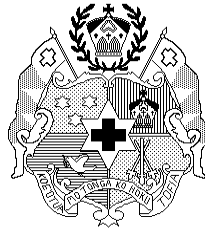


Correspondences to:

Acting Attorney General and Director of
Public Prosecutions
Attorney General's Office
First Floor, Taumoepeau Building
Corner of Fatafehi and Salote Roads
Nuku'alofa
KINGDOM OF TONGA



Contact Details:

Postal Address: PO Box 85, Nuku'alofa,
Kingdom of Tonga
Telephone: (676) 24 055 / 24 007
Fax: (676) 24 005
Office Hours: 8:30 am-4:30 pm, Mon - Fri
Email: dpp@crownlaw.gov.to
Website: www.crownlaw.gov.to/cms

Our Reference: AK 205/18- c.14

ATTORNEY GENERAL'S OFFICE

MEDIA RELEASE

“ATTORNEY GENERAL'S OFFICE DENIES RECENT ARRESTS OF SOME POLITICAL FIGURES ARE MOTIVATED BY EFFORTS TO RENEW THE APPOINTMENT OF THE POLICE COMMISSIONER”

8 MARCH 2018

- 1 The Attorney General's Office wishes to respond to the recent claim made by the Hon Mateni Tapueluelu, Minister for Police and Fire Services, in a radio interview on FM87.5 on Saturday 3 March 2018, where he referred to the arrests of the political leaders were *“an attempt by the Commissioner to extend his contract in April. It ends in April. I do not believe that this is clear from him trying to be seen favourably by the Government and to justify that he should continue.”*, and he also stated that *“And we do not want work to be pushed when the contract is nearly completed and then we make moves to do something”*
- 2 This allegation asserts that these arrests and laying of criminal charges was conducted with improper motives and methods.
- 3 The Attorney General's Office wishes to state that this allegation is absolutely incorrect and untruthful. The allegation has been made without the full knowledge and appreciation of the process or the contents of the Tonga Police investigation, and the support provided to the Tonga Police investigation by the Attorney General's Office.
- 4 The Attorney General's Office regrets that it has been forced once again to make a media release regarding criminal matters before the Courts, especially to counter an allegation

made by a Cabinet Minister. However this media release has to be made because of the allegation made, and in the interests of protecting the course of justice, the integrity of the criminal investigation and criminal prosecution that has commenced arising from these investigations, and also to protect the reputations of the Police investigators and Crown prosecutors who have worked loyally, tirelessly and professionally behind the scenes to bring these matters before the Courts for final determination, so that justice may prevail.

5 The Attorney General's Office therefore wishes to inform the public of the following:

- (1) The AGO has always worked closely with Tonga Police regarding serious crime investigation, upon request of the Tonga Police. This included the passport fraud investigation since 2015, and the referral from the Auditor General to the Tonga Police and the Attorney General's Office in 2016 the audit report relating to the Government financial assistance received by the 'Unuaki-'o-Tonga Royal Institute.
- (2) This included regular briefings on the progress of the investigations, providing legal advice regarding search warrants, engagement of experts, the strategy of the investigations, briefings to be made to Cabinet, the release of information to the the media, and most recently on assessing the evidence gathered, the laying of criminal charges and appearing for bail hearings in Court for the Accused arrested.
- (3) It was always the understanding between Tonga Police and the AGO that once these investigations were completed, the Police investigation files would be submitted by the Police investigators to the Police Commissioner for review, before they were submitted to the AGO for further review and provision of a legal opinion on whether to prosecute, and who should be prosecuted.
- (4) On 12 October 2017 the AGO received from the Police Commissioner 45 Police investigation files for the investigation of the UTRI. On 10 November 2017 the AGO received 38 Police investigation files in relation to the passport fraud investigation.

