

**PRESS RELEASE, Tuesday 10 January 2012.**

**Crime Report for Period 02 - 08 January 2012.**

- Total of 54 crimes registered under the Criminal Offences Act for the first week of 2012, compared to 41 in 52<sup>nd</sup> week of 2011.
- Out of the 54 criminal offences registered 36 were registered at Central Police Station (Nuku'alofa), 10 - Mu'a, 05 - Nukunuku station and 03 at Vaini station. No criminal offences were registered at Ha'apai, Vava'u and 'Eua.
- Most criminal offences reported was housebreaking with 16 offences (12 - Central Police Station, 03 - Mu'a, 01 - Nukunuku) followed by 12 - common assaults, 10 - thefts, 05 - trespass, 2 - willful damages, 04 - assaulting and obstructing government servant, 02 - unlawfully being on enclosed premises at night, 01 - bodily harm.
- Total of 24 offences registered under other Acts besides Criminal Offences Act. Majority were offences under Order in Public Places Act, - 17 at Central Police Station, 05 - Mu'a Station and 01 each at Vaini and Nukunuku Stations.
- In relation to Traffic Act & Regulations, total of 181 offences were registered. Most offences registered relates to motor vehicles not registered for December quarter and nonpayment of annual license. There were no major traffic accidents causing injuries or road deaths during the report period.
- Armed Robbery at Fatafehi Rd, Kolofo'ou on Friday night 06 January 2012.

Special Police operation consisting of investigators and Tactical Response Group (T.R.G.) are working round the clock to arrest three (03) male offenders in relation to an armed robbery incident about after 11pm on Friday 06 January 2012 at a petrol station on Fatafehi Road, Kolofo'ou.

Two (02) of the disguised offenders were armed with shot gun and hand gun (pistol) approached the 53 years old male petrol station supervisor and demanded money, as the supervisor and three (03) male employees were closing down the station.

The supervisor tussled with one of the offenders and the offender with the shot gun fired two shots, one injured the left leg of the supervisor.

The offenders then fled the scene on the supervisor's vehicle (Toyota Hilux van) which police found early Saturday morning (07/01/2012) abandoned at a location near Hofoa village.

Management of the petrol station confirmed no money was stolen during the incident.

Forensic evidence is now assisting police investigators to confirm identity of offenders.

The injured petrol station supervisor is recovering well at Vaiola Hospital.

Statistics on robbery using firearms since 2009 indicates that there was 01 case in 2009, 04 - 2010 and 05 in 2011. Police investigations continues.

**T. Faletau**

**Acting Police Commissioner**

