



MINISTRY OF NATIONAL SECURITY

INTOUCH

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IN REVIEW



OUR MISSION

To advance national development by creating a safer and more secure society through enhanced collaboration among all stakeholders, intelligence-based decision-making and strengthened inter-agency structures and systems.

OUR VISION

To be at the pinnacle of public safety and security delivery.

OUR MANDATE

We operate under three general areas of responsibility:

- Maintenance of Law and Order, Public Safety and Defence against Aggression
- Management of Disaster Preparedness and Relief
- Monitoring and Control of the flow of persons into and out of the country

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Corporate Communications Unit
Ministry of National Security
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Port of Spain
Trinidad and Tobago

Chief Editor:

Ms. Parbatie Hazel
Senior Corporate
Communications Officer

Contributors:

Ms. Leanna Ramphal
Mr. Abshalom Yisrael
Ms. Melissa Farrier
Ms. Annalise Singh
Ms. Jenisa Stephens

Contact us:

-  (868) 624-5771
-  corpcomm@mns.gov.tt
-  www.nationalsecurity.gov.tt
-  [mns.tnt](https://www.facebook.com/mns.tnt)
-  [ttnatsecurity](https://twitter.com/ttnatsecurity)
-  [nationalsecuritytt](https://www.instagram.com/nationalsecuritytt)
-  [ministryofnationalsecuritytt](https://www.youtube.com/ministryofnationalsecuritytt)



Minister of National Security **the Honourable Fitzgerald Hinds M.P.**

It is with a sense of honour and deep pride that I serve Trinidad and Tobago as Minister of National Security.

From the onset of assuming duty in April 2021, one of my priorities has been that of establishing a working relationship with the Divisions and Agencies of the Ministry of National Security. Through ongoing discussions, we have been implementing a Whole-of-Ministry approach to effectively use and coordinate resources, in order to deliver strong crime fighting results.

As Minister, it is my role to develop policies that will ensure that the Ministry is provided with the required and necessary resources, upgrades, equipment and training, in an effort to constantly advance service delivery.

I sincerely thank all Ministry of National Security staff for their hard work, dedication and unwavering commitment to serving the people of Trinidad and Tobago. Your concerted effort will only redound to the nation's benefit.

As Minister, I give every assurance that my Ministry will continue to toil tirelessly to protect the people of this country, fight crime and create a safer and more secure environment for all.



Ministry of
National Security

THE EXECUTIVE TEAM



Permanent Secretary (Ag.)
Mr. Gary Joseph



Permanent Secretary (Ag.)
Ms. Nataki Atiba-Dilchan



Deputy Permanent Secretary (Ag.)
Mr. Haimdath Ramoutar



Deputy Permanent Secretary (Ag.)
Ms. Deokie Sintra Maharaj



Deputy Permanent Secretary (Ag.)
Ms. Denise Phillip

WORKING IN PARTNERSHIP

The Minister of National Security the Honourable Fitzgerald Hinds M.P. and his Executive team hosted meetings with local, regional and international organizations, aimed at fostering closer bilateral relationships on national security matters. Here's a look at some of those strategic sessions in 2022.



January 26, 2022 - A Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) was signed between the Correctional Service of Canada and the Trinidad and Tobago Prison Service.



May 10, 2022 - Minister Hinds addressed Disaster Management stakeholders from 22 Caribbean countries and delegates from regional and international agencies, at a Caribbean Regional Workshop hosted by the United Nations Office for Disaster Risk Reduction (UNDRR) Regional Office for the Americas and the Caribbean, and the Office of Disaster Preparedness and Management (ODPM).



May 16, 2022 - Minister Hinds received a courtesy call from Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela to the Republic of Trinidad and Tobago, His Excellency Álvaro Enrique Sánchez Cordero.



June 27, 2022 - Minister Hinds was key-note speaker in a High-Level Seminar on Narcotic Smuggling in the Caribbean Region, which took place in Miami, United States of America.

July 18, 2022 - Chief of Defence Staff, Air Vice Marshal Darryl Daniel and Commanding Officer of the Trinidad and Tobago Coast Guard, Captain (N) Don Polo, hosted Mr. Yang Han, Deputy Head of Mission and Mr. Liu Pengfei, First Secretary and Chief of Political Section from the Embassy of the People's Republic of China, to discuss military relations between Trinidad and Tobago and China.



WORKING IN PARTNERSHIP



August 15, 2022 - Minister Hinds and Mr. Shante Moore, Chargé d'Affaires of the Embassy of the United States of America in Trinidad and Tobago discussed Trinidad and Tobago's counter trafficking efforts and future engagements in security and defence cooperation.



August 25, 2022 - Commissioner of Police (Ag.) McDonald Jacob received a courtesy call from the Ambassador of the Kingdom of the Netherlands, His Excellency, Sándor Marnix Raphaël Varga van Kibéd en Makfalva.



September 12, 2022 - Minister Hinds participated in a high-level dialogue at the First Meeting of Consultation of States Parties to the Inter American Convention against Terrorism, hosted virtually by the Organization of American States (OAS).

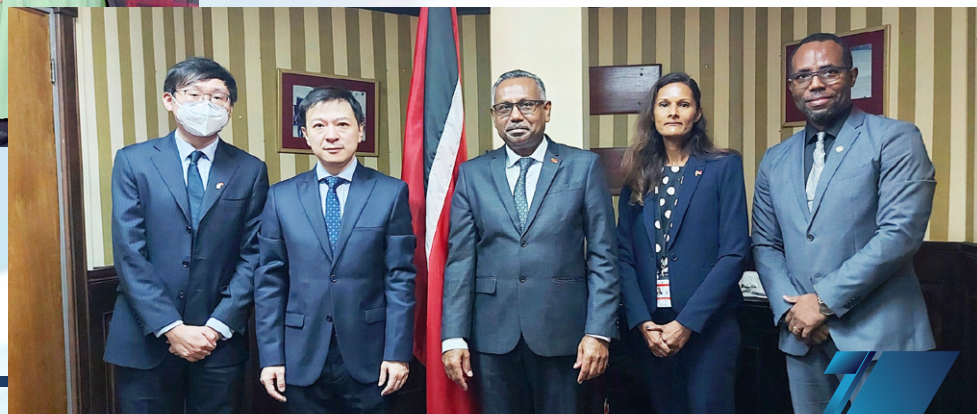


October 11, 2022 - Minister Hinds launched the CARISECURE 2.0 Project in partnership with the Embassy of the United States of America, Port of Spain, United States Agency for International Development (USAID) and United Nations Development Programme (UNDP).



November 14, 2022 - Minister Hinds and other National Security officials participated in the launch of the CARICOM Crime Gun Intelligence Unit (CGIU), at the Headquarters of the CARICOM Implementation Agency for Crime and Security (IMPACS).

December 02, 2022 - Permanent Secretary (Ag.) of the Ministry Of National Security Mr. Gary Joseph met with Deputy Head of Mission of the Embassy of the People's Republic of China in Trinidad and Tobago, Mr. Yang Han.



SECURITY IN FOCUS

The Ministry of National Security's Defence and Protective Services and Intelligence Agencies - led by the Minister of National Security the Honourable Fitzgerald Hinds M.P. – work continuously to treat with crime and security matters in Trinidad and Tobago. Following strategic discussions, the Minister of National Security would lead his team in hosting a Media Conference, in order to update the public on matters discussed and the way forward.

Here are highlights of those Media Conferences:



On February 17, 2022, Minister Hinds was flanked by Minister of Energy and Energy Industries the Honourable Stuart R. Young M.P., Minister of Public Utilities the Honourable Marvin Gonzales M.P., and Trinidad and Tobago Electricity Commission's (T&TEC) General Manager Mr. Kelvin Ramsook, to discuss a large-scale power outage that affected Trinidad on February 16, 2022.

Minister Hinds and Commissioner of Police (Ag.) McDonald Jacob spoke on issues pertaining to the intelligence apparatus of the country, on April 24, 2022.



Then Deputy Commissioner of Police, Ms. Joanne Archie, Ag. Commissioner of Prisons Mr. Deopersad Ramoutar and other officials joined Minister Hinds on May 09, 2022 to speak on the issue of crime and national security operations.

On July 04, 2022, Minister Hinds, Commissioner of Police (Ag.) McDonald Jacob, Senior Superintendent Oswain Subero of the Trinidad and Tobago Police Service's Inter-Agency Task Force, and Defence Force Operational Officer Lt. Col. Ashook Singh addressed concerns about a spate of homicides.



