



MINISTRY OF NATIONAL SECURITY

GOVERNMENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO

November 18, 2022

For Immediate Release

MEDIA RELEASE

MINISTER OF NATIONAL SECURITY PARTICIPATES IN CARIBBEAN MEDICOLEGAL AND FORENSIC SCIENCE SYMPOSIUM

Port of Spain: Local, regional and international experts in clinical forensic medicine and the criminal justice system are meeting in Trinidad and Tobago for the 6th Caribbean Medicolegal and Forensic Symposium. The Symposium is being held during the period Friday November 18, 2022 to Saturday November 19, 2022, at the Hilton Trinidad and Conference Centre in Port of Spain.

The initiative is a collaboration between the Department of Pathology and Laboratory Medicine, Faculty of Medicine, University of Ottawa; the Eastern Ontario Regional Laboratory Association (EORLA); and the Caribbean Medicolegal Society.

Speaking at the Opening on Friday November 18, 2022, Minister of National Security the Honourable Fitzgerald Hinds M.P. congratulated the organizers for choosing Trinidad and Tobago to host the event, which is a first of its kind in the country. He noted that presentations will be delivered by a spectrum of well-respected, high profile, local, regional and international practitioners. The Minister expressed best wishes to all participants for fruitful discussions and beneficial outcomes, to help to fortify and further improve established forensic science practices in the Caribbean.

Minister Hinds underscored the development of forensic science in Trinidad and Tobago, stating that the Trinidad and Tobago Forensic Science Centre (TTFSC) plays an important role in supporting this country's Criminal Justice System. He emphasized that the TTFSC has a cadre of experts, some with up to twenty-five years of experience in their disciplines. These experts process evidence in accordance with international best practice, and prepare reports for use by Trinidad and Tobago Police Service investigators and the Director of Public Prosecutions, for prosecution of accused persons.

Forensic pathologists and scientific officers from the Trinidad and Tobago Forensic Science Centre; crime scene investigators from the Trinidad and Tobago Police Service; as well as local State prosecutors and private attorneys-at-law are delivering presentations at the Symposium. Participants also include representatives from

Canada, the United States of America, the United Kingdom, Belize, St. Lucia, and Jamaica.

The two (2) day symposium aims to provide Continuing Professional Development/Continuing Medical Education credits for medicolegal practitioners who are involved in medicolegal death investigation, clinical forensic medicine, the criminal justice system and civil litigation. The content of the programme will focus on enhancing the capacity of qualified practitioners, for quality assurance, when presenting medicolegal and forensic evidence testimony and preparing reports for prosecution of criminal court cases, in the respective jurisdictions, in accordance with international best practices.

Photos and captions:



1. Minister of National Security the Honourable Fitzgerald Hinds M.P. (front row, *seated second from left*); Attorney General and Minister of Legal Affairs, Senator the Honourable Reginald Armour S.C.; the Honourable the Chief Justice, Mr. Justice Ivor Archie O.R.T.T; and Vice Chair and Director of Education, Department of Path and Lab Medicine, University of Ottawa, Dr. Alfredo E Walker (*front row, seated second from right*) with participants of the 6th Caribbean Medicolegal and Forensic Symposium. The Symposium is being held during the period Friday November 18, 2022 to Saturday November 19, 2022, at the Hilton Trinidad and Conference Centre in Port of Spain.



2. Minister of National Security the Honourable Fitzgerald Hinds M.P. delivers remarks at the Opening of 6th Caribbean Medicolegal and Forensic Symposium, on Friday November 18, 2022 at the Hilton Trinidad and Conference Centre in Port of Spain.



3. A cross-section of participants at the 6th Caribbean Medicolegal and Forensic Symposium. The Symposium is being held during the period Friday November 18, 2022 to Saturday November 19, 2022, at the Hilton Trinidad and Conference Centre in Port of Spain.

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