- (5) The AGO then established a team of Crown prosecutors to review these investigation files, consisting of one senior Crown prosecutor and four junior Crown prosecutors. The Crown prosecutors were tasked with reviewing the evidence gathered by the Police investigators, and providing a criminal brief on the evidence and to recommend to the Acting Attorney General and Director of Public Prosecutions whether a prosecution should be commenced or not.
- (6) This team of Crown prosecutors conducted this long pain-staking review and analysis from October 2017 until the end of January 2018, in addition to their normal legal work for the AGO.
- (7) On 19 January 2018, the Crown prosecutors submitted to the Acting Attorney General and Director of Public Prosecutions the criminal brief for the UTRI investigation, and on 26 January 2018 they submitted the criminal brief in relation to the passport fraud investigation.
- (8) In both cases, the Crown prosecutors recommended that criminal prosecution be commenced. The Acting Attorney General and Director of Public Prosecutions then reviewed those criminal briefs, and after discussing them with the Crown prosecutors, he approved the recommendations to prosecute.
- (9) The Acting Attorney General and Director of Public Prosecutions and the senior Crown prosecutor then met with the Police Commissioner and the lead Police investigator in these investigations, to discuss the recommendations to prosecute for each of these investigations. On 22 January 2018 the meeting relating to the investigation of the UTRI was held. On 29 January 2018 the meeting relating to the Tongan passport fraud investigation was held. In both meetings the Crown prosecutors' recommendations were analysed and discussed. The recommendations to prosecute were then accepted by the Police Commissioner.
- (10) On 29 January 2018 the Police Commissioner and the Acting Attorney General and Director of Public Prosecutions agreed that the Accused would be arrested and charged on consecutive dates, on 7 and 8 February 2018.

- (11) However, on 6 February 2018 the arrests were called off due to investigation reasons. It was then decided on 6 February 2018 that the arrests and laying of criminal charges would be carried out in the week of 19 February 2018, after the Acting Attorney General, the senior Crown prosecutor and lead Police investigator returned from official duties on 17 February 2018.
- (12) However, when Tropical Cyclone Gita hit Tongatapu and 'Eua on 12 February 2018, the Police Commissioner and Tonga Police had to concentrate on providing the national response after the cyclone, and supporting the state of emergency declared on 12 February 2018.
- (13) On 22 February 2018, the Police Commissioner and the Acting Attorney General and Director of Public Prosecutions reassessed the situation for arrest laying of criminal charges, and they agreed to conduct these in the week of 26 February 2018. This was based on the cyclone response phase transitioning to the recovery phase of the nation, and Tonga Police activities returning partly to normality.
- (14) The arrests were then carried out accordingly on Thursday 1 March 2018 for the Tongan passport fraud investigation, and on 3 March 2018 for the UTRI investigation.
- (15) With the announcement of the resignation of the Hon Minister for Police on 28 February 2018 and without confirmation that he was still in office, after the last arrests were made on 3 March 2018, on the same day, the Police Commissioner the Hon Minister for Justice, on the understand that he is the associate Minister for Police, who then briefed the Hon Prime Minister and Hon Minister of Police, respectively. Later that day the Hon Minister for Justice informed the Police Commissioner the reply from the Hon Prime Minister, was for Tonga Police to continue to perform their work in accordance with the law, and so Tonga Police acted accordingly, with the support of the Attorney General's Office.

- 6 The Attorney General's Office wishes to assure the public that these arrests and laying of criminal charges, were never motivated by any favouratism, ill-will or malice, nor were they motivated by any undue influence from any political authorities or other authorities, or in order to favour any person involved or interested in this work, particularly the Police Commissioner. These criminal proceedings were commenced independently in accordance with the Constitution and the Laws of Tonga, and to the highest of policing and prosecutorial professional standards.
- 7 In accordance with the principles of the Rule of Law and Judicial Independence that are enshrined in clause 83A of the Constitution, the course of justice should be allowed to run independently, free of any undue external influence.
- 8 The Attorney General's Office would also like to remind the public of one of the fundamental principles of our criminal justice system that is the presumption of innocence, which is contained in section 46 of the Evidence Act. This section requires that all Accused persons who are currently before the criminal justice system shall be deemed to innocent of the criminal charges that they are charged with, until it is proven beyond any reasonable doubt in a Court of law that they are guilty. The presumption of innocence is respected by all civilized and democratic nations around the world which abide by the principles of the rule of law, and Tonga should not be an exception. The public are urged to understand and respect this fundamental right, and ignore any prejudicial comments made in public against the Accused and these criminal charges until the prosecution is finalized in the Courts.
- 9 The Attorney General's Office therefore calls on the media, political commentators, especially those active in the social media, and the public as a whole, to exercise restraint and avoid commenting on the facts and the legal issues in these criminal cases. These facts and legal issues are for the Courts of Law to resolve, in accordance with the Constitution and the Laws of Tonga, but not in the Court of public opinion.