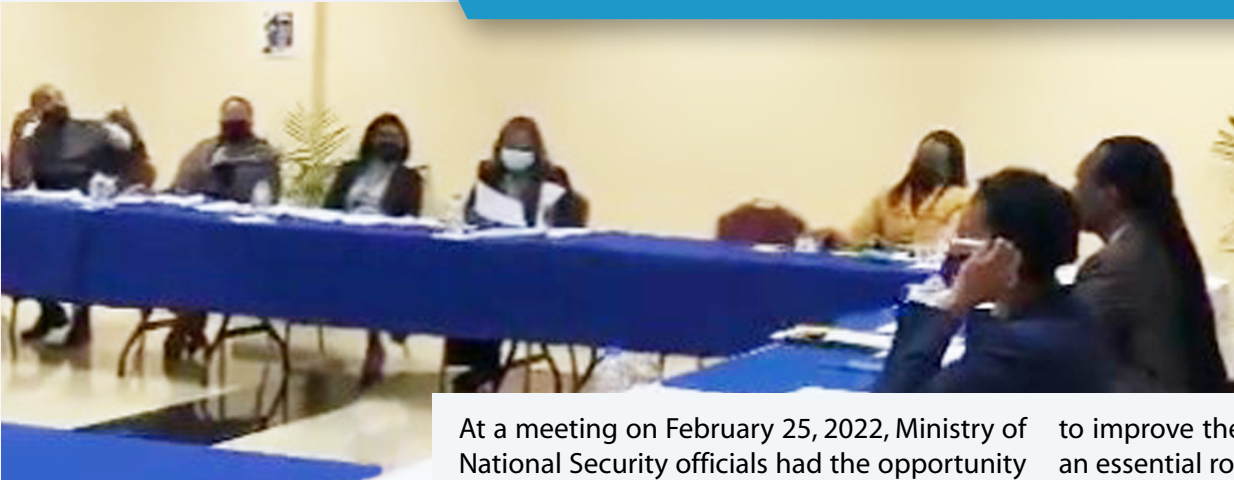
Minister Hinds was joined by Minister of Public Utilities the Honourable Marvin Gonzales M.P. and Commissioner of Police (Ag.) McDonald Jacob on August 05, 2022, to announce Government measures to treat with acts of vandalism on public utilities installations across Trinidad and Tobago.



On August 15, 2022, Minister Hinds and the Attorney General and Minister of Legal Affairs Senator the Honourable Reginald Armour S.C. announced Government's decision to authorize a Prohibition Order, pursuant to Section 44 of the Customs Act, to ban the exportation of old metal and scrap metal, in response to theft of copper wire and cables. The Prohibition Order took effect on Friday 12 August 2022, to last for six (6) months.

COLLABORATING WITH OUR STAKEHOLDERS

BOOSTING THE NATION'S LIFEGUARD SERVICES



At a meeting on February 25, 2022, Ministry of National Security officials had the opportunity to discuss issues affecting the nation's lifeguards, with representatives of the Lifeguard Services and the National Union of Government and Federated Workers (NUGFW).

Chairing the meeting, Minister of National Security the Honourable Fitzgerald Hinds M.P. assured the representatives of his commitment

to improve the Lifeguard Services, which play an essential role in maintaining the safety and security of persons at the nation's beaches.

Discussions focused on several matters, including requests for equipment, refurbishment of lifeguard facilities and the recruitment of more lifeguards.

TACKLING CRIME THROUGH PAN



As part of a series of anti-crime initiatives undertaken by the Trinidad and Tobago Police Service (TTPS) to strengthen its partnership within communities and develop the skills and positive productivity of residents, a Memorandum of Understanding was signed to launch a **Steelpan Mentorship Programme** in Beetham Gardens.

Minister of National Security the Honourable Fitzgerald Hinds M.P., Minister of Sport and Community Development, the Honourable Shamfa Cudjoe M.P. and representatives of the Trinidad and Tobago Police Service's Inter-Agency Task Force (IATF) and the Rotary Club of Port of Spain, signed the Memorandum of Understanding to launch the Beetham Vibrations Steel Orchestra on February 26, 2022 at the Beetham Community Centre.

The initiative aims to provide a safe, fun space for residents to recreate and learn. The IATF is responsible for coordinating the programme and tutoring community members, to populate the band.



SPOTLIGHT ON IMMIGRATION DIVISION

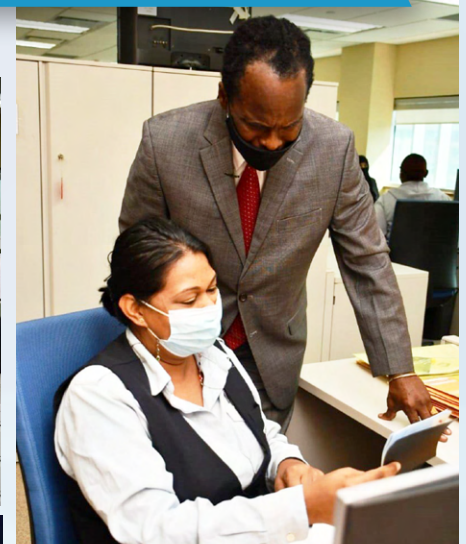
National Security Executives, led by the Minister of National Security the Honourable Fitzgerald Hinds M.P., met with the management and staff of the Trinidad and Tobago Immigration Division on May 11, 2022, to hear first-hand the issues affecting the organization.

The Minister first toured the Immigration Division's Head Office located at Government Plaza, Richmond Street, Port of Spain where he met with Executive Management, engaged with members of staff at their work stations, and observed operations.

Following the office tour, Minister Hinds dialogued with management and staff representing a cross-section of Operational Units and encouraged open, interactive, and solution-oriented communication. The forum provided for frank and cordial discussions which focused on issues including staffing; policy matters; working conditions; emoluments; facilities; training; and operations.

Present were Permanent Secretary (Ag.) in the Ministry of National Security, Ms. Natak Atiba-Dilchan; Acting Chief Immigration Officer Mr. Derek Craigwell; Deputy Chief Immigration Officer Ms. Vera Persad; Assistant Chief Immigration Officers; Immigration Officers of various ranks; as well representatives of administrative and operational immigration offices.

Both Minister Hinds and Permanent Secretary Atiba-Dilchan committed to addressing the issues identified, indicating that efforts were already underway to treat with the matters identified.



Minister Hinds thanked immigration officers and all members of staff for the service they provide to the country, and encouraged them to remain committed to executing their duties with integrity and professionalism in service to citizens, residents and visitors to Trinidad and Tobago.

Similar discussions continued on July 22, 2022, when Minister Hinds, Permanent Secretary (Ag.) of the Ministry of National Security, Mr. Gary Joseph, and Deputy Permanent Secretary (Ag.) Ms. Denise Phillip, met with immigration officers assigned to the Immigration Detention Centre, Piarco International Airport and the Port of Point Lisas.

COLLABORATING WITH OUR STAKEHOLDERS

STRENGTHENING OUR COUNTER TRAFFICKING RESPONSE



As part of this country's efforts to counter human trafficking, a National Task Force against Trafficking in Persons (TiPs) Working Group (NTFWG) was established through the Ministry of National Security.

On March 29, 2022, Minister of National Security the Honourable Fitzgerald Hinds M.P. presented letters of appointment to

members of the NTFWG 2021-2025. The NTFWG, led by the Head of the Counter Trafficking Unit, comprises fourteen (14) governmental and non-governmental agencies and oversees the implementation of the National Plan of Action Against TiPs 2021-2025. The Plan covers four areas: Effective identification of victims and witnesses; Prevention; Protection of survivors and witnesses; and Prosecution.

Minister of National Security the Honourable Fitzgerald Hinds M.P. joined Vision on Mission (VOM) on May 04, 2022, as the organization launched its Triangle of Hope Programme, which will provide support for children of persons serving prison sentences.

Delivering the feature address, Minister Hinds stated that all stakeholders present at the launch held the same vision and goal: the reduction, if not outright prevention of recidivism or the revolving-door syndrome. He affirmed the Ministry of National Security's support to the initiative, aimed at creating an environment that enables and ensures public safety and security.

He gave the assurance that *"the focused efforts at the Ministry of National Security remain upon crime reduction; a reduction in the rate of offending and reoffending, and ultimately, in reducing the prison population."*

The Minister acknowledged VOM's Chief Executive Officer Ms. Giselle Chance for the organization's work in the reintegration,

REDUCING RECIDIVISM



resettlement and rehabilitation of ex-offenders, deportees, troubled youth and the socially displaced.

