

# MONEY DISPUTE, FATAL STABBING!

SEE PAGE 11



**INSIDE:** PM says herd immunity achievable with a little more commitment  
Doctor wants healthcare workers at front of mandatory vaccination

# That was a month ago: global mandatory vaccination is already old news!

A sharp upturn in infections due to the Delta variant and a slowdown in vaccinations have pushed governments to make COVID-19 shots mandatory for health workers and other high-risk groups. A growing number of countries also stipulate that a shot or a negative test will be needed for dining out and some other activities. Here are some countries' vaccine mandates:

## **AUSTRALIA**

Australia decided in late June to make vaccinations mandatory for high-risk aged-care

workers and employees in quarantine hotels.

It also made vaccinations obligatory for Paralympic athletes heading to Tokyo because unvaccinated members on the team could pose a health risk.

In Tasmania, vaccines will be mandatory for aged care workers as of Sept. 17, The Examiner reported on Aug. 14.

## **BRITAIN**

It will be mandatory for care home workers in England to have vaccinations from October.

English nightclubs and other venues with large crowds will require patrons to present proof of full vaccination from the end of September.

## **CANADA**

Canada said on Aug. 13 it will soon require all federal public servants and many other workers to be vaccinated against COVID-19. The vaccine mandate will also include air, train and cruise ship travellers.

British Columbia is mandating COVID-19 vaccines for all staff working in long-term care homes and assist-

ed living facilities, officials announced on Aug. 12, becoming one of the first Canadian provinces to do so.

## **FIJI**

As of Aug. 15 unvaccinated public servants in Fiji would be forced to go on leave, according to CAN. The public servants who will remain unvaccinated by November will be dismissed.

## **FRANCE**

The French parliament on Aug. 2 approved a bill that will make vaccinations mandatory for health workers as well as require a bolstered health



## APUA **ELECTRICITY** MAINTENANCE SCHEDULE

These planned outages are necessary for our continuous upgrade and maintenance programme to provide reliable and consistent service to our customers.

Monday, 13th September 2021	Tuesday, 14th September 2021	Wednesday, 15th September 2021	Thursday, 16th September 2021	Friday, 17th September 2021
Section of Freetown near the Methodist Church and the Police Station 8:30 AM - 11:30 AM	Section of All Saints east of the Primary School 8:30 AM - 11:30 AM	Section of Yorks west of the Basketball Court 8:30 AM - 11:30 AM	All Saints, Mock Pond 8:30 AM - 11:30 AM	Newfield, St. Phillips Crossroad Centre, Freetown, Browns Bay and Mill Reef 8:30 AM - 1:00 PM
All Saints Road of LICs Limited, Renfrew and Ferris Farm 8:30 AM - 1:00 PM		Western section of Jennings and Hermitage 8:30 AM - 1:00 PM	Small section of English Harbour near Nat Moses 8:30 AM - 1:00 PM	

Kindly note that this schedule is subject to slight variation. Changes will be communicated on the APUA Facebook page. Any service disruptions outside of this schedule were not anticipated. For further information and updates please call 311.



pass in many social venues.

The government said on July 19 that the planned 45,000 euro (\$53,456) fine for businesses that do not check that clients have a health pass will be much lower, starting at up to 1,500 euros and increasing progressively for repeat offenders.

#### GREECE

Greece on July 12 made vaccinations mandatory for nursing home staff with immediate effect and health-care workers from Sep-

tember. As part of new measures, only vaccinated customers are allowed in bars, cinemas, theatres and other closed spaces.

#### INDONESIA

Indonesia made inoculations mandatory in February, threatening fines of up to 5 million rupiah (\$357).

#### ITALY

A decree approved by the Italian government in March mandates that health workers, including pharmacists, get vaccinated. Those who refuse could be

suspended without pay for the rest of the year.

#### HUNGARY

Hungary's government has decided to make vaccinations mandatory for health-care workers.

#### KAZAKHSTAN

Kazakhstan will introduce mandatory vaccinations or weekly testing for people working in groups of more than 20.

#### LEBANON

Lebanon is to limit entry to restaurants, cafes, pubs and beach-

es to people holding vaccine certificates or those who have taken antibody tests.

Non-vaccinated employees of these establishments would be required to receive a PCR test every 72 hours.

#### MALTA

Malta banned visitors from entering the country from July 14 unless they were fully vaccinated.

#### MICRONESIA

The small South Pacific island nation of The Federated States of Micronesia has

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mandated that its adult population be inoculated against COVID-19. The Pacific island nation said on July 29 everyone over 18 years will have to receive a COVID-19 vaccine.

#### **POLAND**

Poland could make vaccinations obligatory for some people at high risk from COVID-19 from August.

#### **RUSSIA**

Moscow city authorities on June 16 ordered all workers with

public facing roles to be vaccinated against COVID-19. Companies were given a month to ensure at least 60% of staff had received first doses, or face fines or temporary closure.

Moscow residents no longer have to present a QR code demonstrating they have been vaccinated or have immunity in order to sit in cafes, restaurants and bars from July 19.

#### **SAUDI ARABIA**

In May, Saudi Arabia mandated that all

public and private sector workers wishing to attend a workplace get vaccinated, without specifying when this would be implemented.

Vaccination will also be required to enter any government, private, or education establishments and to use public transport as of Aug. 1.

Saudi citizens will need two doses before they can travel outside the kingdom from Aug. 9, state news agency

SPA reported on July 19, citing the ministry of interior.

#### **SRI LANKA**

Sri Lanka announced on Aug. 13 that citizens would require vaccination cards to travel between provinces and in public spaces as of Sept. 15, according to Business Standard.

#### **TURKMENISTAN**

Turkmenistan is making vaccination mandatory for all residents aged 18 and over.

#### **UNITED STATES**

U.S. President Joe

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Biden on July 30 urged local governments to pay people to get vaccinated, and set new rules requiring federal workers to provide proof of vaccination or face regular testing, mask mandates and travel restrictions.

The White House confirmed on Aug. 5 it is considering requiring foreign visitors to be vaccinated as it plans to eventually reopen international travel but said it had made no final decision and was not immediately going to lift restrictions.

New York City will become the first major U.S. city to require, from Sept. 13, proof of vaccination for customers and staff at

restaurants, gyms and other indoor businesses as the country enters a new phase of battling the Delta variant.

New York will require state employees to be vaccinated or get tested weekly, a mandate that will go into effect on Sept. 6, Governor Andrew Cuomo said.

The Port Authority of New York and New Jersey and the Metropolitan Transportation Authority will require their workers to get the vaccine or get tested weekly.

New Jersey state healthcare workers and employees who work in jails must be vaccinated by Sept. 7 or face testing twice a week.

California Governor Gavin Newsom said that all state employees would be ordered to get vaccinated starting Aug. 2 or undergo testing at least once a week.

Denver municipal employees and people working in high-risk settings in the city will be required to get vaccinated, Mayor Michael Hancock said on Aug. 2.

The cities of San Francisco and New Orleans on Aug. 12 ordered patrons to show proof of COVID-19 vaccinations to enter restaurants, gyms and other venues.

*(reprinted from Reuters, August 16, 2021)*



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# Public servants urged to be realistic about confronting the pandemic

by *Shelton Daniel*

Prime Minister Gaston Browne has reminded and warned public servants who continue to be uncooperative in either getting vaccinated against COVID-19 or undergoing regular testing that the public service can survive and thrive with just one third of its current number.

In a typical instance of the blunt candor for which he is especially known, the MP for St. John's City West and current chairman of the Caribbean Community (CARICOM), PM Browne addressed the issue head-on last Saturday during his weekly radio program – *The Browne & Browne Show* – on the privately-owned *Pointe FM 99.1*.