----- **MEDIA RELEASE ENDS** -----

For further information or clarification, please contact:

Mr 'Aminiasi Kefu,

Acting Attorney General and Director of Public Prosecutions,

Attorney General's Office

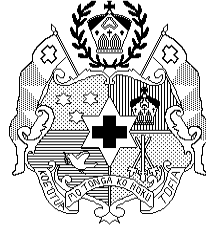
Telephone Numbers: (676) 24055/24007 (Office), (676) 25347 (Direct), (676) 7815314
(Mobile)

Facsimile: (676) 24005

Email: dpp@crownlaw.gov.to, aakefu@gmail.com

Correspondences to:

Acting Attorney General and Director of
Public Prosecutions
Attorney General's Office
First Floor, Taumoepeau Building
Corner of Fatafehi and Salote Roads
Nuku'alofa
KINGDOM OF TONGA



Contact Details:

Postal Address: PO Box 85, Nuku'alofa,
Kingdom of Tonga
Telephone: (676) 24 055 / 24 007
Fax: (676) 24 005
Office Hours: 8:30 am-4:30 pm, Mon - Fri
Email: dpp@crownlaw.gov.to
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**‘OFISI ‘O E ‘ATENI SENIALE
FAKAMATALA KI HE KAU FAIONGOONGO
“FAKA’IKAI’I ‘E HE ‘OFISI ‘O E ‘ATENI SENIALE KO E MAKATU’UNGA ‘O E
NGAAHI PUKE FAKA-LAO KIMUI NI ‘O E NI’IHI ‘O E KAU TAKI FAKA-
POLITIKALE ‘OKU TAUMU’A KE FAKAFO’OU ‘A E MA’U NGAUE ‘A E
KOMISIONA POLISI”
8 MA’ASI 2018**

- 1 ‘Oku loto ‘a e ‘Ofisi ‘o e ‘Ateni Seniale ke fakahoko ha tali ki he tukuaki’i na’e fakahoko ‘e he ‘Eiki Minisita Mateni Tapueluelu, Minisita kihe Polisi mo e Tamate Afi, ‘i hono faka’eke’eke ia ‘i he letio FM 87.5 ‘i he ‘aho Tokonaki ‘aho 3 Ma’asi 2018, ‘a ia na’a ne me’a fekau’aki pea mo e ngaahi puke faka-lao ko’eni ‘a e kau taki faka-politikale ko e “feinga ‘a e Komisiona ke hoko atu ‘ene contract ‘i ‘Epelei. ‘Oku ‘osi ia ‘i ‘Epeleli. ‘Oku ‘ikai keu tui ‘oku ma’ata’ataa eni mei he ‘ene feinga ‘a’ana ke ha ngali poto ki he Pule’anga mo fakatonuhia’i ‘oku taau ke hoko atu.”, pea ne to e me’a ‘o pehe, “Pea ‘oku ‘ikai ke fiema’u ‘a e ngaue ia ke tau toki tenge pe toki mei ‘osi ‘etau contract pea tau toki fute ke fai ha me’a”.
- 2 ‘Oku hoko ‘a e tukuaki’i ni ke pehe na’e fakaloto’i ‘a e ngaahi puke faka-lao mo e faka’ilo hia ni ‘i he loto mo e founga ta’etotonu.
- 3 ‘Oku loto ‘a e ‘Ofisi ‘o e ‘Ateni Seniale ke ne fakaha ko e tukuaki’i ko ‘eni ‘oku matu’aki hala mo ta’etotonu. Ko e tukuaki’i ko ‘eni na’e fakahoko ‘i he ‘ikai ke ‘i ai ha mea’i kakato pe mahino’i ‘a e founga ngaue pea mo e kakano ‘o e fakatotolo na’e fakahoko ‘e

he Kau Polisi Tonga, pea mo e pou pou na'e fakahoko ma'ae fakatotolo 'a e Kau Polisi Tonga 'e he 'Ofisi 'o e 'Ateni Seniale.