The Triangle of Hope Programme aims to create a better future for the families and children of offenders, with a view to decrease the probability of future criminal behaviour by, and incarceration of, the children of offenders currently serving prison sentences.

COLLABORATING WITH OUR STAKEHOLDERS

UNITED AGAINST TRANSNATIONAL ORGANIZED CRIME



A Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) was signed between the Government of the Republic of Trinidad and Tobago (GORTT) and the United Nations (UN) on September 30, 2022 for the **AIRCOP Communication Project (AIRCOP)**. Signing the MOU were the Minister of National Security the Honourable Fitzgerald Hinds M.P. and the Resident Representative of the United Nations, Mr. Gerardo Noto.

Minister Hinds thanked the United Nations Office of Drugs and Crime (UNODC) for its commitment to the establishment of the AIRCOP Project in Trinidad and Tobago. He also thanked the Government of Canada for its financial contributions and expressed his gratitude to all external partners for their continued support in the fight against transnational organized crime.

He stated, *“Issues of crime and security continue to plague Trinidad and Tobago, and it is only through cooperation with civil society organisations, regional entities and international partners that we will be able to develop and implement effective solutions. I therefore say a special thanks to the UNODC and the Government of Canada.”*

AIRCOP supports inter-agency cooperation through the establishment of Joint Airport Interdiction Task Forces (JAITF), which bring together law enforcement agencies operating at international airports. The Ministry of National Security is in the process of finalizing arrangements for the establishment of a JAITF team at the Piarco International Airport.

PRISON INMATES ART EXHIBITION

On June 01, 2022, the Trinidad and Tobago’s Prison Service launched its 11th Annual Inmates’ Art Exhibition, held in collaboration with the National Library and Information System (NALIS) at NALIS Head Office, Abercromby Street, Port of Spain. Nine (9) inmates presented forty (40) art pieces under the theme “Prisons Real & Imagined – The Transformative Power of Art in Corrections”.

Minister of National Security the Honourable Fitzgerald Hinds M.P. was present at the launch, and recognized that, even though the COVID-19 pandemic temporarily halted the Annual Inmates’ Art Exhibition, the inmates continued to refine their artistic skills as part of their rehabilitation process. He noted that the development of the inmates’ skills made them more creative and amenable to ideas of rehabilitation and reform, as well as created an opportunity for the inmates to become more commercially viable.

The Ministry of National Security continues to support the Inmates’ Art Initiative and other prison programmes which contribute to inmates’ personal growth and development.



GRACE INITIATIVE LAUNCHED



A new policing initiative called the **Gang Reduction and Community Empowerment (GRACE) Project** was launched on May 11, 2022.

The GRACE Project is an eighteen (18) month training programme administered by the Pan American Development Foundation (PADF), through the US Department of State, International Narcotics and Law Enforcement Affairs Bureau (INL). The Project will provide technical assistance to the Trinidad and Tobago Police Service (TTPS) with the aim of assisting it with reducing gang activity. This will be done by strengthening the Police Service's community-based policing initiatives and its anti-gang investigative capabilities.

The Project has been fully tailored by PADF to suit the context of geographic areas across Trinidad and Tobago, where gang activities are most prevalent.

BOLSTERING REGIONAL SECURITY

On May 18, 2022, Minister of National Security the Honourable Fitzgerald Hinds M.P. and Head of Delegation of the European Union to Trinidad and Tobago, His Excellency Peter Cavendish, signed an historic Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) to formalize arrangements between the Government of the Republic of Trinidad and Tobago and Expertise France to implement the **Seaport Cooperation Project Phase V (SEACOP V)** in Trinidad and Tobago.

Speaking at the Signing Ceremony, both Minister Hinds and His Excellency Cavendish stated that the MOU signing demonstrated the further strengthening of collaboration between Trinidad and Tobago and the European Union, as it relates to combatting transnational crime, in particular the transshipment of illicit narcotics, which will redound to bolstering domestic, regional and international security.



In 2015, the Government of Trinidad and Tobago agreed to participate in the European Union SEACOP Project. SEACOP was established in 2010 and is one of seven (7) projects under the wider European Commission-funded Cocaine Route Programme (CRP), which is aimed at effectively addressing the broad spectrum of challenges presented by organized crime and drug trafficking, particularly cocaine trafficking. The Project seeks to enhance capacities and strengthen cooperation against maritime trafficking in countries on the transatlantic cocaine route, via the creation of inter-agency units in key ports, as well as the establishment of a national maritime information system to promote information sharing.



Through the SEACOP Phases I to IV, local law enforcement officials participated in training exercises and subject matter expertise exchanges geared towards enhancing capacity in the detection and interdiction of narcotics.

SEACOP Phase V is focused on reinforcing the effectiveness of the SEACOP maritime intelligence and maritime/riverine control network geographically and technically; sustainably integrating knowledge on maritime threats and interdictions emanating from the transatlantic illicit trafficking routes into national and regional curricula; as well as increasing cooperation and information sharing at the national, regional and trans-regional levels.

COLLABORATING WITH OUR STAKEHOLDERS

COUNTERING ILLICIT TRAFFICKING IN FIREARMS

Trinidad and Tobago's bilateral relationship with the United States of America was strengthened on March 11, 2022 when Minister of National Security the Honourable Fitzgerald Hinds M.P. met with officials from the U.S. Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives (ATF).

Chief of the ATF International Affairs Division (IAD), Mr. Joshua Rusk; Deputy Chief of the ATF IAD, Mr. Jason Tortorici; and ATF Agent to Trinidad and Tobago, Mr. Michael Graham, were introduced to the Minister by Chargé d'Affaires of the Embassy of the United States of America in Trinidad and Tobago, Mr. Shante Moore.

Minister Hinds welcomed the ATF team and committed support for ATF initiatives to be carried out in this country, to stem the



trafficking of illicit guns and firearms. The ATF team's main objective will be to support the agencies of the Ministry of National Security, in efforts against the illicit trafficking in firearms, through the provision of operational support, knowledge and information sharing, as well as capacity building initiatives.

The ATF will also support the Caribbean Community (CARICOM) Implementation Agency for Crime and Security (IMPACS), as it strengthens capacity and policies to counter the illicit trafficking in firearms in the Caribbean Basin.

NARCOTIC SMUGGLING IN THE CARIBBEAN REGION

On June 27, 2022, Minister of National Security the Honourable Fitzgerald Hinds M.P. participated as key-note speaker in a High-Level Seminar on Narcotic Smuggling in the Caribbean Region, which took place in Miami, United States of America. The Seminar was hosted by the Permanent Observer Mission of France to the Organization of American States (OAS) and the Caribbean Regional Office of the Directorate-General of Customs and Indirect Taxes of France.

The Seminar facilitated discussions between high-level representatives of select countries in the Americas and the OAS, on the most recent strategies, policies and legislative measures, to address current issues of drug trafficking in the region, particularly through maritime corridors. The Seminar also provided a space for the exchange of information and best practices in counter narcotics trafficking.

With border security and the countering of illicit trafficking in narcotics being a key focus of the Ministry of National Security and the Government of the Republic of Trinidad and Tobago, to reduce crime and improve public safety and security, Minister Hinds shared insights on Trinidad and Tobago's specific context, that may improve efforts to counter the illicit trafficking in narcotics in other countries in the region.

Also participating in this High-Level Seminar were Ambassador of Trinidad and Tobago to the United States of America and Mexico, Permanent Representative to the OAS, and Chair of the OAS Committee on Hemispheric Security, Ambassador Anthony Phillips-Spencer, and a representative of the Transnational Organized Crime Unit.



Left to right: Executive Secretary of the Inter-American Drug Abuse Control Commission (CICAD), Ambassador Adam Namm; Executive Secretary of the Inter-American Committee against Terrorism (CICTE), Ms. Alison Treppel; Minister of National Security, Trinidad and Tobago, the Honourable Fitzgerald Hinds M.P.; Permanent Observer of France to the Organization of American States (OAS), Ambassador Anne de la Blache; Ambassador of Trinidad and Tobago to the United States of America and Mexico, Permanent Representative to the OAS, and Chair of the OAS Committee on Hemispheric Security, Ambassador Anthony Phillips-Spencer; and Regional Customs Counsellor of France, Mr. Jean-Roald L'Hermitte.

ERADICATING ILLEGAL WEAPONS



The Government of Trinidad and Tobago partnered with the CARICOM Implementation Agency for Crime and Security (CARICOM IMPACS) and the Mines Advisory Group (MAG) in a programme to destroy seized weapons, ammunition and explosives and reduce their devastating impact on human safety and security.

