



TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO POLICE SERVICE

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January 20th, 2024

MEDIA RELEASE

Suspect Killed After Shootout with Police, Murder Suspect Arrested

One man was fatally wounded after a shootout with police in Tunapuna, while other anti-crime exercises conducted over the past 36 hours led to the arrest of a Murder suspect in Belmont and the seizure of a sub-machine gun in the Southern Division.

Around 3:10 pm yesterday, officers from the North Central Division Task Force-West and NCD SOU proceeded to a residence located at Dookie Lane, Tunapuna with a search warrant for Firearms and Ammunition. Upon arrival at the front of the premises, the officers observed a man Dirrel Bullen, 25, armed with a rifle running on the roof of the house. The man shot at the officers, who upon seeing the threat to their lives, discharged several rounds from their TTPS-issued firearms. The suspect was wounded and officers immediately rendered aid and conveyed the man to the Eric Williams Medical Sciences Complex, Mt Hope, where he was pronounced dead on arrival. Snr Supt Smith, ASP Powder, ASP Ramharack, Sgt Peters, Sgt Ramlal, and officers from Northern Division CSI visited the scene. The officers found one rifle, three magazines and a quantity of 7.62 ammunition and projectiles at the scene.

Meanwhile, around 10:10 pm yesterday in the Port of Spain Division, a party of officers proceeded to Roget Place, Belmont in search of a man suspected to be involved in a homicide which occurred on 1st January 2024, at St Barbs, Laventille. The officers strategically executed a plan and the suspect was held with a firearm by PC Khamchan and PC Cupidore. Officers seized the firearm and the suspect was arrested.

Around 11:30 pm the officers proceeded to the Bath Street Plannings and Calvary Hill, East Dry River area where upon seeing the officers, a group of men ran in different directions. The officers pursued them and PC Wellington held a man who was armed with a knife. He was arrested and conveyed to

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the station to be charged with the offence. Also, whilst in the Bath Street area, the officers along with the K-9 Unit searched an abandoned house where they seized 360 grams of marijuana. The party of officers also arrested a man in the Gonzales area, who is suspected of having been involved in a recent robbery incident at a pizza outlet in St Anns.

This exercise was coordinated by ACP Winston Maraj and Snr Supt Ramnarine, spearheaded by Supt Ramsook and Nanan, ASP Soodeen and supervised by Sgt Alexander, PCs Bacchus, Huggins, Remy, Khamchan, Boucaud, Nunes, Legerton, Gangoo, Cupidore and other members of Port of Spain Task Force East.

In the Southern Division, around 10:30 am yesterday, Insp Ramlogan and PC Ragoonath were on patrol and enquiries along Papourie Road, Esperance Village, San Fernando when they received pertinent information. As a result, they proceeded to an abandoned building along the said roadway, where they made diligent checks and subsequently found a red bag at the rear of the building, between some tanks. Upon checking the bag, they discovered an UZI sub-machine gun, fitted with a silencer and a magazine with 11 rounds of 9-mm ammunition. The officers took possession of the items and it was taken to the CID office.

A nationwide exercise was carried out by members of the E999/CC/ERP Branch between 9 pm yesterday and 1 am today, Saturday 20th January 2024. During the exercise, five persons were arrested and conveyed to the St. Clair Police Station relative to a report of Robbery with Aggravation which occurred yesterday. Also, 168 Fixed Penalty Notices were issued and an imitation firearm was seized by the Northern Division ERP Team during the exercise.

Investigations are continuing in these matters.

SEE ACCOMPANYING PHOTOGRAPHS

Corporate Communications Unit

January 20th, 2024

END