4 'Oku fakame'apango'ia foki 'a e 'Ofisi 'o e 'Ateni Seniale ke to e fakahoko atu ha fakamatala ki he kau faiongoongo felave'i pea mo ha hopo hia 'oku lolotonga 'i he malumalu 'o e Fakamaau'anga, pea tautautefito ki he tali ke fakahoko ki ha tukuaki'i kuo fakahoko 'e ha Minisita 'o e Kapineti. Ka ko e fakamatala ko'eni ki he kau faiongoongo kuopau ke fakahoko ia koe'uhi ko e tukuaki'i kuo fakahoko, pea 'i he taumu'a, ke malu'i 'a e kumi kihe fakamaau totonu, malu'i 'a e ngeia 'a e fakatotolo hia na'e fakahoko, pea pehe ki he faka'ilo hia kuo kamata makatu'unga mei he ngaahi fakatotolo hia koia, pea pehe foki ki hano malu'i 'a e ongoongo 'a e Kau Polisi fakatotolo mo e Kau Talatalaaki Hia 'a e Kalauni kuo nau ngaue mateaki, 'osikiavelenga mo faka-palofesinale ke 'omai 'a e ngaahi me'a ni ki he Fakamaau'anga ke fai ha tu'utu'uni 'aofangatuku ki ai, ke ma'u 'a e fakamaau totonu.

5 'Oku loto 'a e 'Ofisi 'o e 'Ateni Seniale ke fakaha ki he hou'eiki mo e kakai 'a e Fonua 'a e ngaahi me'a ni:

(1) 'Oku ngaue vaofi ma'u pe 'a e 'Ofisi 'o e 'Ateni Seniale pea mo e Kau Polisi Tonga 'i he taimi kotoa 'oku fakahoko ai ha fakatotolo mafatukituki (serious crime investigation) 'i ha kole 'a e Kau Polisi Tonga. Na'e kau ai 'a e fakatotolo ki hono ngaue'aki kakaa 'a e ngaahi paasipooti Tonga talu mei he 2015, pea pehe ki hono fakahoko mai 'e he 'Aotita Seniale ki he Kau Polisi Tonga pea mo e 'Ofisi 'o e 'Ateni Seniale 'i he 2016 'a e fakamatala 'aotita felave'i pea mo e pa'anga tokoni na'e ma'u 'e he 'Apiako 'Unuaki-'o-Tonga mei he Pule'anga.

(2) Na'e kau 'i he ngaahi ngaue vaofi ko'eni 'a e ngaahi fakataha felave'i pea mo e tukunga 'a e ngaahi fakatotolo, pea mo hono 'oatu 'a e ngaahi fale'i faka-lao fekau'aki pea mo e ngaahi tohi kumi koloa, 'omai ha kau ngaue taukei mei muli, fokotu'utu'u 'a e hu'unga ngaue 'a e ngaahi fakatotolo, fakahoko 'a e ngaahi fakamatala ki he Kapineti, tuku atu 'a e ngaahi fakamatala ki he kau faiongoongo, pea kimui ni mai, ko hono vakai'i 'a e ngaahi fakamo'oni kuo tanaki, fakahoko 'a e ngaahi faka'ilo hia pea mo e fakafofonga'i 'a e Kau Polisi 'i he Fakamaau'anga

fekau'aki pea mo e ngaahi kole ke malu'i kitu'a 'a e Kau Faka'iloa mei hono tauhi faka-lao 'e he Kau Polisi.