On September 26, 2022 at the Police Training Academy, St. James, Minister of National Security the Honourable Fitzgerald Hinds M.P. engaged in the ceremonial first cut of weapons as a symbolic gesture, at the signing of a Memorandum of Understanding between CARICOM IMPACS and MAG to combat criminality and advance peace and security for people of the region.

In a four-month period, over 7,000 weapons and 323 net explosive weight of expired ammunition were destroyed as part of an exercise to destroy confiscated, unserviceable and obsolete weapons, ammunition and explosives.

The project is the first step in planned long term cooperation between the Government of Trinidad and Tobago, CARICOM and MAG in response to needs of states across the region. The partnership will support CARICOM countries in their adherence to commitments under the UN programme of action to prevent, combat and eradicate the illicit trade in small arms and light weapons in all its aspects.

POLICE SERVICE MOBILE APP UPDATES

Supported by
UNHCR
The UN Refugee Agency

AUTO-TRANSLATE

ON THE TTPS APP

AVAILABLE IN 72 DIFFERENT LANGUAGES



Hola

Hola ¿Cómo puedo ayudarte hoy?

Report Crime in your OWN Native Language

Available on the **App Store** GET IT ON **Google Play**

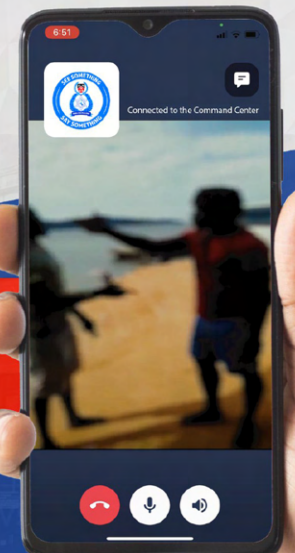
Download The TTPS App

USES FREE DATA

LIVE VIDEO

ON THE TTPS APP

- Capture a Crime in Progress
- Get Virtual Assistance from a Police Officer



LIVE

NEW ON THE TTPS APP

See Something Say Something

Available on the **App Store** GET IT ON **Google Play**

Download the TTPS App

In February 2022, the Trinidad and Tobago Police Service (TTPS) announced the Auto-Translate feature on its TTPS Mobile App, which allows users to report crimes in 72 different languages. The Translate feature allows persons to communicate in real-time with a police officer in their native language, and also receive replies and reports in that language. The feature utilises cutting-edge and intuitive translation technology, to provide unambiguous translations and most importantly, meaning, in each message. This initiative is supported by UNHCR Caribbean.

In July 2022, the TTPS App introduced the Live Video Feature. With the new video call feature, users can capture a crime in progress on their mobile device which is streamed directly to the Trinidad and Tobago Police Service in real-time.

The TTPS App is a Law Enforcement and Public Safety Technology that allows the TTPS to better connect with the public and offer personal safety services through a mobile smartphone. The TTPS App can be downloaded easily from the Google Play Stores and Apple iOS Stores (or from the TTPS website) and is free to download and install.

DNA SWABBING FOR NATIONAL SECURITY OFFICERS

SAMPLE COLLECTION PROCESS



Buccal swab

Non-intimate reference samples are collected from persons listed in the Third Schedule of the DNA Act by Qualified persons (doctors and nurses)



Samples are packaged and submitted to TTFSC for analysis

TTFSC



NFDD CUSTODIAN UNIT

The DNA profiles generated from analysis are submitted to the Custodian Unit and uploaded to the Elimination Index



TTPS

Databank matches involving DNA profiles uploaded to the Elimination Index are investigated by TTFSC and TTPS



for more information contact us

224-4667 ext. 17915

791-1514 (direct line)

nfddcu-info@mns.gov.tt

Additional Resource

The **DNA Act** and **Regulations** can be accessed using the following links:

DNA Act
DNA Regulations

The National Forensic DNA Databank (NFDD) Custodian Unit

BUCCAL SWAB SAMPLE COLLECTION EXERCISE



Addressing Commonly Asked Questions

In October 2022, the Ministry of National Security's National Forensic DNA Databank Custodian Unit commenced a DNA Swab Sample Collection Exercise for officers attached to various Divisions of the Ministry.

In accordance with Section 15(1) of the Administration of Justice (Deoxyribonucleic Acid) Act, a non-intimate sample shall be taken, without consent, from the following persons listed in the Third Schedule:

- Officers of the Protective Services;
- Members of the Municipal Police;
- Members of the Special Reserve Police;
- Constables within the meaning of the Supplemental Police Act.
- Members of the Defence Force;
- Customs Officers;

- Immigration Officers;
- Private security officers.
- Persons employed at the Trinidad and Tobago Forensic Science Centre engaged in the receipt of samples or the conduct of forensic DNA analysis.

Non-intimate samples will be analysed by an approved laboratory and a DNA profile will be generated. This profile will then be uploaded to the Elimination Index of the National Forensic DNA Databank (NFDD) and searched against other profiles in the Databank. According to Section 7 (2) of the DNA Act, DNA profiles stored on the NFDD will be kept indefinitely.

According to Section 31 of the DNA Act, it is an offence for required persons to refuse to give a sample, and persons are liable on summary conviction to a fine of ten thousand dollars and to imprisonment for two years.

CONNECTING WITH CITIZENS

TEACHING FIRE SAFETY TO CHILDREN

During the month of August, the Trinidad and Tobago Fire Service visited several youth vacation camps, to speak with participants on fire safety.

Officers facilitated an educational session on August 03, 2022 with the Cipriani College of Labour and Co-operative Studies' Vacation Camp. On August 22, 2022, Officers visited a vacation camp for children



from La Horquetta and environs, hosted by the La Horquetta Movers Sports and Cultural Committee.

The young campers were enthusiastic to interact with the Officers, and actively engaged in discussions and demonstrations on fire safety practices. Topics included how to prevent fires, what to do in a fire emergency, the use of fire extinguishers, and the equipment used by the Fire Service.

COAST GUARD HEADS TO SCHOOL



Members of the Trinidad and Tobago Coast Guard's (TTCG) Public Affairs Department engaged with over 100 students at the Diego Martin Central Secondary School during a Career Fair on April 26, 2022.

The Officers shared information about the history of the TTCG, its organizational structure, recruitment requirements, career options and personal career testimonials, as they presented the TTCG as a future career choice for the students.

CONNECTING WITH CITIZENS

POLICE OFFICERS ADOPT SCHOOLS



Officers of the Guard and Emergency Branch (GEB) of the Trinidad and Tobago Police Service host a School Adoption Programme whereby officers collaborate with various school administrations to assist students who may be experiencing challenges.

Before the start of the new school academic year, GEB Officers assisted five pupils of the El Socorro South Government Primary

School and the San Fernando Boys' Government Primary School, by donating schoolbooks and bags, shoes and other school items. Thirty-two boys received haircuts, 16 from each school. Officers also refurbished and maintained each school compound.

Both the recipients and schools were in high praise of the ongoing exercise, which is funded out of pocket by GEB Officers.

MENTORING OUR YOUTH

The Victim and Witness Support Unit (VWSU) of the Trinidad and Tobago Police Service (TTPS) collaborated with the St. Joseph Convent Port of Spain's Past Pupils' Association to facilitate a seminar for 150 students of Nelson Street Girls' Roman Catholic School. The seminar, which took place on June 15, 2022 was part of a Mentorship Programme entitled "Education Gives You Choices." The session was facilitated by Superintendent Roger Alexander and members of the VWSU.



CONNECTING WITH CITIZENS

TACKLING SCHOOL VIOLENCE



In August 2022, Officers of the Trinidad and Tobago Police Service's Inter-Agency Task Force (IATF) trained twenty-five (25) School Health Safety and Security Officers (SHSSOs) attached to the Health Safety and Security Services Unit in the St. George East Educational District in preventing and responding to threats and violence.

IATF officers engaged the participants in a range of topics such as preventing and addressing the issuing of threats, inciting violence,

larceny, malicious damage, assault, obscene language, possession of stolen items, possession of and fighting with a weapon, robbery, and disturbing the peace.

The facilitators declared the SHSSOs well-equipped to advise school principals in preventing, assessing, and treating offences that may occur against the respective school populations.

