



TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO POLICE SERVICE CORPORATE COMMUNICATIONS UNIT

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MEDIA RELEASE

Commissioner of Police Declares, “We are making steady progress”

As Police intensified their operations with several intelligence-led anti-crime exercises on roadways and throughout crime prone areas over the last weekend, Commissioner of Police, Erla Harewood-Christopher has declared that the TTPS is making steady progress against the criminal element.

The operations, conducted across all 10 Police Divisions resulted in 15 arrests, the seizure of eight illegal firearms, a quantity of ammunition, as well as illegal narcotics.

In the Southern Division:

1. A 38-year-old of Barrackpore, was arrested and charged for possession of a quantity of cocaine,
2. A 42-year-old of Barrackpore, was arrested and charged for possession of one Smith and Wesson revolver loaded with five rounds of ammunition and,
3. A 24-year-old of Barrackpore, was arrested and charged for possession of one Beretta pistol loaded with one round of ammunition.
4. Three men were arrested and charged after a search of their vehicle resulted in officers finding one Taurus pistol loaded with a magazine containing 17 rounds of ammunition.

In the Port of Spain Division:

1. A 39-year-old man of Laventille was arrested and charged for possession of a firearm loaded with 24 rounds of 7.62mm ammunition.
2. A 20-year-old of Arima was arrested and charged after a search of his vehicle resulted in officers finding six, large plastic packets containing quantities of cocaine and cannabis. The cocaine weighed 1.12 kilogrammes

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and has an estimated street value of \$65,000, while the cannabis weighed 3.2 kilogrammes and has an estimated street value of \$256,000.

3. Officers Lots, South Quay and Duncan Street Plannings areas. During the exercise, the officers seized a quantity of cocaine in the Pump Trace, Picton Road, Hell Yard, Beetham Gardens, Sea Lots, South Quay and Duncan Street Plannings areas.

In the Eastern Division:

1. A 17-year-old male was arrested and charged for being in possession of a pistol with an extended magazine containing 17 rounds of 9-mm ammunition.
2. A 51-year-old man of the Sangre Grande was charged for Dangerous Driving. Officers also issued eight fixed penalty notices to errant drivers for various offences.
3. A male from the Biche district was arrested and charged for being in possession of 12 grammes of cocaine.

In the Central Division:

1. Officers, targeting several drug blocks and priority offenders in the Freeport area, acting on intelligence, conducted a search and found a black SCCY CPX-2 firearm loaded with a magazine containing five rounds of ammunition. During the same exercise, two suspects were arrested and charged for possession of various quantities of cannabis and cocaine
2. A male from the Caroni area arrested and charged for being in possession of a shotgun and two 12-gauge cartridges.

In the North Eastern Division:

1. During an anticrime operation in the Malick district on Friday 13th September, 2024 including officers of the NED Task Force, NED Gang and Intelligence Unit, NED CID, Chargerroom, Inter-Agency Task Force, Guard and Emergency Branch, Air Support and Special Investigations Unit Bush Team, officers observed a man walking toward them with a firearm in his hand. The man allegedly, pointed the firearm in the direction of the officers. The officers shouted 'Police', at the man but he allegedly kept pointing the

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firearm at them. The officers then, in keeping with the Use of Force Policy, discharged their service firearms in his direction, hitting him about the body. The man was taken to hospital where he was pronounced dead. One revolver and three rounds of ammunition were recovered from the scene. The man was subsequently identified as 44-year-old Jerry Ruben of Malick.

2. During an anticrime operation in the El Socorro district yesterday, officers of the Barataria CID, North Eastern Division Task with the assistance of the Canine Branch, discovered a quantity of cannabis in an abandoned lot of land at Maraj Street.
3. During a similar exercise including personnel of the Trinidad and Tobago Defence Force at Sixth Avenue, Malick and Sawmill Avenue yesterday a quantity of cannabis was found and seized.
4. Anticrime operations in the Pitch Road area resulted in a quantity of marijuana being found and seized.
5. Brandon John, 33, of El Socorro was arrested and charged yesterday in connection with a report of Store Breaking and Larceny, which occurred on July 5th, 2024.
6. Jabari Hinds, 32, was arrested and charged yesterday, in connection with a report of Office Breaking and Larceny, which occurred on September 4th, 2024.
7. Isaiah Williams, 25, of Port of Spain, was arrested and charged yesterday, in connection with a report of Robbery with Violence which occurred on September 10th, 2024

In the South Western Division:

1. 23-year-old Marcus Blake aka 'Joseph Ward', of Penal Rock Road, was arrested and charged in connection with a report of Robbery with Aggravation, which occurred in the Penal district on September 13th, 2024.

Commissioner Harewood-Christopher said "We are pleased that we are making some inroads. Every illegal firearm seized is one firearm less in the hands of the criminal element and takes us one step closer to disarming the criminal gangs".

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“This is a fight we intend to win. In the upcoming days and weeks, we will sustain the intensification of our activities, utilizing all our resources, to constrain and apprehend those bent on committing crime”.

SEE ACCOMPANYING PHOTOGRAPHS

Corporate Communications Unit

September 16th, 2024

END

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