- (3) Na'e 'i ai ma'u pe 'a e femahino'aki 'a e Kau Polisi Tonga pea mo e 'Ofisi 'o e 'Ateni Seniale ko e hili 'a e faka-kakato 'a e ngaahi fakatotolo ni, 'e 'omai 'a e ngaahi faile fakatotolo 'a e Kau Polisi ki he Komisiona Polisi ke ne vaki'i, kimu'a pea ne 'omai ki he 'Ofisi 'o e 'Ateni Seniale ke to e vakai'i pea fa'u mo ha fale'i faka-lao pe 'oku totonu ke fakahoko ha faka'ilo hia, pea ko hai 'oku totonu ke faka'ilo.
- (4) 'I he 'aho 12 'Okatopa 2017 na'e ma'u ai 'e he 'Ofisi 'o e 'Ateni Seniale mei he Komisiona Polisi 'a e faile fakatotolo 'a e Kau Polisi 'e 45 felave'i pea mo hono fakatotolo'i 'a e 'Apiako 'Unuaki 'o Tonga. 'I he 'aho 10 Novema 2017, na'e ma'u 'e he 'Ofisi 'o e 'Ateni Seniale 'a e faile fakatotolo 'a e Kau Polisi 'e 38 fekau'aki pea mo e fakatotolo'i 'a e ngaue'aki kakaa 'a e ngaahi paasipooti Tonga.
- (5) Na'e fokotu'u leva 'e he 'Ofisi 'o e 'Ateni Seniale ha kau Talatalaaki Hia 'a e Kalauni kenau hanga 'o vakai'i 'a e ngaahi faile fakatotolo ni, pea na'e taki ai 'a e Talatalaaki Hia Ma'olunga 'a e Kalauni, pea tokoni ki ai 'a e kau Talatalaaki Hia 'a e Kalauni 'e toko 4. Ko e fatongia 'a e Kau Talatalaaki Hia ni kenau hanga 'o vakai'i 'a e ngaahi fakamo'oni kuo tanaki 'e he Kau Polisi fakatotolo, pea fa'u 'a e fakamatala hia felave'i pea mo e ngaahi fakamo'oni, pea fokotu'u atu ki he 'Ateni Seniale Le'ole'o mo e Talekita ki he Ngaahi Talatalaaki Hia 'o e Pule'anga pe 'oku totonu ke kamata'i ha faka'ilo hia pe 'ikai.
- (6) Na'e fakahoko 'e he Kau Talatalaaki Hia 'a e Kalauni 'a e ngaue lahi mo faingata'a ko'eni 'i 'Okatopa 2017 'o faka'osi ki he kongia kimui 'o Sanuali 2018, 'i he funga 'o 'ene ngaahi ngaue faka-lao anga maheni 'i he 'Ofisi 'o e 'Ateni Seniale.
- (7) 'I he 'aho 18 Sanuali 2018, na'e fakahu atu 'e he Kau Talatalaaki Hia 'a e Kalauni ki he 'Ateni Seniale Le'ole'o mo e Talekita ki he Ngaahi Talatalaaki Hia 'o e Pule'anga 'a e fakamatala hia felave'i pea mo hono fakatotolo'i 'a e 'Apiako 'Unuaki 'o Tonga, pea 'i he 'aho 26 Sanuali 2018 na'a nau fakahu atu 'a e

fakamatala hia felave'i pea mo e fakatotolo ki he ngaue'aki kaka'a 'a e ngaahi paasipooti Tonga.

