ulawa Province

Officers of the Royal Solomon Islands Police Force (RSIPF) at Kirakira police station are investigating a murder incident that occurred at Maranu'u village in Makira Ulawa province on 1 February 2023.

Provincial Police Commander (PPC) Makira-Ulawa Province, Superintendent Peter Sitai says, "On the day of the incident, three (3) boys were given homebrew by the suspect's father as an appreciation for completing a market stall."

PPC Sitai says, "They were drinking together when the suspect walked away a few minutes later to a nearby building and started throwing timbers to the ground. The suspect was angry and shouted saying 'hu nah kros' whilst doing so."

"One of the other two (2) boys replied that no one was angry. The suspect however, took a 3x1 timber of about 1.5meter in length and returned to where they were drinking. He then struck the victim on the neck and moved on to struck the deceased on the right side of his head," adds PPC Sitai.

"A fight broke out after the suspect assaulted both of his drinking buddies. A person intervened and stopped them. It was after the incident when the deceased walked away that he collapsed and died instantly."

The suspect was arrested the same day and remanded at Kirakira Correctional Centre as investigation into this matter continues.

PPC Peter Sitai conveys deepest condolences to the immediate family of the deceased for the loss of their loved one.

"I call on the good people at Maranu'u village who may have witnessed the tragic incident to come forward to officers at the Kirakira Police Station with whatever information you may have or call phone 50266 and 50276."

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- 2 -	
Media inquiries RSIPF Media Unit: 24016 or 23800 Ext 239 Email: rsipf.media@rsipf.gov.sb	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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