



4th February 2026

RSIPF responds to incident at Gold Ridge with focus on safety and calm

The Royal Solomon Islands Police Force (RSIPF) has reaffirmed its role in maintaining public safety and preventing escalation following a recent incident at the Gold Ridge Mine in Guadalcanal recently.

On the night of 20 January 2026, an arson was carried out on heavy machinery at the mine site, resulting in damage to a number of company assets.

Some police officers and a civilian staff of the company sustained injuries from the incident. Police responded promptly, secured the area, and ensured the incident did not escalate or pose further risk to surrounding communities.

RSIPF has commenced an investigation to identify those responsible and is continuing to gather information. Police are also engaging with local leaders and relevant stakeholders to support calm and lawful responses following the incident.

Supervising Assistant Commissioner (AC) of Police for the National Operations Chief Superintendent Francis Ramoni said the priority for police is the safety of people and the prevention of further unrest.

AC Ramoni said, “RSIPF recognizes that there are strong concerns within surrounding communities. Our role is to ensure those concerns do not result in harm to people or property and that issues are addressed peacefully and through appropriate channels.”

Following the incident, police supported discussions between community representatives and other parties to help reduce tension and prevent misinformation.

The Guadalcanal Provincial Government also joined calls for calm and restraint. RSIPF wants to assure the community that all valuable seized items and materials confiscated from Gold Ridge have been secured in safe storage, photographed, and recorded for transparency. Ongoing inquiries into the seized items are continuing.

RSIPF continues to take seriously any allegations toward officers after allegations in October 2025 that some officers were involved in illegal mining activities. These officers have been suspended pending the results of Professional Standards and Internal Investigations (PSII).

RSIPF reiterated that matters relating to mining operations, royalties, or policy decisions sit outside the role of policing.

“RSIPF does not make commercial or government decisions,” Ramoni said. “Our responsibility is to uphold the law impartially, protect lives, and maintain stability within our communities.”

Police will continue to maintain a visible presence in the area to support safety, encourage peaceful engagement, and prevent further incidents while investigations continue.

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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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