- (8) 'I he ongo keisi ni fakatou'osi, na'e fokotu'u atu ai 'e he Kau Talatalaaki Hia 'a e Kalauni 'oku totonu ke fakahoko 'a e faka'ilo hia. Na'e toe vakai'i 'e he 'Ateni Seniale Le'ole'o mo e Talekita ki he Ngaahi Talatalaaki Hia 'o e Pule'anga 'a e ngaahi fakamatala hia ni, pea hili 'a e to e vakai'i fakataha pea mo e Kau Talatalaaki Hia 'a e Kalauni, na'e tu'utu'uni ai 'e he 'Ateni Seniale Leo'ole'o pea mo e Talekita ki he Ngaahi Talatalaaki Hia 'o e Pule'anga ke tali 'a e fokotu'u ke fakahoko 'a e faka'ilo hia.
- (9) Na'e fakataha leva 'a e 'Ateni Seniale Le'ole'o pea mo e Talekita ki he Ngaahi Talatalaaki Hia 'o e Pule'anga pea mo e Talatalaaki Hia Ma'olunga 'a e Kalauni, pea mo e Komisiona Polisi pea mo e taki 'a e Kau Polisi fakatotolo 'I he ongon fakatotolo ni, ke alea'i 'a e ngaahi fokotu'u ke fakahoko 'a e faka'ilo hia 'i he ongo fakatotolo ni. 'I he 'aho 22 Sanuali 2018 na'e fakahoko ai 'a e fakataha felave'i pea mo e fakatotolo'i 'a e 'Apiako 'Unuaki 'o Tonga. 'I he 'aho 29 Sanuali 2018 na'e fakahoko ai 'a e fakataha felave'i pea mo hono ngaue'aki kaka'a 'a e ngaahi paasipooti Tonga. 'I he ongo fakataha fakatou'osi na'e vakai'i fakaikiiki mo alea'i 'a e ngaahi fokotu'u 'a e Kau Talatalaaki Hia 'a e Kalauni. Na'e hanga leva 'e he Komisiona Polisi 'o tali 'a e ngaahi fokotu'u ke fakahoko 'a e faka'ilo hia.
- (10) 'I he 'aho 29 Sanuali 2018 na'e felotoi ai 'a e Komisiona Polisi pea mo e 'Ateni Seniale Le'ole'o mo e Talekita ki he Ngaahi Talatalaaki Hia 'o e Pule'anga ke puke faka-lao 'a e Kau Faka'iloa pea fakahoko honau faka'ilo 'i he 'aho hokohoko, 'i he 'aho 7 mo e 8 Fepueli 2018.
- (11) 'I he a'u mai ki he 'aho 6 Fepueli 2018, na'e toloi 'a hono fakahoko 'a e puke faka-lao mo e faka'ilo hia koe'uhi ko e ngaahi 'uhinga faka-fakatotolo. Na'e fakahoko leva 'a e felotoi 'i he 'aho 6 Fepueli 2018 ke toki fakahoko 'a e puke faka-lao mo e faka'ilo hia 'i he uike 'o e 'aho 19 Fepueli 2018, hili 'a e foki mai 'a e 'Ateni Seniale Le'ole'o mo e Talekita 'a e Ngaahi Talatalaaki Hia 'o e Pule'anga, pea pehe ki he Talatalaaki Hia Ma'olunga 'a e Kalauni pea mo e taki 'a e Kau Polisi

fakatotolo 'i he 'aho 17 Fepueli 2018 hili 'enau fakakakato 'a honau ngaahi fatongia faka-ngaue 'i muli.