“I want to remind our people in the public sector that, of the 13,000 public servants, we don't need more than about 4,000 or 5,000 of them. So, we could run the public service effectively with far less than the [current] employment complement.

“As a Labour Party government, we have cho-

sen to use the over-employment within the public sector to ... ensure that at least every person in a home has a job and use it as a form of poverty alleviation.

“But if individuals become irresponsible, decide not to get tested – and I'm referring to the unvaccinated – and they do not get paid or they subsequently lose their job, then they have themselves to blame.”

Elaborating further on the reason for his stance in this matter, PM Browne added: “As the single largest employer in the country, we have a legal and moral obligation to provide a safe working environment for all workers.”

He noted that vaccinated persons throughout society are now demanding protection from those who are unvaccinated.

“Even within the private sector, more entities are asking for vaccinations or COVID testing on a regular basis – at least bi-monthly. The most recent that I saw was Harney Motors. I know, too, that Sir George Ryan [of] Antigua Plumbing would have done so; and I cer-

tainly want to commend those employers who have taken that position, and we want to encourage more employers to do likewise.”

PM Browne said “the majority ... who love this country and are caring ... must stand together to fight this invisible enemy, COVID, and we also have to fight the allies of COVID.

He highlighted some of these “several allies of COVID” as being “political elements who are

seeking to profit from the demise of others ... short-sighted and egotistical union leaders, and even our unvaccinated – they are literally allies of COVID.”

The Prime Minister said it was at times unfortunate, but necessary and unavoidable, that “we have to fight them all in order to protect our country because they are putting our country [and its] lives and livelihoods at risk.”

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# Doctor calls for healthcare workers to lead mandatory vaccination

by *Shelton Daniel*

A highly respected local medical practitioner has expressed full support for mandatory vaccination, but says it should begin with healthcare workers, as an example, before being presented to the nation as a whole.

Dr. Jason Belizaire spoke on Saturday as a guest of *Pointe FM's Browne and Browne Show*.

"We have a number of healthcare workers that work at Mount St. John's alone that are not vaccinated; and I think that ... when you start, you have to start with the various sectors. You have to start with your healthcare sector and then move on to your first responders, and then move on from there."

"Rather than just doing a blanket mandatory, you've got to start somewhere ... and then you increase it and go along from there."

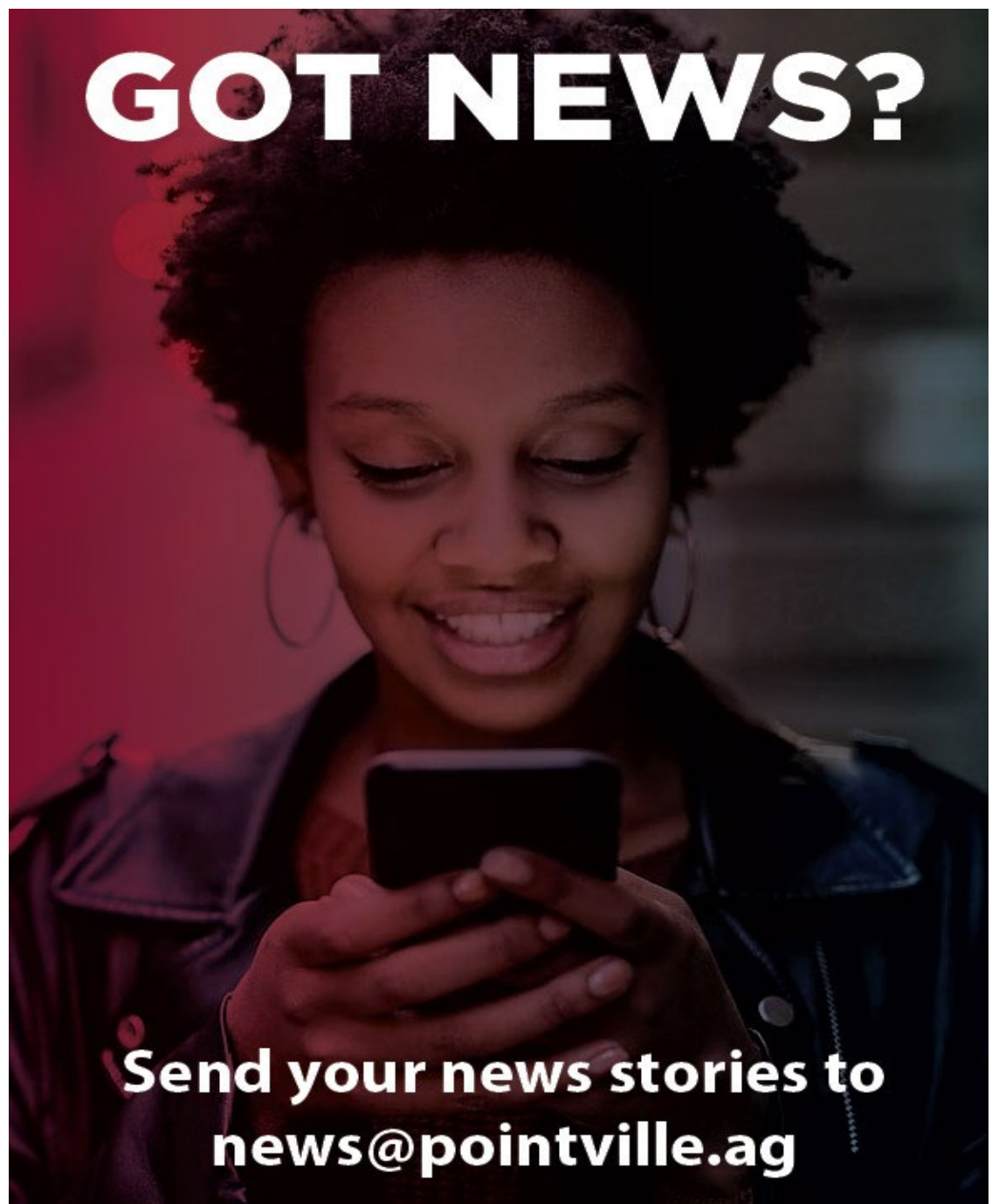
The urgent medical care specialist declared unequivocally that he is pro-mandatory vaccination, and why.

"I am in full support of it because I don't think any patient should go to a hospital and get COVID from somebody that is supposed to be looking after them."

Dr. Belizaire expressed doubt about whether herd immuni-

ty is still achievable because of the new strains of COVID-19 – such as the currently prevailing Delta variant – that are "so much more contagious that they are affecting the vaccinated people to some extent ... making herd immunity less likely."

He said such a situation may boil down to the reality that "we are all eventually going to get COVID, and you better hope that when you get it you are vaccinated, because your prognosis if you're not is far worse than if you are."



# PM says herd immunity need not be difficult to achieve

by Shelton Daniel

Getting to herd immunity could be a lot easier with some improvement in public commitment to getting vaccinated, according to Prime Minister Gaston Browne.

Returning to his weekly slot on *Pointe FM* radio's *Browne & Browne Show* last Saturday after missing the previous three programs, Prime Minister Browne noted the following:

"We have about 36,000 who are fully vaccinated [which] represents about 37% of the country's population. There are a further 8,000 who have had their first dose; so,

between the two – first and second doses – there about 44,000 people who have had at least the first vaccine dose.

"This means at least 40% of the estimated 98,000 population is unvaccinated. We can argue that maybe 13,000 of that population comprise youth who are ineligible [to be vaccinated] – those who are under 12 years of age. This means that we have ... about 7,000 adolescents and maybe 20,000 adults who remain unvaccinated, and they are exposed to contracting the virus and to suffer the potential consequences."

PM Browne pointed out that this

27,000-strong demographic are "the people who are extremely vulnerable now ..."

