

TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO POLICE SERVICE CORPORATE COMMUNICATIONS UNIT

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MEDIA RELEASE

Woman Charged After Attempting to Pay \$122K Drinks Bill with Dishonoured Cheques

A Port of Spain businesswoman has been charged with two counts of fraud following an investigation by the Fraud Squad.

According to reports, in April 2024, the 30-year-old businesswoman allegedly purchased a quantity of alcoholic and non-alcoholic beverages valued at \$122,262 from a supplier, for which she issued two cheques—one for \$51,991 and another for \$70,271. The cheques were accepted as payment; however, upon deposit, both were returned dishonoured. Attempts to recover the outstanding sum were unsuccessful, prompting the supplier to make a formal report.

W/Cpl Adams was assigned to investigate the matter, and with the assistance of the Alpha Team, the suspect was arrested on 3 April 2025 at a location on Prince Street, Port of Spain. A search of the premises was conducted, during which several items were found and seized.

Following interviews with the suspect and consultations with Snr Supt Michael Jackman, Supt Arnold Lutchman, APS Bisnath, and Legal Officer Sgt Bassarath, instructions were given to charge the suspect with two counts of obtaining property by means of dishonoured cheques.

The charges were laid on 3 April 2025, and the defendant was granted bail in the sum of \$100,000 by a justice of the peace that same day. She is scheduled to appear before a Port of Spain Magistrate on 30 April 2025.

The Fraud Squad is reminding the public that issuing cheques while knowing there are insufficient funds in one's account to cover the payment for goods or services is a criminal offence. Offenders are liable to imprisonment for up

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to five years and may be ordered to repay up to ten times the value of the dishonoured cheque.

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END