



Royal Solomon Islands Police Force

Media Release

30th December 2023

Permanent house burnt down to ashes during Christmas Eve, police arrest a suspect

An adult male person burnt down his elder brother's permanent house his permanent dwelling house on Christmas Eve at Sambora village in Vella La Vella Island, Western Province.

Provincial Police Commander (PPC) Western Province, Chief Superintendent Mathias Lenialu says, "Based on investigation, it was a family matter between the suspect and his brother and their Nephew."

PPC Lenialu says, "On that night before the incident occurred, a fight broke out in the village between the suspect and his nephew."

Chief Superintendent Lenialu says, "When they still continue fighting each other his elder brother who is the victim of the burning incident steps in and tries to separate the suspect and their Nephew. The suspect was very angry as to why his brother stepped in and helped their nephew."

Mr. Lenialu says, "On that night the suspect was very angry and searching for his brother and his nephew to fight them. He searched everywhere in the village shouting and swearing at them."

He says, "After he searched for his brother but could not find him, the suspect went to his house and took a black container containing petrol and went straight to the victims room and lit up the house."

The suspect was released from the cell and dealt with accordingly. He was charged with one count of arson and one count of common assault. He was released on bail to appear on 26 February 2024 at Gizo Magistrates' Court

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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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