Based on these numbers, he said, "If we could cut the population of unvaccinated persons by ... at least 50% and we get the remaining 7,000 students vaccinated, we will be well on our way to achieving herd immunity."

Appealing directly to the public for greater vaccine uptake, PM Browne said: "This is where we will require the extra effort, the extra push, in order to get as many people as possible vaccinated and to get us as close as possible to herd immunity."

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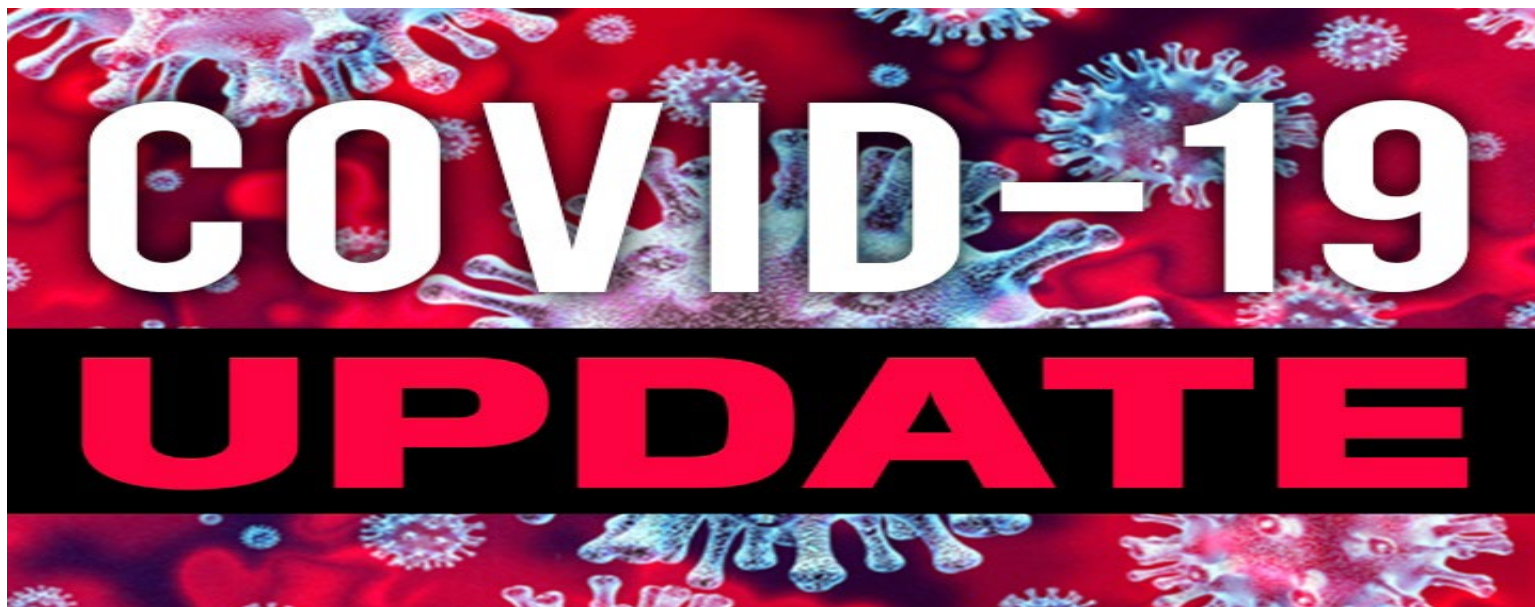


03 Basic



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# COVID Dashboard Update for September 11, 2021

The most recent report received by the Ministry of Health, Wellness and the Environment from the Sir Lester Bird Medical Centre and the Caribbean Public Health Agency (CARPHA) revealed 13 new laboratory confirmed COVID-19 cases in Antigua and Barbuda as of Thursday 9th September 2021 at 6:00 p.m.

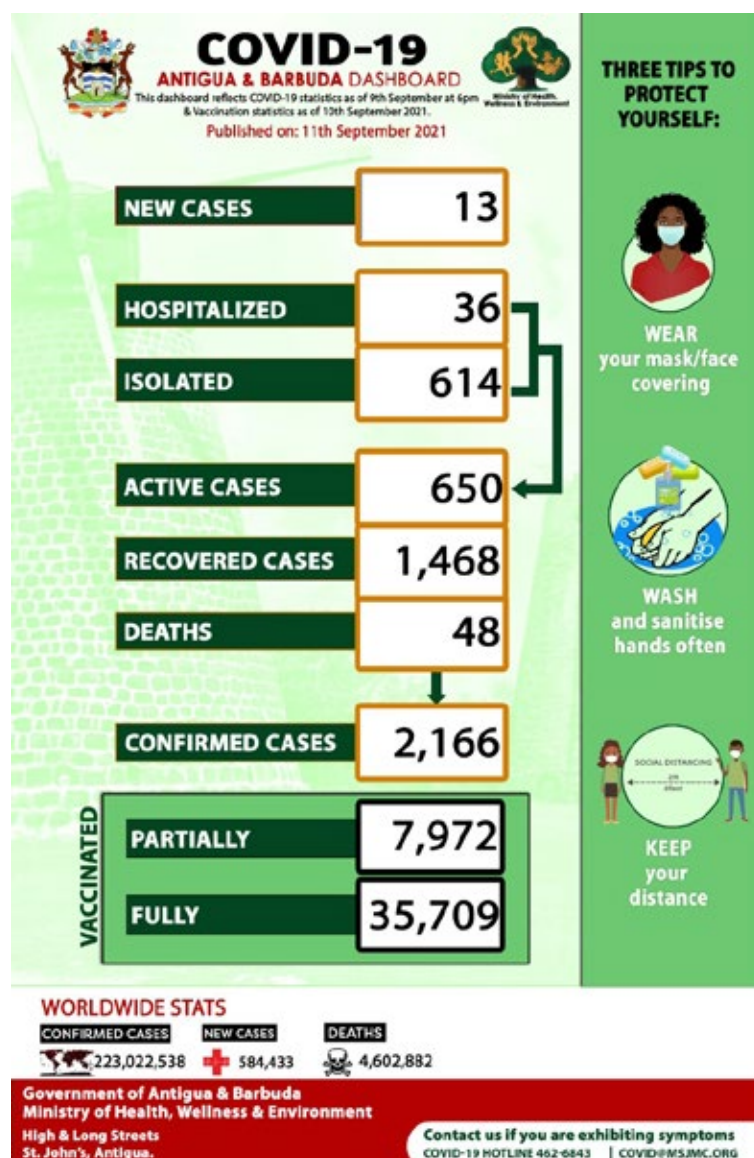
Seventeen (17) samples were processed at Sir Lester Bird Medical Centre.

Consequently, the total number of persons with lab-

oratory confirmed COVID-19 cases in Antigua and Barbuda is 2,166; which is inclusive of 650 active cases. There are 36 hospitalized cases; 21 mild, 11 moderate, and four (4) severe.

Meanwhile, Antigua and Barbuda has fully vaccinated 35,709 individuals while 7,972 have only received their first dose.

The dashboard has been updated to reflect these changes.



# Halo Foundation endorses need for suicide prevention focus



***Halo Generation Y Future Proof Anti-Suicide Prevention Conference at Government House, January 2018. L-R: Hon. Alincia Williams-Grant, President of the Senate; Michael Joseph, Chief Operations Officer - Halo Gen Y; Brent Scotland, President - Halo Gen Y; H.E. Lady Williams; H.E. Sir Rodney Williams; Mrs. Faith Thomas and Dr. Donovan Thomas (Choose Life International).***

The Halo Foundation continues to dedicate a significant portion of its efforts towards the deterrence of bullying and suicide. As part of its ongoing program, three members of *Halo Generation Y* (Brent Scotland, Cuthbert Forbes and Romancier Edwards), participated in a suicide prevention certification seminar on World Suicide Day on Friday September 10th.