COMMUNITY CONFLICT RESOLUTION

The Trinidad and Tobago Police Service's (TTPS) Community Conflict Resolution Centre (CCRC) is a partnership between the St. Joseph Police Youth Club, headed by WPC Sascha Williams-Goddard who is also the Coordinating Officer of the CCRC, and Ms. Jeneice De Coteau, founder and senior mediator of the Officium Training Ltd.

The goal of the CCRC is to reduce the number of incidents of violent crime across the country through outreach and sensitisation activities, training and assisting with various school intervention programmes.

Since its first meeting on May 18, 2022, the Centre attracted a steady flow of volunteer mediators, social workers, counsellors and other members of civil society, who wished to join arms with the TTPS to tackle the scourge of conflict and violence within communities.

On August 13, 2022, the CCRC was joined by the Gender-Based, Child Protection, and the Community-Oriented Policing Sections of the TTPS and teamed up with the Children's Authority of Trinidad and Tobago to visit the Champ Fleurs community, to speak with residents about Child Safety, Parenting and Mediation.

WPC Williams-Goddard said that the CCRC was not waiting for people to come in to access its services, but instead opted to take its services to residents to reduce instances of conflict, violence, and even fatalities in the community. For further information about its services, the CCRC can be contacted at 396-8322.



FOCUS ON DRUG CONTROL

NATIONAL DRUG POLICY AND OPERATIONAL PLAN

The Ministry of National Security through its National Drug Council (NDC) launched the National Drug Policy 2021 and Operational Plan for Drug Control for Trinidad and Tobago - 2021-2025 on July 01, 2022, as part of its activities to recognize the International Day Against Drug Abuse and Illicit Trafficking 2022.

The policy and operational plan were developed with the input of key stakeholders in drug control, based on five pillars: Control Measures; Supply Reduction; Demand Reduction; Research; and Institutional Strengthening and International Cooperation.

Delivering the feature address at the launch ceremony, Minister of National Security the Honourable Fitzgerald Hinds M.P. endorsed the policy and operational plan, which detail Trinidad and Tobago's comprehensive and coordinated anti-drug initiatives and approaches to addressing issues related to drug control. He stated, "I heartily commend the shapers and drafters of this important National Policy and I give the assurance that it would undergird all that we do, or must do, in this ongoing battle against drug use and drug abuse."

The NDC has responsibility for coordinating the implementation of the National Drug Plan for Trinidad and Tobago.



IDENTIFYING SYNTHETIC DRUGS



Twenty-eight (28) Law Enforcement and Protective Services Officers benefitted from a National Training Seminar for the Detection and Identification of Synthetic Drugs, including New Psychoactive Substances (NPS) and their Precursor Chemicals, held from August 22 to 26, 2022 at the Caribbean Counterdrug Intelligence Training School, Trinidad and Tobago Police Academy, St. James. This training was hosted by the National Drug Council (NDC) of the Ministry of National Security, in collaboration with the Inter-American Drug Abuse Control Commission of the Organization of American States (CICAD/OAS).

The Ministry of National Security embarked on this initiative to boost the capacity of its law enforcement and protective service agencies, to better identify and cope with existing and emerging transnational drug challenges.

Participants received training on multiple topics, including an overview of how synthetic drugs and NPSs are illicitly produced, recent drug trafficking trends and market developments, as well as techniques and challenges to investigate and interdict them.

COUNTERING HUMAN TRAFFICKING

WORLD DAY AGAINST TRAFFICKING IN PERSONS 2022



On July 30, 2022, the Ministry of National Security's Counter Trafficking Unit, the Ministry of Youth Development and National Service, the Civilian Conservation Corps, the Ministry of Labour, the International Organization for Migration (IOM) and the National Task Force Against Trafficking in Persons Working Group (NTFATIPWG) joined forces to observe World Day Against Trafficking in Persons 2022 at the Brian Lara Promenade, Port of Spain.

Minister of National Security, the Honourable Fitzgerald Hinds M.P. was on hand to give remarks and engage with members of the

public and groups present, to help raise awareness on Human Trafficking in all its forms. Under the theme for the event "Connecting to End Human Trafficking – Connect, Commit, Act", Minister Hinds recognized in his address that Human Trafficking is a phenomenon that Trinidad and Tobago must continue to confront head on, through concerted, strategic and collaborative cooperation at a regional and global level.

MINISTRIES JOIN FORCES

The Ministry of National Security's Counter Trafficking Unit (CTU) and the Ministry of Finance's Financial Intelligence Unit of Trinidad and Tobago (FIUTT) joined forces to strengthen the national counter trafficking response, following the signing of a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between the two parties.

Permanent Secretary (Ag.) of the Ministry of National Security, Mr. Gary Joseph presided over the signing and was joined by Director (Ag.) of the Financial Intelligence Unit of Trinidad and Tobago, Mr. Nigel Stoddard for a brief Signing Ceremony on Monday October 17, 2022 at the Ministry of National Security's Head Office, Abercromby Street, Port of Spain.

The MOU enables the sharing of information and intelligence for the purpose of investigating matters related to Trafficking in Persons (TiPs), money laundering, terrorist financing, proliferation of weapons of mass destruction and other related criminal matters.



COUNTERING HUMAN TRAFFICKING

TRAINING AND EDUCATION

In 2022, the Ministry of National Security's Counter Trafficking Unit (CTU) executed a series of training programmes geared towards equipping its stakeholders with the necessary expertise for Effective Screening for Human Trafficking indicators. These sensitization sessions, which were delivered to over 900 persons for 2022, provided the recipients with the necessary tools to conduct preliminary screening of nationals and non-nationals for indicators of Human Trafficking, and covered topics such as:

- Consequences of a country's non-response to human trafficking
- Key sections of the Trafficking in Persons Act chapter 12:10
- Elements of the Human Trafficking offence
- Identifying victims of human trafficking

- Questions you can ask
- Legal rights and needs of Human Trafficking victims
- Making reports on Human Trafficking

Delivering the training sessions were then Director of the Counter Trafficking Unit, Ms. Alana Wheeler; Deputy Director of the Counter Trafficking Unit, Mrs. Kimoy Thomas-Williams; Superintendent of Police, Trinidad and Tobago Police Service, Mr. Michael Veronique; and Legal Officer, Trinidad and Tobago Police Service, Mr. Zaheer Ali.

The Ministry of National Security is committed to continue, through the CTU, to prevent and counteract Human Trafficking in all its forms, with training sessions being an integral part of its public education drive.



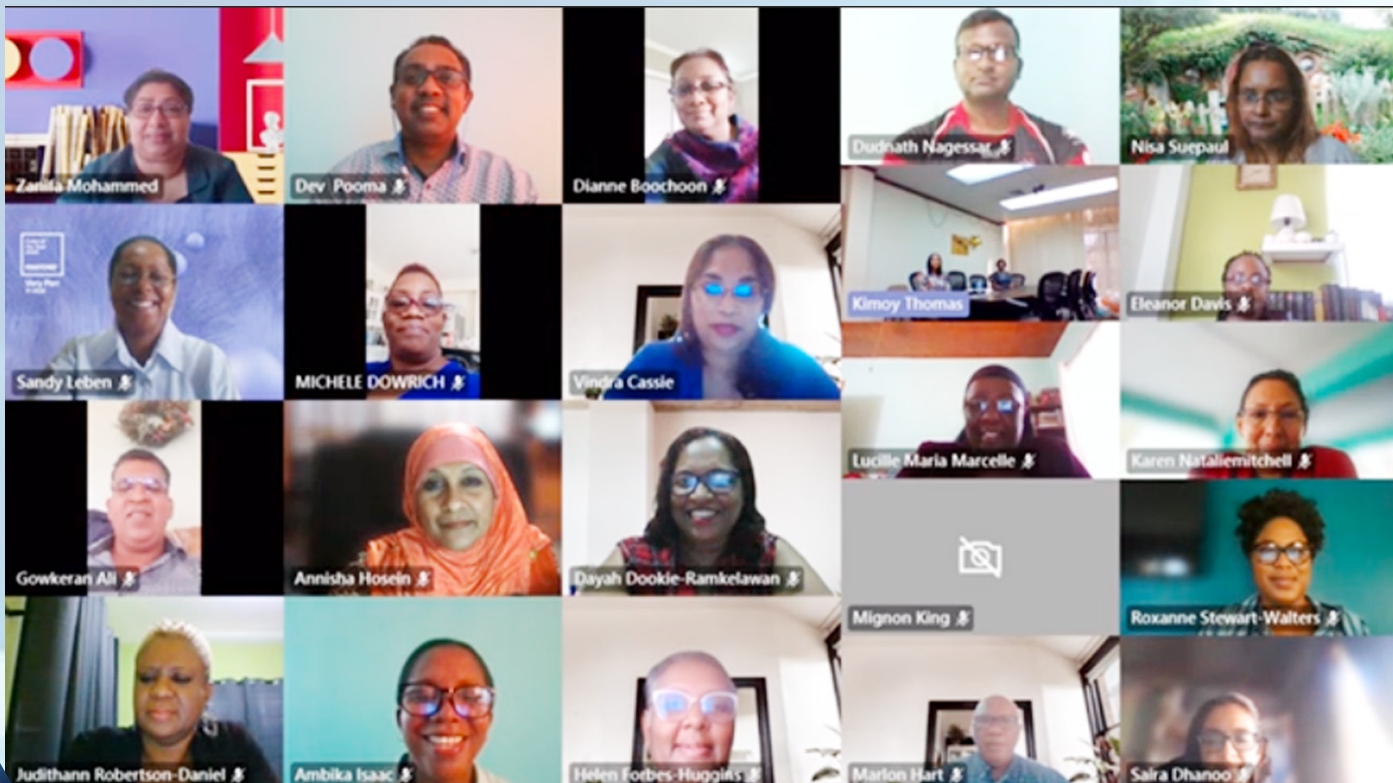
TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO COAST GUARD:

