

TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO POLICE SERVICE CORPORATE COMMUNICATIONS UNIT

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October 21st, 2022 **MEDIA RELEASE** Murder Suspect Nabbed, 12 Firearms, Narcotics Seized in Busy Week for Police

The Trinidad and Tobago Police Service is on alert to address any challenges that may arise during the upcoming three-day Divali holiday weekend and continuing into the lead up to Christmas Season. The service has had success in several recent operations.

This according to Acting Commissioner of Police, Erla Christopher. She added, "We are progressing to some sort of normalcy in this 'post COVID' period. While some may want to use this period of relaxed restrictions to commit crime, the TTPS will be ready to combat all criminal activity'

The Acting Top CoP would also like to assure the public that the investigation into the shooting death of 9-year-old, Jamol Modeste, remains on the front burner and continues to engage the full attention of the police.

The Acting Commissioner noted that just yesterday, Thursday 20th October a suspect who allegedly shot and killed a man on Henry Street, was himself shot by police who were on patrol and quickly sprang into action to apprehend the assailant.

The suspect is currently warded at hospital and police seized a Glock pistol and ammunition from the assailant.

There are currently nine other suspects who are currently in custody in connection with various recent incidents of murder.

The Glock pistol recovered in the Port-of-Spain shooting incident was just one of 12 illegal firearms seized by police over the past week. One AR-15 Rifle, a shotgun, a Glock and a Taurus pistol were among the several illegal firearms seized during the course of various police exercises, conducted over the past week. Various quantities of ammunition were also found and seized across various divisions this week.

Diligent work by officers also resulted in the seizures of 129 rounds of ammunition. In one incident officers of the Post of Spain Task Force (POSTF) seized a quantity of ammunition during an anti-crime exercise in Sea Lots.

According to police reports, on Thursday 20th October, the officers responded to a report of an officer in need of assistance at Production Avenue, Sea Lots. Upon arrival the officers saw approximately 70 persons gathered in the roadway. A person of interest was seen standing near a blue wooden shed. A search was conducted on the shed, and during the search, one black plastic bag containing 30 rounds of 5.56 millimetre of ammunition were seized.

The biggest seizures were made in the Port of Spain and North Eastern Divisions, 54 and 49 rounds respectively. Almost half of the ammunition seized, 62, were nine-millimetre rounds. Thus far, four persons have been charged for possession of firearms and ammunition.

During the past week police also seized a total of 12.2 kilogrammes of marijuana and 1.2 kilogrammes of cocaine, as a result of exercises conducted in various police districts. The narcotics seized has so far resulted in four persons charged for marijuana possession, and three persons charged for possession of cocaine.

Meanwhile, seven stolen vehicles were also recovered and over 50 persons were arrested in connection with various crimes over the past week.

"The TTPS has had a very hectic and successful week of operations". Acting Commissioner Christopher was high in praise of her officers and thanks her executive and officers of all ranks for their efforts and cooperation over the past week while she acted as Commissioner.

Corporate Communications Unit

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END