The seminar was hosted by ***Choose Life International***, under the theme “*Creating Hope Through Action*.” The programme, now in its 13th year, has equipped over 500 participants from across the world with techniques and knowledge on how they can assist those who suffer with severe depression and suicidal thoughts.

According to the data presented, 1% of all deaths in the world occur due to suicide. On average, the act is committed every 40 seconds.

President of *Halo Gen Y*, Brent Scotland remarked on the importance of this training. He said, “As a group of young citizens with a mandate to assist the vulnerable, we have a responsibility to ensure that we play our part. Those who are faced with difficulties and stress, leading them to choose death over life, can more than likely be saved with the right intervention”.

In 2018, Halo Generation Y kicked off its teen anti-suicide campaign by hosting a youth retreat, “FUTURE PROOF”, on the lawns of Government House. The sessions were conducted by Dr. Donovan and Mrs. Faith Thomas of *Choose Life International*, a faith-based organization located in Jamaica that offers training and counselling in the encouragement of healthy emotional well-being. As a result of the 2018 anti-suicide awareness efforts,

a number of young people with suicidal tendencies and on the verge of self-harm had reached out to the Halo Foundation in their times of personal crisis. Halo secured the voluntary assistance of a professionally trained psychologist in order to successfully avert what could have turned out to be tragic incidents.

President of the Halo Foundation, H.E. Lady Williams, commented: “The situation is still dire. The complications that young people face as a result of mental health deterioration are well known, discussed and documented. The Foundation, like all other concerned entities, will continue to do whatever we can to attempt to alleviate the problem. Every life saved is a blessing for some parent, friend or sibling who would otherwise have lost a dear one. No amount of effort can ever be enough.”



# Feud over payment for fish leads to death

A family is now in mourning following the stabbing death of a man, allegedly at the hands of his nephew, following an altercation over payment for fish.

Dead is 50-year-old Vere Mannix of Point, who was pronounced dead moments after he was rushed to the Sir Lester Bird Medical Center late Saturday afternoon.

Mannix bore multiple stab wounds about his body and had bled profusely on the scene at the Fisheries Complex in Point Wharf before the EMS arrived to take him to the hospital.

Reports are that Mannix had alleged that his nephew, Kelly Friday, 26, had stolen 90 pounds of fish from his boat – G4 – and had demanded payment for the fish on several occasions.

It is alleged that on

Saturday afternoon, he again confronted his nephew and demanded payment. The reports are that when the nephew refused, an altercation ensued during which Mannix was stabbed.

Friday was also treated at the scene by EMS personnel for injuries he too may have sustained.

The police arrived on the scene and they have since launched an investigation into the matter.

Police say the deadly incident occurred about 5:15 p.m. on Saturday 11 September at Point Fisheries Wharf.

Mannix was pronounced dead about half an hour later.

Friday was treated for injuries he apparently sustained to his left leg and hand.

He was subsequently discharged in the custody of the police.



*The fishing boat associated with the confrontation that resulted in a homicide on Saturday.*



## TALKING POINT

**TUESDAY - FRIDAY**  
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DR. MASERATI
SENATOR COLIN BROWNE

# US authorities busted Jamaicans behind marriage fraud scheme

Shanon Stephenson, a Jamaican living in the United States (US) illegally, and Audrey Johnson, an American citizen, got 'married' in a seemingly normal ceremony held in the state of New York on March 1, 2012.

Days later, Stephenson applied to the US Citizen and Immigration Service for permanent residence or a green card, while his 'wife' submitted the required sponsorship application form.

Both applications, which were signed under the penalty of perjury, listed the 'couple' as living together on Hendrix Street in Brooklyn. Stephenson received a temporary two-year green card later in 2012.

But when Stephenson and his 'bride' submitted application forms in September 2014 to have his temporary green card converted to permanent resident status, something caught the attention of US immigration authorities.

"Although the forms and the return address on the mailing envelope listed them as living together at 630 Hendrix Street, in Brooklyn, the

envelope's postmark identified the actual point of mailing as Bridgeport, Connecticut," a plea deal signed by Stephenson in New Haven Federal Court last month revealed.

The Jamaican received his green card on November 19, 2015, but US authorities would soon gather a trove of evidence showing that the marriage was a fraud and part of an elaborate scheme that raked in over US\$400,000, or approximately J\$60 million, by arranging over two dozen such 'weddings' across several states.

The most critical piece of evidence was that Stephenson had been married to another Jamaican, Jodian Stephenson, also known as 'Jodian Gordon', since August 22, 2010 and that they lived together in Connecticut, court documents obtained by The Gleaner revealed.

"Three years later, on December 29, 2013, they again participated in a marriage ceremony, this time in Jamaica," the document noted, referring to the union between Shanon and Jodian Stephenson.

Investigators also found three joint bank accounts in their names, one of which displayed "extensive activity" between 2012 and 2016 and a joint car insurance policy maintained and renewed annually between 2012 and 2020.

Shanon Stephenson pleaded guilty on August 27 to conspiracy to commit immigration and marriage fraud for his 2012 'wedding' with Johnson. He is scheduled to be sentenced later this year.

US authorities discovered, too, that Jodian Stephenson was the mastermind behind the marriage fraud scheme.

According to a plea deal she struck with prosecutors, Jodian admitted that through her Bridgeport-based company, Stephenson Immigration & Legal Services, she conspired with others, including her brother-in-law Sheldon Stephenson, to arrange 27 other sham marriages between 2011 and 2017 to help non-US citizens get green cards.

The 37-year-old Jamaican also got her green card through one of the sham marriages.

She typically charged

her clients between US\$17,000 and US\$20,000 to complete the process of acquiring a green card. American citizens who participated in the scheme were paid between US\$2,000 and US\$4,000.

Jodian pleaded guilty to a single count of conspiracy to commit immigration and marriage fraud in August 2019 and was sentenced last month to six months in prison. She has until October 25 to begin serving the sentence.

Sheldon Stephenson also pleaded guilty to the same offence and is awaiting sentence.

He admitted, in a plea agreement signed on December 4 last year, that he collected US\$6,958 or a little over J\$1 million as payment for helping to arrange four marriages between November 2014 and October 2015.

"Sheldon Stephenson helped to introduce the couples, helped them obtain marriage licences, prepared their immigration paperwork, and coached them for their immigration service interviews," his plea agreement revealed.



# Haiti Prime Minister invited to testify at assassination hearing

**CMC** - Haiti's chief public prosecutor invited Prime Minister Ariel Henry to meet with him in the coming days as part of an ongoing investigation into the slaying of President Jovenel Moïse.

The chief prosecutor, Bedford Claude, noted that Henry spoke with one of the main suspects in the case just hours after the killing.

The invitation noted that Henry had multiple phone calls with fugitive Joseph Felix Badio, who once worked for Haiti's Ministry of Justice and authorities say had a key role leading up to the July 7 killing of the president at his private home.

Claude, Port-au-Prince's chief prosecutor, said two of the calls occurred at 4:03 a.m. and 4:20 a.m. (local time) on July 7 just hours after the killing. He said evidence shows that Badio was in the vicinity of the president's home when the calls were made. Claude told the prime minister that he was requesting a meeting with him to verify the content of those conversations, although he implied it wasn't mandatory.

"The head of the criminal prosecution would be grateful if you so wish, taking into account the restrictions, given your status as a senior state official," the invitation read.

He added that the invitation issued to Henry was justified, given what he called a "case of extreme gravity for the nation" and a power vacuum that prevented



*Ariel Henry speaks during his appointment as the new Prime Minister in Port-au-Prince, Haiti, Tuesday, July 20, 2021, weeks after the assassination of President Jovenel Moïse at his home.*

authorities from obtaining prior authorization from a president to request that Henry appear at the public prosecutor's office.