- (12) 'I he 'aho 12 Fepueli 2018 na'e to mai 'a e Saikoloni Faka-Talupiki ko Gita, pea hoko ai 'a e maumau lahi ki Tongatapu mo 'Eua. Koia ai na'e hangataha 'a e Komisiona Polisi pea mo e Kau Polisi Tonga ki hono fakahoko 'a e ngaahi ngaue ki he tali faka-fonua hili 'a e saikolone (national response), pea mo hono fakahoko 'a e ngaahi ngaue poupu ki he fakaha faka-Pule'anga 'a e hoko 'a e tu'unga fakafokifa 'i he 'aho 12 Fepueli 2018.
- (13) 'I he 'aho 22 Fepueli 2018, na'e to e vakai'i 'e he Komisiona Polisi pea mo e 'Ateni Seniale Le'ole'o mo e Talekita ki he Ngaahi Talatalaaki Hia 'o e Pule'anga 'a e tukunga ke fakahoko 'a e puke faka-lao mo hono fakahoko 'a e faka'ilo hia, pea na'a na felotoi ai ke fakahoko ia 'i he uike 'o e 'aho 26 Fepueli 2018. Na'e makatu'unga eni 'i he kamata ke hiki 'a e ngaue hili 'a e saikolone mei he ngaue ke tali 'a e saikolone (response) ki he ngaue ke fakaakeake (recovery) 'a e Fonua mei he saikolone, pea kamata foki ke foki 'a e konga 'a e ngaue 'a e Kau Polisi Tonga ki he founa anga maheni.
- (14) Na'e fakahoko leva 'a e puke-fakalao mo e faka'ilo hia 'i he 'aho Tu'apulelulu 1 Maasi 2018 felave'i pea mo e fakatoto ki hono ngaue'aki kaka 'a e ngaahi paasipooti Tonga, pea 'i he 'aho Tokonaki 3 Ma'asi 2018 fekau'aki pea mo e fakatoto felave'i pea mo e 'Apiako 'Unuaki-'o-Tonga.
- (15) 'I he hoko 'a e fakaha 'e he 'Eiki Minisita Polisi 'i he 'aho 28 Fepueli 2018 kuo ne fakafisi pea mo e te'eki ke mahino pe 'oku ne kei ma'u 'a e lakanga koia pe 'ikai, hili 'a e puke faka-lao mo e faka'ilo hia fakamuimui na'e fakahoko 'i he 'aho 3 Ma'asi 2018, na'e fakahoko 'i he 'aho tatau 'e he Komisiona Polisi 'a e fakamatala ki he 'Eiki Minisita Lao, 'i he mahino 'oku 'i ai 'a e fatongia 'a e 'Eiki Minisita Lao ko e 'Eiki Minisita talifaki ki he Polisi mo e Tamate Afi. Na'e fakahoko 'a e fakamatala ki he ngaue ni 'e he 'Eiki Minisita Lao ki he 'Eiki Palemia pea mo e 'Eiki Minisita Polisi. Na'e toki fakahoko mai 'e he 'Eiki Minisita Lao ki he Komisiona Polisi 'a e tali 'a e 'Eiki Palemia ke fakahoko pe 'e he Kau Polisi Tonga

honau fatongia ‘o fakatatau pea mo e lao, pea ko e me’a ia na’e fakahoko ‘e he Kau Polisi Tonga, pea pou pou ki ai ‘a e ‘Ofisi ‘o e ‘Ateni Seniale.

