

Press Release: 14/2018

Wednesday 3<sup>rd</sup> October 2018

## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

(Honiara 03.10.18) - The Central Bank of Solomon Islands (CBSI) strongly advises the public to stop spreading false information about the operations of one of the commercial banks.

This advice comes after details of an anonymous email was received from members of the public containing very serious allegations and misleading information about Pan Oceanic Bank (POB).

CBSI is fully aware of the distribution of this erroneous piece of information written as a news article that has the potential to cause malicious damage and create unnecessary confusion.

Central Bank is currently monitoring the impact of such a misleading article, and notes that such information are only designed to cause further misunderstanding, panic and lowering of public confidence over the country's financial system.

CBSI understands that this is the second time such information received and shared, is coming from an anonymous source with the intent to target specifically POB, its operations, management and staff, including questioning Central Banks role and capacity as the nation's regulatory authority. CBSI therefore reiterates its call on the public to immediately refrain from participating in such smear campaigns and simply ignore these types of information.

CBSI continues to encourage the public to carry on banking with POB as its operations complies with all prudential requirements by law, and is monitored closely through due diligence processes.

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For more information, please contact: Central Bank of Solomon Islands | P.O. BOX 634 | Honiara | Ph: (677) 21791 | Email: <u>info@cbsi.com.sb</u> | Website: <u>www.cbsi.com.sb</u>