Eight different groups of Trinidad and Tobago Coast Guard Officers got Specialized Human Trafficking Training from January to March, 2022, in an effort to prevent and suppress Human Trafficking exercises at our nation's sea borders. To date, the Counter Trafficking Unit delivered training to over 400 Coast Guard Officers.

MINISTRY OF EDUCATION:

CTU conducted a Training Session with sixty (60) officers of the Curriculum Development Division of the Ministry of Education (MOE) on February 17, 2022. Public Service Announcements

published by the CTU can now be viewed on the MOE's LMS e-learning platform where students and teachers who engage in online classes can view these educational videos.



COUNTERING HUMAN TRAFFICKING

TRAINING AND EDUCATION



CHILDREN'S AUTHORITY:

CTU engaged 137 persons from the Children's Authority of Trinidad and Tobago in Sensitization sessions on February 16 and 18, 2022. Participating were the Investigations and Interventions Unit, the Licensing and Monitoring Unit, the Child Support Centre, the Child Justice Unit and the Adoption Unit.

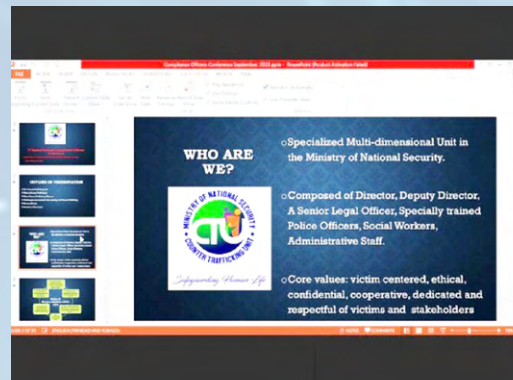


SECONDARY SCHOOLS:

The CTU engaged with students of several secondary schools from September to December 2022. Sensitization sessions covered topics such as what is Human Trafficking, who can be a victim, how students can protect themselves and how they can report suspected cases.

CUSTOMS AND EXCISE DIVISION:

The CTU hosted four training sessions with different groups of Customs and Excise Officers in March and April 2022.



CREDIT UNIONS:

In September 2022, the CTU conducted a virtual sensitization session with the Cooperative Credit Union League of Trinidad and Tobago Ltd. at the 3rd Annual Virtual Compliance Officers' Conference, with over 93 representatives from various credit unions and financial entities in attendance.

PROSECUTIONS



The Counter Trafficking Unit (CTU) works closely with law enforcement partners to investigate Trafficking in Persons in Trinidad and Tobago.

A total of seven (7) persons were charged in 2022 for Human Trafficking and Offences under the Children Act: one (1) police officer, a Venezuelan migrant and five locals.

The range of charges included Trafficking in Children; Knowingly Receiving a Financial Benefit from Trafficking in Children; Receiving, Harboring and Transporting another person for the purpose of Exploitation; and Receiving a Financial Benefit that resulted from the Trafficking in Persons. Some persons were subsequently charged with Being a Gang leader and Supporting a Gang Leader under the Anti-Gang Legislation.

Persons who know of or suspect human trafficking activity should contact the CTU toll-free Hotline at 800-4288 (4CTU).

BOOSTING OUR INFRASTRUCTURE

NEW FIREFIGHTING EQUIPMENT

Minister of National Security the Honourable Fitzgerald Hinds M.P. commissioned seven (7) Utility Vehicles and twenty (20) Double Extension Ladders for the Trinidad and Tobago Fire Service (TTFS), at a Commissioning Ceremony held on March 17, 2022 at the Trinidad and Tobago Fire Service Headquarters, Wrightson Road, Port of Spain.

The new utility vehicles will be utilized throughout the TTFS's Northern, Southern, Central and Tobago Divisions to move personnel and equipment in the course of performing operational activities, inclusive of inspections of premises, fire investigations and hydrant patrols.

The ladders will be used to carry out the core function of rescue and firefighting operations, particularly as it relates to multi-storey buildings throughout Trinidad and Tobago.

Speaking at the Commissioning, Minister Hinds stated, *"The acquisition of these utility vehicles and ladders, is demonstrative of this Government's commitment to provide the necessary resources to improve the firefighting preparedness, responsiveness and capabilities of the Trinidad and Tobago Fire Service."*

Also present at the Commissioning Ceremony were Permanent Secretary (Ag.) of the Ministry of National Security Mr. Gary Joseph; Deputy Permanent Secretaries (Ag.) Ms. Dianne George-Thomas and Ms. Denise Phillip; Chief Fire Officer Mr. Arnold Bristo and other members of the TTFS Executive.



BOOSTING OUR INFRASTRUCTURE

POLICE SERVICE GETS NEW VEHICLES



The Trinidad and Tobago Police Service (TTPS) received a boost to its response capabilities with the addition of thirty-one (31) new vehicles to its fleet, which were presented to the TTPS at a handover ceremony hosted by the Vehicle Management Corporation of Trinidad and Tobago (VMCOTT) on April 14, 2022.

Minister of National Security the Honourable Fitzgerald Hinds M.P. was on hand to witness the handover. He noted that the acquisition of vehicles will contribute to increased police presence and visibility in communities, as well as increased response rates to emergency calls from the public.

He encouraged the TTPS to ensure that this fleet of vehicles is properly managed and maintained in good working order.

In August 2021, Cabinet agreed to the procurement of eighty (80) vehicles for the TTPS, comprising seventy (70) Sport Utility Vehicles and ten (10) pickup vehicles. On April 14, 2022, the first batch of 31 specially outfitted vehicles, were delivered, ready for use by the TTPS.

BOOSTING OUR INFRASTRUCTURE

PRISON CCTV SYSTEM GETS AN UPGRADE



On June 01, 2022, Minister of National Security the Honourable Fitzgerald Hinds M.P. conducted an inspection of the new and technologically enhanced Closed Circuit Television (CCTV) System at the Maximum Security Prison at Golden Grove, Arouca, accompanied by Commissioner of Prisons (Ag.) Mr. Deopersad Ramoutar.

During his visit, Minister Hinds was provided with an overview of the full capabilities and operations of the CCTV system. He also had the opportunity to interact with the Prison Officers who are attached to the control room and monitor the CCTV system.

The upgrade of the CCTV System at the Maximum Security Prison is one of the major initiatives being implemented by the Ministry of National Security to transform and modernize surveillance within the Trinidad and Tobago Prison Service.



ENHANCING DELIVERY OF REHABILITATIVE PROGRAMMES



Minister of National Security the Honourable Fitzgerald Hinds M.P. joined the Trinidad and Tobago Prison Service and the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) to formally open a new Learning Centre at the Youth Transformation Rehabilitation Centre for Females (YTRCF), Golden Grove Road, Arouca on August 23, 2022.

Minister Hinds welcomed this strategic collaboration between the Prison Service and the UNDP and thanked the organization for its continued technical assistance, particularly in the area of youth offender rehabilitation.

The Learning Centre, donated by the UNDP, provides a dedicated space to conduct classes to complement the Prison Service's rehabilitative programmes, for females housed at the Centre. It is partly powered by renewable energy from solar panels, providing access to cutting-edge learning tools to aid education and learning.

