



TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO POLICE SERVICE CORPORATE COMMUNICATIONS UNIT

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MEDIA RELEASE

TTPS to Monitor all Non-Nationals Deemed Persons of Interest, with Deportation to Follow

Intelligence gathered has revealed a growing pattern of certain elements from the South American mainland attempting to set up their trade of illegal activities in this country.

Commissioner of Police Gary Griffith states that this emerging pattern could affect the security of this country.

The CoP welcomes the decision made, that persons of interest would be deported. Additionally, to prevent a recurrence of what took place yesterday, involving Venezuelan women attacking police at a station in Freeport, officers will be equipped with pepper spray and tasers, in tandem with the Minimum Use of Force policy.

In relation to this incident, on confirmation that they entered illegally or overstayed their time, efforts will be made to have the suspects in question deported with immediate effect.

Over the past few months, the TTPS has recorded a number of incidents of illegal activity involving non-nationals who were either perpetrators or victims of crime. Recently, three men were killed in west Trinidad and were all red-flagged for being engaged in questionable activity.

Police have arrested and charged a number of non-nationals for offences including trafficking of drugs, possession of firearms and ammunition, robbery, human trafficking and

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kidnapping. Police have also rescued a number of non-nationals from human trafficking rings and kidnapping.

Data collected thus far for Jan-April 2019, reveals the following:

- Four Venezuelans murdered;
- Two Chinese men, one Venezuelan woman and one Guyanese man charged in sex-ring bust;
- Nineteen female non-national minors rescued from human trafficking ring;
- Nine non-nationals arrested for possession of narcotics;
- Five detainees escaped the Immigration Detention Centre;
- Police rescued four Venezuelan women from a house at Diego Martin;
- Fifty-six Venezuelans arrested and charged for illegal entry; and,
- Six Venezuelan women attack police.

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END