- 6 ‘Oku loto ‘a e ‘Ofisi ‘o e ‘Ateni Seniale ke fakapapau’i ki he hou’eiki pea mo e kakai ‘a e Fonua, ko e ngaahi puke faka-lao mo e faka’ilo hia ko’eni na’e ‘ikai pe ke fakaloto’i’aki ha ongo filifilimanako, fakalotokovi pe taufehi’a, pea na’e ‘ikai ke fakaloto’i ‘i ha ngaue ha fakaloto’i ta’etotonu mei ha ngaahi ma’u mafai faka-politikale pe ngaahi ma’u mafai kehe, pe ko ha taumu’a ke kaunga lelei ki ha taha ‘oku kau he ngaue pe ‘oku ‘i ai ‘ene kaunga ki he ngaue ni, tautautefito ki he Komisiona Polisi. Ko e ngaahi faka’ilo hia ni na’e kamata’i’aki ia ‘a e loto tau’ataina ‘o fakatatau pea mo e Konisitutone pea mo e Lao ‘o Tonga, pea pehe ki he ngaahi tu’unga faka-palofesinale ma’olunga taha ‘i he ngaue faka-Polisi mo e ngaue faka-Talatalaaki Hia.
- 7 Fakatatau pea mo e ngaahi tefito’i tui fekau’aki pea mo e Pule ‘a e Lao mo e Tau’ataina ‘a e Fakamaau’anga ‘oku malu’i ‘i he kupu 83A ‘o e Konisitutone, ko e ngaue ke kumi ‘a e fakamaau totonu ‘oku totonu ke fakahoko tau’ataina ia, pea faka’ataa ke ‘oua kau ki ai ha fakaloto’i ta’etotonu mei tu’a.
- 8 ‘Oku to e loto ‘a e ‘Ofisi ‘o e ‘Ateni Seniale ke fakamanatu kihe hou’eiki pea mo e kakai ‘o e Fonua ‘a e taha ‘a e tefito’i tui ‘oku ngaue’aki ‘i hotau Fakamaau’anga hia ‘a e tui ‘oku ‘ikai ke halaia ha taha kae ‘oleva kuo fakamo’oni’i (presumption of innocence), ‘a ia ‘oku ha ‘i he kupu 46 ‘o e Lao ki he Fakamatala Fakamo’oni. ‘Oku tu’utu’uni ‘a e kupu ni ko e taha Faka’iloa kotoa pe ‘oku ‘i he malumalu ‘o e Fakamaau’anga hia ‘oku ‘ikai totonu ke lau kuo ne fai ha hia, tukukehe ka toki ‘i ai ha ngaahi fakamatala fakamo’oni kuo tali ‘e he Fakamaau’anga ki ha tu’unga ‘oku ‘ikai ha to e veiveiua fe’unga ke fakamo’oni’i kuo fakahoko ‘e he Faka’iloa koia ‘a e hia ‘oku tukuaki’i ia ki ai. Ko e tefito’i tui ko’eni, ‘oku ‘ikai ke halaia ha taha kae ‘oleva kuo fakamo’oni’i, ‘oku faka’apa’apa’i ia ‘e he ngaahi fonua kotoa ‘i mamani ‘oku mo’ui faka-sivilaise mo fakatemokalati pea talangofua ki he ngaahi tefito’i tui ‘a e pule ‘a e lao, pea ‘oku ‘ikai totonu ke makehe ‘a Tonga ni mei ai. ‘Oku tuku atu ‘a e kole ki he hou’eiki pea mo e kakai ‘o e Fonua kenau mahino’i mo faka’apa’apa’i ‘a e tefito’i totonu ko’eni, pea ke ‘oua tenau fakatokanga’i ha ngaahi fakamatala faka-lotokovi fekau’aki pea mo e kau faka’iloa mo e

ngaahi faka'ilo ni kae 'oleva kuo aofangatuku 'a e tu'utu'uni ki he ngaahi faka'ilo 'i he Fakamaau'anga.

- 9 'I hono fakama'opo'opo, 'oku kole atu 'e he 'Ofisi 'o e 'Ateni Seniale ki he mitia, kau fakamatala faka-politikale, tautautefito kia kinautolu 'oku nau manako kenau ngaue'aki 'a e mitia faka-sosiale, pea pehe ki he hou'eiki pea mo e kakai fakalukufua 'o e Fonua, kenau kataki mu'a 'o ngaue'aki 'a e fakama'uma'u pea ke ta'ofi hano fakahoko ha ngaahi fakamatala fekau'aki pea mo e ngaahi mo'oni'i me'a mo e ngaahi fehu'i faka-lao 'i he ngaahi hopo hia ni. Ko e ngaahi mo'oni'i me'a ni mo e ngaahi fehu'i faka-lao ni 'oku lolotonga 'i he malumalu ia 'a e mafai 'a e Fakamaau'anga ke ne tu'utu'uni ki ai, 'o fakataau pea mo e Konisitutone pea mo e Ngaahi Lao 'o Tonga, ka 'oku 'ikai ke fai ha tu'utu'uni ia 'i he taimi 'oku talanga ai 'a e hou'eiki pea mo e kakai 'o e Fonua.

----- NGATA'ANGA 'O E FAKAMATALA TUKUATU -----

Ki ha toe fakamatala, pe fakama'ala'ala, fetu'utaki mai:

Mr 'Aminiasi Kefu,

'Ateni Seniale Le'o mo e Talekita 'o e Ngaahi Talatalaaki Hia 'a e Pule'anga,

'Ofisi 'o e 'Ateni Seniale

Ngaahi Fika Telefoni: (676) 24055/24007 ('Ofisi), (676) 25347 (Laine Fakahangatonu), (676) 7715314 (Telefoni To'oto'o)

Fekisimile: (676) 24005

'Imeili: dpp@crownlaw.gov.to, aakefu@gmail.com