



TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO POLICE SERVICE CORPORATE COMMUNICATIONS UNIT

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MEDIA RELEASE

TTPS Quells Early Morning Disturbances in North, South Trinidad

Police have restored order in several communities in North and South Trinidad following several early morning disturbances.

These disturbances were reported along the North Coast and Saddle Roads, in the areas of Blanchisseuse, La Fillette, Las Cuevas, Maraval, and environs in the North and the La Lune and Marac Villages, Moruga, in the South.

Police also detained a few suspects in connection with the unlawful blockage of the roadway and investigations are ongoing into all reports.

A free flow of traffic was reestablished to vehicular traffic and order restored in all areas and is being monitored.

In the first incident in North Trinidad, at 5.45 am officers who were on patrol in the Blanchisseuse District observed burning debris on the roadway in the vicinity of the Blanchisseuse Secondary School.

Police later extinguished the fire and cleared the roadway.

In another incident, police received information on similar disturbances along the North Coast Road in the areas of La Fillette and Las Cuevas and environs.

Several teams of officers were deployed from the North-Eastern Division (NED) Task Force, NED Intelligence Unit, Guard and Emergency Branch, Inter-Agency Task Force, Maracas Bay and Blanchisseuse Police Stations. The Trinidad and Tobago Defence Force also deployed personnel to the locations to assist in the operation.

Upon arrival at the locations, police officers, in conjunction with personnel from the Trinidad and Tobago Fire Service (TTFS), the San Juan/Laventille and Diego Martin Regional Corporations contained the demonstrations.

Later in the day, at 12.50 pm, officers of the Western Division (WD) responded to numerous reports of public disturbances along Saddle Road in the vicinity of Moraldo Street, Haleland Park and the Maracas Pillars.

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Teams from the WD Task Force and the Special Patrol Unit were dispatched. Upon arrival at the locations, police officers observed debris ablaze on the roadways. Personnel from the TTFS later arrived and the fire was extinguished.

Information reaching police suggests that the demonstrations in the North Trinidad incidents appear to be in connection with a police-involved shooting last week in the village.

Investigations into this matter are ongoing.

Thus far, several suspects were taken into police custody by the NED, however, they were released without charges.

The Trinidad and Tobago Police Service (TTPS) assures that a thorough investigation into this matter is being conducted.

Meanwhile, in South Trinidad, at 3.30 am, Moruga police responded to a demonstration in the La Lune and Marac Villages in which several debris were set alight.

There, police officers observed a member of parliament and a counselor speaking with residents while the fire was doused by personnel of the Princes Town Fire Station.

Throughout the day, senior police officers were deployed to various locations and are engaged with residents on the issue.

The operation was coordinated by Deputy Commissioner of Police (Ag.) Operations and Administration and Support, Erla Christopher.

Though the TTPS will continue to ensure that the public is afforded its right to movement and will provide sustained visibility and deterrence, it strongly warns residents in these communities that they can face charges for committing these types of offences.

The TTPS appeals to residents to address their concerns lawfully via amicable approaches.

Corporate Communications Unit

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END