BOOSTING OUR INFRASTRUCTURE

PROTECTING AND SERVING COMMUNITIES

The Ministry of National Security is tasked with equipping the Trinidad and Tobago Police Service (TTPS) with the relevant resources to meet its fundamental operational needs; as such, the TTPS welcomed the official opening of the new St. Clair Police Station on July 08, 2022.

The station boasts a suite of services from the Special Victims Department (SVD), which includes the Gender-Based Violence Unit (GBVU), the Sexual Offences Unit and the Child Protection Unit (CPU), alongside the core services of a police station. The facility also contains a juvenile booking centre with juvenile holding suites, an Identification (ID) Parade Room, and an interview room.

Acting Commissioner of Police, Mc Donald Jacob said the opening of this station was in keeping with the demand for improved operational excellence and service to the community. He remarked that the station was specifically re-modified to cater to the needs of the police officers and their clients, with amenities conducive to a safe and comfortable environment for interventions, interviews and investigations.

Minister of National Security the Honourable Fitzgerald Hinds M.P. shared that the station is strategically located and intended to support the network of stations in the Port of Spain Division. He stated the district of St. Clair was varied, and the station's purpose was to make the police officers more accessible to the public.

Also in attendance at the Official Opening Ceremony were Prime Minister of the Republic of Trinidad and Tobago, Dr. the Honourable Keith Rowley; Minister of Energy and Energy Industries and Member of Parliament for Port of Spain North/ St. Ann's West, the Honourable Stuart Young; and Minister of Finance the Honourable Colm Imbert.

On May 10, 2022, the TTPS also welcomed the reopening of the St. Mary's Police Post in Moruga. At the Reopening Ceremony, Minister Hinds stated that the decision to reopen was the correct one, in consideration of human trafficking and migration issues in the Moruga area. The Post was refurbished to include additional resources including new vehicles, more personnel and a Community Policing Unit, and to act as a base for the Emergency Response Team.



BUILDING RESILIENCE TO DISASTERS



PUBLIC EDUCATION CARAVAN

The month of May was declared in 2021 as National Disaster Prevention and Preparedness Month (NDPPM) by the Cabinet of Trinidad and Tobago. For NDPPM 2022, the Office of Disaster Preparedness and Management (ODPM) of the Ministry of National Security hosted several Public Education Caravans throughout the country, aimed at increasing the public's level of disaster readiness prior to the start of the Atlantic Hurricane Season and the Wet Season.



SAFETY TRAINING FOR THE FISHING COMMUNITY

As part of the National Disaster Prevention and Preparedness Month (NDPPM) of educational activities, the Office of Disaster Preparedness and Management (ODPM) hosted Fishing Community Training from May 16 - 19, 2022 at Pierre Road Recreation Ground in Felicity and at Betsy Hope Community Centre, Tobago.

Done in collaboration with the Ministry of Agriculture, Land and Fisheries, the Trinidad and Tobago Coast Guard and the Tobago Emergency Management Agency (TEMA), the training programme was designed to increase the safety resilience of Trinidad and Tobago fishing communities in the event of a disaster.



AIDING OUR CITIZENS

Inclement weather in November 2022 caused serious flooding which affected many of our nation's citizens. On November 29, 2022, the Trinidad and Tobago Coast Guard deployed alongside the Office of Disaster Preparedness Management to bring relief to members of the Bamboo Settlement No.2 community, delivering meals and water while doing reconnaissance on the extent of the impact of flooding in the area.

The following day, members of the First Engineer Battalion of the Trinidad and Tobago Regiment conducted Humanitarian Aid and Disaster Relief operations in various parts of the nation, including the Real Springs, Valsayn area.

NEW IN SERVICE



NEW PRISON OFFICERS

Tasked with a mandate to ensure public safety through the rehabilitation of offenders, two hundred and thirty-seven (237) recruits of Batch #689 were inducted into the Trinidad and Tobago Prison Service on February 15, 2022, at the Golden Grove Prison, Arouca.



NEW REGIMENT OFFICERS

One hundred and fifty-two (152) recruits of Intake 2103 were inducted into the Trinidad and Tobago Regiment (TTR) on March 31, 2022, tasked with defending the nation, supporting public safety and crime prevention.



NEW POLICE OFFICERS

The Trinidad and Tobago Police Service (TTPS) welcomed one hundred and ten (110) recruits from Batch 2 of 2021, Squads G through N, as newly-minted police officers via a Passing Out Ceremony held at the Police Academy, St. James on October 26, 2022.

PROMOTIONS

Here's a look at some of the promotions that took place in various Divisions of the Ministry of National Security in 2022:

TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO FIRE SERVICE



Mr. David Thomas and Mr. Mervyn Layne received their official promotion by the Public Service Commission to the rank of Assistant Chief Fire Officer on January 24, 2022.



On July 07, 2022, Mr. Siewnarine Ramsaran received his letter of Appointment to the rank of Assistant Chief Fire Officer. The promotion took effect retroactively from November 2021.



On September 07, 2022, Mr. Aldrin Alleyne was promoted to the rank of Divisional Fire Officer. Mr. Everard Collymore, Mr. Arjoon Sookai, Mr. Ishmael Noel and Mr. Anthony Joseph were promoted and confirmed in the position of Fire Station Officers.



Mr. Ansar Ali was presented with his letter of Appointment on August 22, 2022, elevating him to the rank of Assistant Chief Fire Officer. The promotion took effect retroactively from July 05, 2022.



On August 25, 2022, 27 officers were promoted as Fire Station Officers.

PROMOTIONS

TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO DEFENCE FORCE



The Trinidad and Tobago Air Guard promoted eight (8) officers from the rank of Flying Officer to Flight Lieutenant on February 07, 2022.



On March 03, 2022, Second Lieutenant G Belfon was promoted to the Rank of Lieutenant.



On August 30 2022, WO1 C. Brown-Griffith, WO1 C. Alfonso and WO1 S. Best were promoted to the rank of Warrant Officers Class One.

TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO POLICE SERVICE



On August 17, 2022, 257 officers were promoted from the rank of Corporal to Sergeant. One officer was promoted from Sergeant to Inspector.



On December 07, 2022, Acting Deputy Commissioners of Police Ramnarine Samaroo and Curt Simon were presented with their instruments of appointment.

TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO PRISON SERVICE



On February 22, 2022, 49 Prison Officers I were elevated to the rank of Prison Officer II.



21 Prison Officers were promoted to rank of Prison Officer II on September 23, 2022.

WOMEN IN LEADERSHIP



On January 05, 2022, the Trinidad and Tobago Prison Service announced that Ms. Charmaine Johnson became the first female officer to act in the position of Assistant Commissioner of Prisons. Ms. Johnson has over 32 years of service.



Assistant Commissioner of Police, Erla Harewood-Christopher, acted as Commissioner of Police from October 16-22, 2022 and again in December 2022. She was recommended by the Police Service Commission and the motion was approved by Parliament.



The Trinidad and Tobago Police Service promoted three Women Officers to the rank of Inspector on February 10, 2022. Receiving their letters of appointment, canes and new badges of rank were Woman Inspectors Alicia Piggot and Mahalia Bacchus, both of the Tobago Division, as well as Sharon Motilal of the Special Branch.



WPC Shawnee Thompson of the Special Branch, Explosives Detection and Disposal Unit, became the first policewoman to be internationally qualified as a bomb technician within the Trinidad and Tobago Police Service and the Caribbean. She was the lone TTPS representative and only female at the Police Explosive Technicians and Radiography Course in Canada for 2022.

CADET FORCE HOSTS OPERATION RECOVERY

After a two-year hiatus owing to the COVID-19 pandemic, the Trinidad and Tobago Cadet Force jumped back into action by hosting the "Operation Recovery" Training Camp for its Potential Non-Commissioned Officers Cadre. The six-day camp took place from April 09-14, 2022 at the Defence Force Joint Training Academy in Corinth, San Fernando.

The Camp gave participating Cadets the opportunity to develop leadership skills that will allow them to assist instructors with training and with the management of Cadet Force Platoons and Companies.

Minister of National Security the Honourable Fitzgerald Hinds M.P. spoke at the Opening Ceremony, giving the assurance that the Ministry of National Security will continue to support the Trinidad and Tobago Cadet Force, in keeping with Government's thrust to see more young people engaging in meaningful and positive lifestyles.

