



TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO POLICE SERVICE CORPORATE COMMUNICATIONS UNIT

Police Administration Building,
Corner Edward & Sackville Streets, Port of Spain
Telephone: 1 (868) 625-8395 Facsimile: 1 (868) 625-7133
Email: corporatecommunications@ttps.gov.tt

February 3rd 2020

MEDIA RELEASE

CoP: Certain Police Officers, Reporters Becoming Desperate in Investigation

Commissioner of Police, Gary Griffith, notes the now boring attempt by one specific reporter to continue her desperate farce of almost weekly submitting negative articles aimed at the TTPS. With so many major developments going on around the country, the Trinidad and Tobago Express continues to sink by having nothing more important to report other than putting a front-page Sunday article about a police officer being transferred.

He says the TTPS notes with concern another article published in the Sunday Express yesterday, headlined, "**Tell me Why**", in which the reporter insinuates that a police officer was transferred from the Professional Standards Bureau (PSB) because that officer was investigating the Commissioner of Police.

The CoP wishes to remind the public that the investigation in this matter, involves an alleged conspiracy to pervert the course of public justice, involving police officers and certain reporters, by attempting to influence a citizen from altering his witness statement, and no false and misleading front-page stories would alter that.

The CoP states that since becoming Commissioner 18 months ago, one specific reporter in the Express has published 23 articles, all of which were negative towards the Commissioner and the TTPS.

It is curious that a police officer would retain an attorney to seek a response from the Commissioner of Police as to why he was transferred. It is always the prerogative of the Commissioner of Police to transfer police officers, giving them the required period to effect the transfer.

Police officers, he says, are transferred based on the specialized skills and expertise within the TTPS. The CoP is very surprised that a police officer being transferred would raise an issue of losing his commuted allowance,

Members of the public are asked to like and follow the TTPS via our [Facebook](#), [Twitter](#) and [Instagram](#) pages for the latest news and information on matters of interest to the general public.

giving the perception as if he feels he has an entitlement for same. It is this type of behaviour that the COP intends to remove from the Service.

The CoP says there is an ongoing investigation into certain police officers and reporters concerning an alleged conspiracy to pervert the course of public justice, inclusive of bribing the informant to alter his story.

This information came from one Cecil Skeete, of Freedom Street, Cocorite, in December 2019.

Skeete informed the CoP that there were certain police officers and reporters involved in an elaborate scheme to bring down the Commissioner of Police. After the Express published an article that the CoP choked and threatened Skeete at the Four Roads Police Station in June 2019, Skeete swore to an affidavit two days later, denying the allegations.

There is nothing to verify that Skeete ever made those allegations. There is an entry into a station diary which Skeete never signed and of which he had no knowledge. The only time that allegations were raised, was in the Express article, coming from a third party. The only document concerning this matter was the sworn affidavit from Skeete in which he denied the allegations in the Express article.

Skeete also informed the Police of the plan to bring down the Commissioner of Police. As a result, there is now an investigation into the information supplied by Skeete.

Skeete was shot dead outside his home on December 29th, 2019. The CoP says that investigations are also ongoing into that murder, to determine if it was linked to those who attempted to bribe Skeete with \$50,000 to alter his statement. Mr Skeete was killed mere days prior to him assisting the Police in a sting operation whereby he was planning to meet with them to have them exposed.

Corporate Communications Unit

February 3rd 2020

END