The invitation sent to Henry comes as authorities seek to arrest additional suspects in the slaying, including Badio.

More than 40 suspects have been arrested in the case, including 18 former Colombian soldiers who recently accused Haitian

police of torture. A police spokeswoman did not respond to a request for comment.

Last month, a Haitian judge appointed to oversee the investigation stepped down, citing personal reasons. The move came after one of his assistants died under unclear circumstances.

A new judge has since been appointed.

# PAHO urges social safety nets to help vulnerable people



**PAHO** - The Pan American Health Organization's (PAHO) Director, Dr. Carissa F. Etienne, is urging governments to provide social safety nets to help people cope with the fallout of the current COVID-19 pandemic.

Etienne says one lesson from the pandemic is that it's not enough for communities to come together.

"Individuals facing difficulties should not have to rely on the kindness and good will of their neighbors just to survive. Health and well-being for everyone can only be achieved

when governments provide a safety net," she asserted in a message to mark Wellness Week.

This year's Wellness Week recognises the pandemic-induced deterioration of conditions for people in situations of vulnerability in Latin America and the Caribbean.

According to the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC), poverty rose to levels not seen in 12 years in 2020, and extreme poverty reached levels not seen in 20 years, worsening the already severe

divide between rich and poor in the region.

Dr. Etienne emphasised that implementing meaningful social support measures to protect people is the only way to move toward greater equity in health and well-being.

She made specific mention of migrants, those living in poverty, workers in the informal sector, the majority of whom are women, those in precarious working conditions or residences of crowded housing, and those living in other conditions of vulnerability.

The PAHO Director also called attention to solidarity within communities, such as through the establishment of soup kitchens throughout the region, as proving to be vital to helping people cope with the impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic.

"I would like to take this opportunity to honour all of those persons among us who have come together in the spirit of solidarity to support their communities to face the hardships generated by this pandemic," she said.



# Barbados Government looks at ways to reduce fuel costs

*Barbados Today* - In response to mounting calls from Barbadians to address the rising costs of fuel, Government intends to implement significant changes to the current excise tax normally placed on the product.

Speaking on Sunday's edition of VOB's Down to Brass Tacks, Minister of Energy, Small Business & Entrepreneurship, Kerrie Symmonds, said the Government was currently in talks with the social partnership about ways in which fuel prices can be less burdensome on consumers.

"One of the things that the Ministry is recommending to the social partnership, which must determine their position on some of these things, is that we feel ... that is an area where there could be some adjustment made to assist consumers, within the area of the excise tax," Symmonds said.

"There is room, we believe, for us to recommend a sensible adjustment, and we think that adjustment perhaps should be best located at the [excise]," he said.

Another suggestion made, according to Symmonds, was for the fuel marketers on the island, namely Sol and Rubis, taking on some of the burden associated with the costs in order to help drive prices down.

"There is also in the pricing structure a thing called the margin, which is given to the marketers ... and I believe that there is a principle in these matters that is called



*Minister of Energy, Small Business & Entrepreneurship, Kerrie Symmonds.*

burden sharing. In accordance with the principle of burden sharing, part of the discussion that we [should] have with the social partnership must be whether or not there can be some shared burden on the part of the marketers.

"If the state is going to say, in the interest of consumers, that we will intervene at a specific point ... then we are equally saying that there should be a look taken at the margin for the marketers because they too should be expected to share a little bit of the burden."

The Energy Minister also revealed that one additional policy option on the horizon is for Government to purchase a larger supply of fuel, more than is currently done, and store the island's reserve fuel in Trinidad where they currently have the capacity and infrastructure required to keep this energy source stored in a safe manner.

"If you can get a larger supply at your disposal, then you probably will be getting in the end, on a per litre basis, a better deal for the dollar. It may well be one of the options that we

have at our disposal that we never explored before.

"The difficulty in that, as you would appreciate, you then have a relationship with another country over your energy supply. It would not be a totality of control, but it would be a sharing of the capacity that we have. There are those who would reflect on relationships within CARICOM from time to time and say that sometimes they are turbulent, and sometimes they are not turbulent ... but it is an option."

# FBI releases newly declassified record on September 11 attacks



*In this September 11, 2001 photo, thick smoke billows into the sky from behind the Statue of Liberty, lower left, where the World Trade Center towers stood.*

Al Jazeera - The FBI has released a newly declassified 16-page document related to logistical support provided to two of the Saudi hijackers in the run-up to the September 11, 2001 attacks.

The document, released late on Saturday, describes contacts the hijackers had with Saudi associates in the United

States but offers no evidence the Saudi government was complicit in the plot.

It is the first investigative record to be disclosed since US President Joe Biden ordered a declassification review of materials that for years have remained out of public view.

Biden had encoun-

tered pressure in recent weeks from victims' families, who have long sought the records as they pursue a lawsuit in New York alleging that senior Saudi officials were complicit in the attacks.

Speculation of official involvement swirled shortly after the attacks when it was revealed that 15 of the 19 attackers were Saudis. Osama bin Laden, the leader of al-Qaeda at the time, was also from a prominent family in the kingdom.

The Saudi government has long denied any involvement, however. The Saudi Embassy in Washington said on Wednesday it supported the full declassification of all records as a way to "end the baseless allegations against the Kingdom once and for all".

The embassy said any allegation that Saudi Arabia was complicit was "categorically false".

"As past investigations have revealed, including the 9/11 Commission and the release of the so-called '28 Pages,' no evidence has ever emerged to indicate that the Saudi government or its officials had previous knowledge of the terror-

ist attack or were in any way involved," the embassy's statement said.

Biden last week ordered the Justice Department and other agencies to conduct a declassification review of investigative documents and release what they can over the next six months. The 16 pages were released on Saturday night, hours after Biden attended September 11 memorial events in New York, Pennsylvania and northern Virginia.

Victims' relatives – who are seeking billions of dollars from Saudi Arabia – had earlier objected to Biden's presence at ceremonial events as long as the documents remained classified.

The heavily redacted record describes a 2015 interview with a person who was applying for US citizenship and years earlier had repeated contacts with Saudi nationals who investigators said provided "significant logistical support" to several of the hijackers.

The man's identity is redacted throughout the document, but he is described as having worked at the Saudi consulate in Los Angeles.



# North Korea test-fires long-range cruise missile amid stalled talks with US

**(Reuters)** – North Korea carried out successful tests of a new long-range cruise missile over the weekend, its state media, KCNA, said on Monday, amid a protracted standoff with the United States over denuclearisation.

The missiles flew 1,500 km (930 miles) before hitting their targets and falling into the country's territorial waters during the tests held on Saturday and Sunday, KCNA said.

It was seen as the North's first missile launch after it tested a new tactical short-range ballistic missile in March. North Korea also conducted a cruise missile test just hours after US President Joe Biden took office in late January.

The latest test highlighted steady progress in Pyongyang's weapons programme amid a gridlock over talks aimed at dismantling the North's nuclear and ballistic missile programmes in return for US sanctions relief. The talks have stalled since 2019.

Rodong Sinmun, the ruling Workers' Party's official newspaper, ran photos of the new long-range cruise missile flying and being fired from a transporter-erector-launcher.

The missile is a strategic weapon that has been developed over the past two years and a key element of a five-year plan outlined in January to advance defence science and arsenals, KCNA said.

The test provides "strategic



significance of possessing another effective deterrence means for more reliably guaranteeing the security of our state and strongly containing the military maneuvers of the hostile forces," KCNA said.

"In this course, detailed tests of missile parts, scores of engine ground thrust tests, various flight tests, control and guidance tests, warhead power tests, etc., were conducted with success."

