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**RESPONSE TO POST-COURIER NEWSPAPER  
ARTICLE OF 4<sup>th</sup> OCTOBER 2019, TITLED "SIX VIE  
FOR TOP POST" – FRONT PAGE**

"In response to an article in Post-Courier dated Friday 4<sup>th</sup> October 2019 titled ***Six vie for top post***" regarding the position of the Royal Papua New Guinea Constabulary top position is currently going through the selection process therefore the information is confidential," said Minister for Public Service Hon. Westly Nukundj.

Minister Nukundj encourage all parties concerned, especially with the appointment of the Police Commissioner, to ensure that the integrity of the appointment process be maintained until a permanent appointment is made through the National Executive Council and refrain from leaking information to the media.

"I further urge the Post-Courier reporters/ journalists to communicate with my office and my department, Department of Personnel Management, before publishing its articles especially matters relating to appointments of departmental heads, provincial administrators or heads of statutory organizations," said Nukundj.

Minister Nukundj clarified that the appointment process of the Police Commissioner commenced with the Department of Personnel Management advertising the position and then all applications and profiles were sent to the Public Services Commission (PSC) on 10<sup>th</sup> September 2019. The Permanent Parliamentary Committee on Appointments will also be consulted on the shortlist by PSC before the three (3) names are recommended to NEC for a decision.

“The first point of call on any executive appointments is the Minister for Public Service and the Secretary for Department of Personnel Management, so the media must communicate with my Office and Secretary’s Office first before going out to the press” said Nukundj.

**Approved and authorized to release.**

**HON. WESTLY N. NUKUNDJ, MP**  
Minister for Public Service

**Friday 4<sup>th</sup> October 2019**