Minister Hinds recognized the value of youth-oriented programmes in developing the nation's youth, saying: *"We believe that deviant behaviour amongst our youth can be alleviated through social intervention programmes. In this regard, we seek to invest in the hearts and minds of our young people, through commendable programmes such as the Trinidad and Tobago Cadet Force."*

Phase 2 of Operation Recovery took place from 08-15 August, 2022 in collaboration with the Trinidad and Tobago Coast Guard (TTCG). An exercise titled Jungle Survival Training (JST) was conducted on Chacachacare Island from 11-12 August, 2022, to develop the cadets' skills in Adventurous Training, Field Craft and Survival Tactics. The exercise was supervised by adults on camp and directed by the Trinidad and Tobago Cadet Force's Naval Department. The TTCG assisted with personnel and assets for the safe conduct of this exercise.

Throughout Trinidad and Tobago, there are more than seventy-five (75) Cadet Units operating in Secondary Schools, impacting the lives of over three thousand (3,000) young men and women.



FOCUS ON TRAINING

CASE CARE MANAGEMENT MENTORS

The Probation Services Division of the Ministry of National Security and the Executive Secretariat of the Inter American Drug Abuse Control Commission (ES-CICAD) collaborated to deliver a training programme for Case Care Management Mentors. Ten (10) mentors successfully completed the course and received certificates at a Graduation Ceremony held in their honour on January 28, 2022 at the Probation Services Division, Port of Spain.

These mentors will work with Case Care Managers in strengthening linkages with the participants and their communities as it relates to social integration. The training aimed to provide a comprehensive overview of substance use disorders as a brain disease, as well as develop core competencies for recovery support professionals.



DEFENDING AGAINST TOXIC HAZARDS

The Trinidad and Tobago Fire Service (TTFS) hosted a Hazardous Materials First Responder Course on May 03, 2022 at the Savonetta Fire Station, Couva. The course was administered by the Training School Department to 29 participants from various divisions of the TTFS Auxiliary arm. The course was designed to train fire fighters to respond defensively to incidents involving toxic releases.



SEARCH AND RESCUE TRAINING

The Trinidad and Tobago Fire Service (TTFS) Training School Department and the TTFS Land Search and Rescue (LSAR) Unit hosted a two-week Rescue Training Course, with participation by the Trinidad and Tobago Regiment. Training focused on theoretical and practical high-angle rescue methods and techniques. The training took place in June, 2022 at the Savonetta Fire Station, the San Fernando Hill and the Trinidad and Tobago Regiment Base at Teteron.



COMBATTING ILLICIT MARITIME TRAFFICKING

Nine (9) Law Enforcement and Protective Services officials charged with protecting Trinidad and Tobago's maritime borders, became more equipped to combat illicit maritime trafficking on the transatlantic cocaine route, after being beneficiaries of a five-day training, administered by the Seaport Corporation Project (SEACOP) over the period July 25 – 29, 2022, for members of the Joint Maritime Control Unit (JMCU).

The training aimed to provide instruction and health and safety advice on searching a variety of vessels and to increase existing local capabilities. This training was followed by a mentoring exercise from August 01-05, 2022, to reinforce and refresh skills learnt and provide practical experience in searching vessels under the guidance of experts.

The nine (9) Officers - attached to the Trinidad and Tobago Coast Guard, the Trinidad and Tobago Police Service, National Operations Fusion Centre, the Transnational Organized Crime

Unit, the Trinidad and Tobago Fire Service, the Trinidad and Tobago Immigration Division and the Customs and Excise Division - were awarded certificates at a closing ceremony held on July 29, 2022 at the Customs and Excise Division, Government Campus Plaza, Port of Spain.

Permanent Secretary (Ag.) of the Ministry of National Security, Mr. Gary Joseph, encouraged the officers to diligently apply the knowledge and skills they acquired from the training, in their operational environments, and share their knowledge with colleagues in their respective agencies so that the overall national capacity may benefit from the training.

Mr. Joseph also expressed deep appreciation to the European Union and its representative, His Excellency Peter Cavendish, Ambassador and Head of Delegation of the European Union, for their consistent support and collaboration with the Ministry of National Security, through the Seaport Corporation Project.



PUBLIC EDUCATION

Representatives of the various Divisions of the Ministry of National Security hit the airwaves via radio and television interviews, to sensitize the public about their Division's mandate and work, and provide public safety education. These were some interviews:



February 28, 2022 - Divisional Fire Officer Mr. Mukharji Rampersad interviewed with CCNTV6 to discuss safe fire practices to prevent bush fires.



April 06, 2022 - Mr. Allister Livingston of the Lifeguard Services, Water and Safety Education Department, discussed Water Safety for the Easter period on the NOW Morning Show.



Aug 10, 2022 - The Trinidad and Tobago Regiment and the Trinidad and Tobago Defence Force Reserves were featured on the Eye on Dependency Programme on August 21, 2022. Captain Shawn Richards (TTR), Major David Benjamin and Sergeant Michelle Nicholson (TTDFR) talked about these Trinidad and Tobago Defence Force formations.



January 23, 2022 - Deputy Prison Commissioners Mr. Deopersad Ramoutar and Mr. Sherwin Bruce were on the Eye on Dependency Programme to share details on the Prison Service's rehabilitation programmes.



March 20, 2022 - Ag. Deputy Chief Immigration Officers Ms. Vera Persad and Mr. Derek Craigwell, along with Ms. Natasha Sudeen-Lewis, Head of the Work Permit Section, appeared on the Eye on Dependency Radio Programme to discuss Immigration and Work Permit services.



April 13, 2022 - Sgt. Brent Batson, Road Safety Coordinator at the Trinidad and Tobago Police Service, appeared on TTT's Now Morning Show to discuss road safety tips for the Easter period.



October 10, 2022 - Inspector Michelle Lewis of the Trinidad and Tobago Police Service discussed the philosophy of Community Policing, on the NOW Morning Show.

IN RECOGNITION

During 2022, the leadership of the Ministry of National Security actively demonstrated the Ministry's and the country's appreciation in a tangible way, for the dedication and commitment of its officers who served with honour and of persons who went beyond the call of duty.

Six (6) officers attached to the Trinidad and Tobago Police Service's Inter-Agency Task Force (IATF), received commendations on April 01, 2022 from the Minister of National Security the Honourable Fitzgerald Hinds M.P. in recognition of their unswerving commitment to duty, outstanding work, meritorious service and exceptional leadership capabilities over the year 2021.



In association with corporate citizens, House of Angostura and FT Farfan Limited, Minister Hinds hosted a recognition ceremony for Mr. Earnest Constantine of Paramin on May 27, 2022 at the at the House of Angostura, Laventille. Mr. Constantine was heralded for his honesty after finding a bag containing thousands of dollars and returning it to its rightful owner.



Two (2) Lance Corporals of the Trinidad and Tobago Regiment (TTR) received commendations from Minister Hinds for their keen sense of awareness and quick action in apprehending three (3) robbery suspects on Antigua Road, in the vicinity of the Cumuto Barracks, on May 25, 2022. The soldiers, Lance Corporal Garfield Mitchell and Lance Corporal Keron King, consistent with their military training, pursued and apprehended three men for suspicion of robbery and handed them over to the Trinidad and Tobago Police Service.



Forty-two (42) former and current police officers were presented with medals and Certificates of Honour for diligently and selflessly serving their country during the attempted coup of July 27, 1990. They were bestowed at Queen's Hall, St. Ann's,

Port-of-Spain, at the premiere of the Trinidad and Tobago Police Service's CODE 727 documentary which solely showcases the selfless acts of service and sacrifices of the men and women during the insurrection.

HONOURING THE NATION

Trinidad and Tobago commemorated sixty (60) years as an independent nation on August 31, 2022. This year heralded a return of traditional Independence Day celebrations, including a Military Parade by the nation's Defence and Protective Services. Here are some colourful photos of the day.

60TH INDEPENDENCE DAY CELEBRATIONS



NATIONAL DAY OF REMEMBRANCE

The Ministry of National Security hosted a National Day of Remembrance (Memorial Day) Wreath Laying Ceremony on Sunday November 13, 2022 at Memorial Park, Frederick Street, Port of Spain and at James Park, Scarborough, Tobago.

The National Day of Remembrance is observed annually in honour of those who served and in memory of those who fell in the World Wars of 1914–1918 and 1939–1945.





MINISTRY OF NATIONAL SECURITY

INTOUCH

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Corporate Communications Unit

31 - 33 Abercromby Street,
Port of Spain
Trinidad and Tobago

 (868) 624.5771

 corpcomm@mns.gov.tt

 www.nationalsecurity.gov.tt

 @mns.tnt

 @ttnatsecurity

 @nationalsecuritytt