North Korean leader Kim Jong Un did not appear to have attended the test, with KCNA saying Pak Jong Chon, a member of the Workers' Party's powerful politburo and a secretary of its central committee, oversaw it.

The reclusive North has long accused the United States and South Korea of "hostile policy" toward Pyongyang.

The unveiling of the test came just a day before chief nuclear ne-

gotiators from the United States, South Korea and Japan meet in Tokyo to explore ways to break the standoff with North Korea.

China's foreign minister, Wang Yi, is also scheduled to visit Seoul on Tuesday for talks with his counterpart, Chung Eui-yong.

Biden's administration has said it is open to diplomacy to achieve North Korea's de-nuclearisation, but has shown no willingness to ease sanctions.

Sung Kim, the US envoy for North Korea, said in August in Seoul that he was ready to meet with North Korean officials "anywhere, at any time."

A reactivation of inter-Korean hotlines in July raised hopes for a restart of the negotiations, but the North stopped answering calls as annual South Korea-US military exercises began last month, which Pyongyang had warned could trigger a security crisis.



# Prince Andrew served with legal papers for sex abuse lawsuit, Virginia Giuffre's lawyers claim

(CNN) - Lawyers for a woman who has accused Prince Andrew of sexual abuse say they have served the senior British royal with legal papers for a lawsuit.

Prince Andrew is being sued in New York by Virginia Roberts Giuffre who says he had sex with her when she was 17. Andrew has denied similar allegations from Giuffre in the past. Giuffre has launched a civil case seeking damages, but the lawsuit can't proceed until the papers are served.

In an affidavit filed in a New York court Friday, a process server hired by Giuffre's legal team to give formal notice of the lawsuit to Andrew said he left the papers with the Metropolitan Police security detail at the main gates of Andrew's home, the Royal Lodge in Windsor, on August 27.

Serving the papers in that manner "is consistent with the provisions for service upon an individual Defendant ... as required by The Supreme Court of Judicature in England & Wales," said the document, which was filed in the Southern District of New York and obtained by CNN.

It is unclear whether Prince Andrew, the Queen's second son, was



***Lawyers for an American woman who alleges she was sexually assaulted by Prince Andrew say they have served him with legal papers in a US civil suit.***

at his residence at the time and whether his lawyers would say this was proper service. A representative for Andrew's legal team did not immediately respond for comment.

Buckingham Palace declined to comment on whether the Duke of York had been served, and has previously declined to

comment on the litigation.

Buckingham Palace has also previously denied Giuffre's allegations in a statement to CNN, saying, "It is emphatically denied that The Duke of York had any form of sexual contact or relationship with Virginia Roberts. Any claim to the contrary is false and with-

out foundation."

CNN has reached out to lawyers for Giuffre but has yet to hear back.

The process server said he arrived at the Royal Lodge the morning of August 26 and talked to the head of security, who said the security team had been instructed not to allow anybody trying to serve legal documents onto the grounds and "not to accept service of any court process," according to the affidavit.

The process server said he was told anything left there would not be forwarded to the defendant, the affidavit said. The process server said he called the number of an attorney for Prince Andrew that was given to him by the head of security and left a message, according to the affidavit.

The next day, the process server returned to the Royal Lodge and was told he could leave the legal documents with security at the main gates and the documents would be forwarded to the defendant's legal team, the affidavit said.

A pre-trial hearing is set for Monday, September 13, in New York, though it was unclear how attorneys for Prince Andrew would respond.

# Taliban ban women from studying with men

**BBC** - Afghan universities will be segregated by gender and a new dress code will be introduced, the Taliban has said. Higher Education Minister Abdul Baqi Haqqani indicated women would be allowed to study, but not alongside men.

He also announced a review of the subjects students would be taught. Women and girls were banned from schools and universities under Taliban rule between 1996 and 2001.

The Taliban have said they will not prevent women from being educated or having jobs. But since they seized control on 15 August, they have asked all women, except those in the public health sector, to stay away from work until the security situation improves.

Sunday's announcement of the higher education policy comes a day after the Taliban raised their flag over the presidential palace, signalling the beginning of their administration. They seized control from the elected government a month ago.

The policy marks a significant change from the accepted practice

before the Taliban takeover. Female students did not have to abide by a dress code and universities were co-educational, with men and women studying side by side. But Mr. Haqqani was unapologetic about that change. "We have no problems in ending the mixed-education system," he said. "The people are Muslims and they will accept it." Some have suggested that the new rules will exclude women from education because the universities do not have the resources to provide separate classes. However, Mr. Haqqani insisted there are enough female teachers and that where they are not available alternatives will be found. "It all depends on the university's capacity," he said. "We can also use male teachers to teach from behind a curtain or use technology." Girls and boys will also be segregated at primary and secondary schools, which was already common throughout Afghanistan. Women will be required to wear hijabs. However, Mr. Haqqani did not specify if additional face cov-



*Veiled students attend a Taliban rally at the Shaheed Rabbani Education University in Kabul on Saturday.*

erings would be made compulsory.

The newly installed minister also said that the subjects taught in universities will be reviewed. He told reporters that the Taliban wanted to "create a reasonable and Islamic curriculum that is in line with our Islamic, national and historical values and, on the other hand, be able to compete with other countries". The announcement comes after a demonstration by women supportive of the Taliban's gender policies at Shaheed Rabbani Education University in Kabul yesterday.

Hundreds of women, most of them wearing black niqabs and carry-

ing small Taliban flags, listened to speeches that praised the new regime and attacked those involved in large demonstrations across the country demanding the protection of women's rights.

Since the Taliban were removed from power in 2001, enormous progress has been made in improving Afghanistan's education enrolments and literacy rates - especially for girls and women.

A recent report by the United Nation's education branch, UNESCO, said that the number of girls in primary school had increased from almost zero to 2.5 million in the 17 years after Taliban control.

# AVAILABLE VACANCIES AT OSEC

(effective September 7, 2021 – valid until September 23, 2021)

We at the Labour Department's ONE STOP EMPLOYMENT CENTRE (OSEC) ARE WORKING DILIGENTLY TO ASSIST JOBSEEKERS FIND EMPLOYMENT AND/OR TRAINING DURING THIS PANDEMIC AND CLOSURES OF MANY LOCAL BUSINESSES IN ANTIGUA AND BARBUDA.

ONE STOP EMPLOYMENT CENTRE IS A PUBLIC EMPLOYMENT SERVICES CENTRE OF THE LABOUR DEPARTMENT THAT OFFERS COMPLIMENTARY SERVICE TO THE COMMUNITY OF ANTIGUA AND BARBUDA (FREE EMPLOYMENT SERVICES) INCLUDING SERVICES TO BOTH JOBSEEKERS AND EMPLOYER.

SOME OF THESE SERVICES INCLUDE (BUT NOT LIMITED TO) FREE MONTHLY WORKSHOPS, COMPUTER & QUICKBOOKS CLASSES, CAREER COUNSELING, RESUME & COVER-LETTER ASSISTANCE, IN ADDITION TO RECRUITMENT AND SCREENING SERVICES TO EMPLOYERS.

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## **ASSISTANT COOK (RESTAURANT)**

Minimum 5 years' experience

Must have extensive knowledge of Indian Cuisine to include Marinades, Sauces & Appetizers etc.

