



TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO POLICE SERVICE CORPORATE COMMUNICATIONS UNIT

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July 3, 2025

MEDIA RELEASE

\$300K Bail for Two Charged with Money Laundering

Two accused appeared before a Master of the Court today to answer charges of Money Laundering under the Proceeds of Crime Act.

ELIE JOHN and **NEELA BASDEO** were granted bail with a surety in the sum of \$300,000 each. As part of their bail conditions, they are required to report to a specified police station two days per week. The matter was adjourned to October 8, 2025.

These charges come as the result of a thorough investigation by the Financial Investigations Branch – White Collar Crime Division of the Trinidad and Tobago Police Service (TTPS), which formally laid the charges on Wednesday 2nd July, 2025.

The investigation commenced on August 30, 2023, when officers from the South Western Division Gang Unit conducted an exercise at the home of Elie John and Neela Basdeo, located at S.S. Erin Road, Debe. During the search, officers allegedly discovered \$1,055,800, in cash along with a quantity of marijuana. At that time, Elie John was charged with Possession of Marijuana, and the cash was seized under Section 38 of the Proceeds of Crime Act. PC Luces of the Financial Investigations Branch subsequently led extensive inquiries to ascertain the source and intended use of the cash, which resulted in the money laundering charges.

This operation formed part of the ongoing mandate of DCP Suzzette Martin ACP Knutt, Head of the White Collar Crime Division. The initial exercise was coordinated by Snr Supt Avinash Singh and overseen by Supt Rawle Ramdeo of the FIB Suppression of White Collar Crime. The continued investigations were supervised by Insp Mohammed and Sgt Eslam of the FIB, with legal guidance provided by Cpl Matamora.

The TTPS remains steadfast in its commitment to investigating all reports of criminal activity, particularly white-collar crime, and ensuring that those responsible are brought before the courts through the proper legal channels.

Corporate Communications Unit

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END