



## TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO POLICE SERVICE CORPORATE COMMUNICATIONS UNIT

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### **MEDIA RELEASE**

#### **Several Arrests as Marijuana, Cocaine, Firearm Seized, Suspects Held on Shooting, Firearm, Gang-related and Robbery Enquiries**

Police made several inroads and significant steps in the fight against crime as several persons were arrested, illegal narcotics and a firearm were seized during successful exercises conducted in various divisions yesterday, June 7<sup>th</sup>, and early this morning.

In the lead-up to the Corpus Christi holiday, officers of the Guard and Emergency Branch lent support to various exercises in the Southern Division, while there were successful strategic collaborations between divisions.

In the Southern Division during Operation Real Steel, a roving roadblock and traffic exercise was conducted in the San Fernando district between 6.30 pm and 10 pm yesterday. Several vehicles, inclusive of Tiidas, Aquas, Axios, AD Wagons, Fielder Wagons and H100 vehicles were stopped and searched. During the exercise, a 29-year-old fire warden of Cypress Gardens, San Fernando, was arrested for Possession of Marijuana for the Purpose of Trafficking. The suspect was found in possession of 30 lbs (13.6kg) of marijuana, with an estimated street value of \$2.25 million.

Meanwhile, 10 persons were detained for various offences, as special attention was paid to the Monte Grande, Tunapuna, Freeman Road, St Augustine, Farm Road, St Joseph, Maingot Road, Tunapuna and St John's Road, St Augustine areas, during a roving road check exercise conducted in the North Central Division yesterday. Three suspects were detained on firearm-related enquiries, five were detained on firearm-related, shooting and gang-related enquires, and three others were also held for obstruction of a police officer in the execution of his duties.

Additionally, officers responded to a report that a man was armed with a firearm, and as a result, proceeded to Raspberry Drive, Farm Road, St Joseph. Upon searching a scrap yard, the officers found a P80 nine-millimetre pistol, with 13 rounds of ammunition in a handbag.

Also, around 12:30 pm yesterday, whilst on exercise duty, officers were alerted by civilians in the Farm Road area and received information relative to a report of an attempted robbery. As a result, a search was conducted and a man fitting the description of the alleged assailant was found hiding in a bushy area off Farm Road, Curepe. He was cautioned relative to the said report and brought to St Joseph Police Station, where he was handed over to the Criminal Investigations Department (CID). Investigations are continuing.

Similarly, at High Street, Princes Town in the Southern Division, around 10:20 pm yesterday, an officer observed two men who were acting suspiciously. He conducted a search on their persons and found on one suspect, a vice grip, a flat-head screwdriver, and a bird beak pliers. While the second suspect had in his possession one pair of nippers and a flat-head screwdriver. Both men could not satisfactorily account for the items in their possession, and they were both arrested and conveyed to the Princes Town Police Station for further enquires.

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Additionally, around 9:40 pm, whilst on mobile patrol along Cacique Street, Princes Town, officers searched a man and found in his knapsack a white plastic bag containing cocaine. The suspect was arrested and conveyed to the Princes Town Police Station, where the cocaine was weighed and scaled 13.7 grams. The suspect was charged with Possession of Cocaine for the Purpose of Trafficking.

Officers of the Northern Division were on alert after they received information from the Northern Division Operations Centre (NDOC), relative to a group of men in possession of counterfeit TT\$100 bills. The party of officers intercepted a Nissan Almera vehicle along Pro Queen Street Arima and conducted a comprehensive search of the vehicle. Although the counterfeit currency was not found, the officers discovered a plastic bag containing 385 grams of marijuana. The four occupants of the vehicle were subsequently arrested.

Port of Spain Task Force officers conducted several anti-crime exercises yesterday and early this morning. Several search warrants for arms and ammunition were executed and several homes were searched. Around 5:47 am today, PC Blades executed a search warrant for illegal arms and ammunition at a home located at Cicada Avenue, Diego Martin. Although nothing mentioned on the warrant was found, two persons were arrested for Possession of Camouflage. The officers along with K9 Aci and handler, then conducted diligent searches at abandoned lots surrounding the said premises, where several packets of marijuana were found, which when weighed amounted to 690 grams. PC Blades is continuing enquiries.

In the North Eastern Division, a collaboration between officers of the North Eastern Division Task Force (NEDTF) and officers of the Central Division resulted in the speedy recovery of a Nissan Tiida that was stolen in the Chaguanas district, early this morning. The coordinated effort led the party of officers to Church Lane, 9th Avenue, Barataria, where a search was conducted and the Tiida vehicle was recovered.

## **SEE ACCOMPANYING PHOTOGRAPHS**

### **Corporate Communications Unit**

June 8<sup>th</sup>, 2023

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