

TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO POLICE SERVICE CORPORATE COMMUNICATIONS UNIT

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April 15th, 2020 **MEDIA RELEASE Over \$100,000 in Traffic Tickets Issued Over Easter Weekend**

Trinidad and Tobago Police Service (TTPS) issued 117 fixed penalty notices for traffic violations, valued at \$110,300, over the Easter weekend. However, despite the many calls by TTPS urging motorists to obey the rules of the road, tickets for the offence of exceeding the roadway speed limit, amounted to \$70,000 of the total amount.

Traffic enforcement teams from the Traffic and Highway Patrol Branch, led by ACP (Ag) 'Specialised Support', Odette Lewis, and Snr. Supt. 'Traffic Branch', Aroon Ramkhalawan, conducted traffic enforcement exercises along the nation's highways, including the Sir Solomon Hochoy, Uriah Butler, Churchill-Roosevelt, Beetham and Audrey Jeffers Highways.

ACP (Ag) Lewis said, "The Commissioner of Police gave instructions for all Executive Commanders to have increased policing exercises across the nation and we know drivers are being tempted by the open roads due to less traffic, but there hasn't been any ease on public safety requirements and the roadways are a crucial aspect to ensuring law and order is maintained during this challenging time".

The exercises were coordinated by the four main Highway Patrol Units comprising of Aranguez/POS, Cumuto, Freeport and Debe, with support from special sections, such as the Road Policing Task Force (RPTF), Roadway Surveillance Unit (RSU) and Motor-Cycle Section.

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TTPS Road Safety Project Coordinator, Sgt Brent Batson said he was disappointed that drivers were being complacent during these times, stating, "We have recorded speeds of drivers at 152 km/hour, that's a major threat to the safety of other road users and of course to the driver".

Sgt Batson further stated that drivers need to exercise greater care and caution since injury caused by road accidents will also contribute to a burden on our healthcare system, so supporting the Government's COVID-19 prevention initiatives includes being responsible when using the roads.

Commissioner of Police, Gary Griffith, led from the front by heading patrols along the east-west corridor, Central and South Trinidad over the Easter weekend.

To date for 2020, 34 persons were killed in road traffic accidents compared to 43 for the same period last year, a decrease of 21%.

PLEASE SEE ACCOMPANYING PHOTOS

Corporate Communications Unit April 15th, 2020

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