Must be a team-player

## **ASSISTANT PHARMACIST**

Minimum 5 years' experience in a similar role

Must be a Licensed Pharmacist in Antigua & Barbuda

Must pay strict attention to detail

Must be able to analyze information received whether written or verbal

## **AUDIT ASSOCIATE**

Bachelor's Degree in Accounting required

Great communication & analytical skills

Excellent written & verbal communication skills

Strong computer skills; Able to work in a team environment

## **AUDIT SENIOR/SUPERVISOR**

Minimum 3-4 years' experience of progressive public accounting experience

In-charge auditing experience desirable

Bachelors' Degree in Accounting required

CPA or ACCA or similar license required

Excellent analytical, organizational and engagement management skills

Excellent written and verbal communication skills

Strong computer skills including proficiency in Microsoft Office and audit preparation software

## **BAKER**

Minimum 5 years' experience

Secondary School Completion



**BOAT CAPTAIN**

Licensed Boat Operator with 10 or more years' experience as a captain

Boat Safety Training Certification

Firm knowledge of marine craft communication, signaling and navigation systems

Basic Knowledge of weather as its changes and affect the operation of sea going vessels

Maintenance and engineering experience or understanding

Strong Customer Services Skills

Ability to react quickly in emergencies

Ability to understand and follow oral and written instructions

Skill in making necessary minor and emergency repairs to marine equipment and docks

Excellent leadership, etiquette and communication skills

**CASHIER**

Minimum 2 years' working experience as a Cashier

Secondary School Certificate

Must be able to speak English & Spanish

**CASHIER CLERK/STORE CLERK**

Minimum 1 year experience

High School or College Completion

Must be Computer Literate

Must be efficient with strong attention to detail

Must be a fast learner and customer service-oriented

**CLEANER**

Minimum 3 years' experience

**COMMERCIAL HELICOPTER PILOT**

Must have a minimum of 1000 Commercial Flying Hours

ECCAA Commercial Helicopter License required

Must have a good personality

Must be a team-player and able to work

**COMPOUND SUPERVISOR**

At least 20 years' experience within the Boatyard & Marina Industry

Must be fluent in English, French & Italian

Great Customer Relation skills

Knowledge of Antigua & Barbuda Health, Safety & Trespassing regulations

Must be physically strong; Strong attention to detail is necessary

**COOK (ROTI MAKER)**

Minimum 3-4 years' experience

Secondary School Completion; Must have a valid Food Handler's License

Must have experience in preparing Indian dishes

Must have a valid Driver's License

**DECKHAND/SNORKEL GUIDE**

Basic Boating experience required; Must not be prone to motion sickness

High School Completion | Must be a competent swimmer

Boatmaster 3 license desirable but not required

**DENTIST**

Must be a Registered General Dentist with a minimum of 10 years' experience  
Diploma or Certificate of Course or Training of Root Canal & Children Dentistry

**DIRECTOR OF PRODUCT OPERATIONS**

Minimum 10 years' experience  
Excellent Strategic thinking along with good leadership and analytical skills  
Strong Decision making skills required

**DRIVER/OPERATOR**

Minimum 3 years' experience  
High School Completion along with Trade School Diploma  
Must be able to drive and operate Heavy Machinery & Equipment including  
Grader, U-Box/18 speed transmission equipment  
Must pay attention to detail | Must be punctual, honest, empathetic and trustworthy  
Must possess an F6 Driver's license  
Must be flexible to work on weekends and public holidays | Must be an effective team player

**EXECUTIVE CHEF**

Minimum ten years' culinary experience in an upscale environment with a  
minimum of five years'  
experience in a culinary leadership with a luxury/ultra-luxury resort.  
Bachelor's Degree in Culinary Arts, Hotel Management or other relevant fields  
Exceptional internal/external guest relations skills  
Demonstrated project management experience in organizing,  
planning and executing large-scale projects from conception through implementation  
Demonstrated experience in leading and developing staff  
Strong verbal and written communication skills  
Demonstrated knowledge of hospitality systems/software  
Solid business acumen with Professional presentation  
Must be able to speak, read and write English; Fluency in other languages preferred

**FARM MANAGER**

Minimum 5 years' experience | Farming experience preferred  
Secondary School Completion; Must be Proficient in Microsoft Office Suite  
Must be knowledgeable in the maintenance & repairs of small engines  
Must have a valid Driver's License

**FINANCE MANAGER**

At least five years of financial, auditing and accounting experience within an  
international organization or multinational company  
Bachelor's degree in accounting or finance with CPA/ACCA designation  
Strong Knowledge of QuickBooks and SAP  
Highly Proficient in NetSuite  
Advanced PC skills, particularly knowledge of MS Word and MS Excel software  
Strong analytical skills with ability to set priorities, complete work with minimal supervision,  
and meet deadlines Ability to work in a dynamic organization  
Excellent communication skills | Result oriented with strong organizational skills



**FOOD AND BEVERAGE SUPERVISOR**

2+ Years relevant food and beverage experience in a luxury hotel environment

Strong leadership, problem solving, customer service, communication and organization skills

Proficiency in Microsoft Office

**FRONT OFFICE ADMINISTRATOR**

At least three years' working experience in office administration or similar position

Knowledge of administrative or clerical procedures

Knowledge of basic bookkeeping | Excellent knowledge of MS Office (especially Excel & Word)

Proficient in the use of QuickBooks

Knowledge of customer service principles and practices | Good organizational and multi-tasking abilities

**HOTEL MANAGER**

Minimum 10 years of experience in the Hospitality industry with applicable International and Caribbean experience

Extensive managerial experience is required, with at least 2 years' experience at the Executive level and a track record in leading Hotel Company with good business and standards

Respectful, passionate, and leads by example with an engaged and positive approach

Articulate, creative, and curious underscored by strong analytical skills; Knowledge of Opera PMS and Micros Symphony

Internationally versed and stays abreast of market trends in the luxury hospitality

Thorough knowledge of luxury guest experience expectations and is culturally astute

Exceptional communication and persuasion skills underscored by a high level of emotional intelligence

An eye for detail, with exceptional ability to prioritize, organize, follow-up and effective problem resolutions skills

Extensive knowledge of forecasting and budgeting, statutory legislation, and industrial relations

**KITCHEN ASSISTANT**

No experience required | Secondary School Completion

**LEAD TOUR SPECIALIST**

Minimum 1 year experience of working in a customer service environment

Previous sales and supervisory experience is an asset

Good command of written and spoken English

Minimum of High or Secondary School Diploma

Must be computer literate with knowledge of Microsoft Office Software: Access, Excel, Outlook etc.

**LEGAL CLERK**

Minimum 1-2 years' experience as a Legal Clerk

Must be Computer Literate | Must be proficient in the use of QuickBooks

**LIVE-IN MAID/NANNY**

Minimum 4 years' experience in a similar role

High School Completion | Good communication skills

Must have a valid Driver's license | Must be able to cook

Must have knowledge of the basic lifesaving support (CPR-certified) | Must be a good swimmer

MUST BE FULLY VACCINATED

**MESSENGER/CLEANER**

Minimum 1 year experience

**MULTILINGUAL REAL ESTATE SALES AGENT**

8 plus years of proven experience as a Real Estate Agent or Real Estate Salesperson within a global market.

Proven track record of leading the real estate functions in a fast-paced, growing company.

Real Estate License is a plus.

Ability to understand and present contracts.

Ability to maintain secrecy and confidentiality on multiple new projects impacting the current workforce and maintain trustworthiness of the Chairman and members of executive management.

Ability and flexibility to travel both locally, regionally and internationally throughout the year.

Strong negotiating and selling capabilities.

Excellent communication skills and presentation skills with the ability to network.

Multilingual (both written and verbal)

Working knowledge of Microsoft Office applications

**PADI OPEN WATER SCUBA INSTRUCTOR**

Minimum 1 year working experience as a PADI Open Water Scuba Instructor

Must have issued at least 50 certifications & logged at least 1000 dives

Boatmaster 3 License required

Higher Level Boating & TEC Diving Qualifications is an asset

**PLUMBER**

Previous plumbing experience, ideally gained within a hotel or commercial building environment

Minimum High School Completion with CXC passes in English and Maths

Qualification in General Plumbing & Maintenance required; Pumps; Pools; Sewage

Plants and related equipment

**SECURITY OFFICER**

Minimum 3 years' experience as a Security Officer | Excellent communication skills

**SENIOR MAINTENANCE TECHNICIAN**

Minimum 5-6 years' experience in a similar role

High School Diploma

Must have formal technical training or diploma

In-depth knowledge of HVAC, electrical, plumbing and hydraulic systems

Must be able to speak Italian | Must work well under pressure and meet tight deadlines

Effective problem-solving and accounting abilities

Good Communication skills; Good Organization & Execution skills

Strong analytical and solutions creations skills

**SPA MANAGER (Hotel**

3+ Years of managerial experience in a 5-star luxury hotel or resort spa

Degree/Diploma in Spa Management/Business Management/Hospitality Management or similar



**SOUS CHEF (Hotel)**

3+ Years experience required

Strong leadership, problem solving, customer service, communication and organization skills

Proficiency in Microsoft Office

Basic Food Hygiene Certificate

**VIP HOST (CUSTOMER SERVICE AGENT)**

Minimum 1-2 years' experience

High School & College Completion necessary | Excellent communication skills (verbal & written)

Ability to work well under pressure; Ability to work effectively as part of a team or alone

Must be self-motivated; A quick learner and a creative/critical thinker

**WAREHOUSE/SALES CLERK**

Minimum 2 years' experience in a similar role | Secondary School Completion

**DEADLINE FOR ALL APPLICATIONS is  
Thursday 23rd September 2021**

**PLEASE NOTE THAT IN ORDER TO REGISTER  
YOU MUST BRING WITH YOU THE FOLLOWING:  
VALID PASSPORT | SOCIAL SECURITY &  
MEDICAL BENEFITS CARDS  
RESUME | CERTIFICATES/DIPLOMAS  
OSEC IS LOCATED ON REDCLIFFE STREET**

**FOR MORE INFORMATION  
PLEASE CALL 562-8533/34**

## COMMUNITY NOTICES



## AGHS Student Attendance

Students of the Antigua Girls' High School will return to school in person by respective levels per day for the first week of school only. Students are to be attired in their white dress uniform for this week, and will be present from 7:55am until 12:30pm.

Mon. 13th Sept - 1st Form only

Tues. 14th Sept - 2nd Form only

Wed. 15th Sept - 3rd Form only

Thurs. 16th Sept - 4th Form only

Fri. 17th Sept. - 5th Form only

For further information parents may email [info@aghs.edu.ag](mailto:info@aghs.edu.ag) or call 462-0404.

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3 Mins	\$46.00ec
4 Mins	\$69.00ec
5 Mins	\$92.00ec

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SPECIAL TERMS AND CONDITIONS APPLY

# Fraser-Pryce makes final attempt at World Record tomorrow

Shelly-Ann Fraser-Pryce will make her final attempt this season of breaking the women's 100m world record on Tuesday (14 Sept).

Fraser-Pryce ran two personal best times this season of 10.63 at a local meet in Kingston and 10.60 to win the Lausanne Diamond League. She was pushed to the line in Luassane by Elaine Thompson-Herah.

At the Gala dei Castelli, a World Athletics Continental Tour meet in Bellinzona, Switzerland, Fraser-Pryce will have two finalists from Tokyo 2020 to push her to the line.

Swiss stars Ajla Del Ponte and Mujinga Kambundji, both sub-11 sprinters, should give Fraser-Pryce the push needed in her pursuit of 10.49. American Florence Delorez Griffith Joyner (Flo-Jo) has held the world record since 1988.

"A few years ago, the world record seemed far away, but now it looks possible, although Elaine is closer to it than I am right now!" Fraser-Pryce said last month before her 10.60 performance.

"It's a great feeling to be a part of this phenomenal set of women who are making a big mark on the sport. We deserve to be here at the top. This group of women are showing that we can do anything we put our minds to," added Fraser-Pryce, who pulled out of last week's Diamond League final in Zurich.





*Belfort knocks down Holyfield.*

# Evander Holyfield loses comeback fight while Trump commentates

(CNN) - Former world champion boxer Evander Holyfield stepped back in the ring for the first time in over a decade, but it didn't go quite to plan for the 58-year-old.

Holyfield, who is best known for his two victories over Mike Tyson -- including the infamous fight in which Tyson bit his ear -- suffered a first-round technical knockout to former UFC fighter Vitor Belfort on Saturday at the Seminole Hard Rock Hotel and Casino in Florida.

Belfort, 44, who was a UFC light heavyweight champion, attacked Holyfield with a succession of quick punches

early on, pinning him against the ropes.

And, having not landed a punch of his own, Holyfield was knocked to the canvas twice before the referee called an end to the fight in the first round. He returned to boxing with just over a week's notice to replace Oscar De La Hoya, who contracted Covid-19.

Belfort called it a "legendary" moment given the tough season everyone is going through.

"I remember I was fighting two guys on the same night and Holyfield was fighting Mike Tyson for \$30 million," he told the media after. "It's been a privilege."

While the two former combat sports competitors did battle in the ring, former US President Donald Trump and his son, Don Jr., provided their input from the commentary booth.

The Trumps were part of the commentary team for the event, alongside rapper 50 Cent.

Trump has long been a fan of boxing and mixed martial arts.

He hosted several of Tyson's early fights at his Atlantic City property. Trump was a sponsor of one of Tyson's most famous knockouts -- his destruction of Michael Spinks in just 91 seconds.

Trump, in office, paid homage to the sweet science by pardoning Jack Johnson, a former heavyweight champion convicted of transporting a White woman over state lines. Of Johnson, Trump said: "The first African American heavyweight champion of the world, a truly great fighter. Had a tough life."

Earlier on the bill, Britain's former world cruiserweight and heavyweight champion David Haye had returned to boxing with a victory over Joe Fournier. Haye last fought three years ago against Tony Bellew.

# 'THERE'S NO LONGER A PATHWAY':

## QUESTIONS RAISED OVER ATHLETICS NZ'S 'UNREALISTIC' QUALIFYING STANDARDS FOR COMMONWEALTH GAMES

Track and field insiders are warning disillusioned athletes could walk away from the sport due to the "incredibly tough" and "unrealistic" qualifying criteria imposed by Athletics New Zealand (NZ) for the 2022 Commonwealth Games.

The demanding qualifying standards were set to ensure athletes meet the New Zealand Olympic Committee's (NZOC) criteria of demonstrating they are capable of a top six performance in Birmingham.

But, behind the scenes, athletes are questioning whether Athletics NZ have got the formula right; arguing that, in some events, the standards set are more in line with medal-winning performances.

Adding to the angst is the squeeze on team numbers, with Athletics NZ allocated just 18 spots under the Commonwealth Games quota system, meaning even if athletes do meet the qualifying standards, their place in the team for Birmingham is not assured.

The brutal criteria comes as a further blow to athletes who were on the fringe of selection for the Tokyo Olympics, and face another exhausting fight to secure a place in the team for the Commonwealth Games.



*"Not many people will understand the kind of grief this can bring", Zoe Hobbs wrote on social media after missing out on selection for the Tokyo Olympics despite qualifying.*



## SOUTH AFRICA DOUBLE ODI SERIES LEAD

### WI v SA 2nd ODI match report

South Africa have stormed to a 2-0 series lead in their five-match ODI series against the West Indies, winning by nine wickets in Antigua.

#### SCORECARD

West Indies won the toss and elected to bat, with Hayley Matthews (3), Kyshona Knight (5) and Deandra Dottin (1) all falling to Marizanne Kapp, a consistent figure in South Africa's attack

Marizanne Kapp (3/24) left the West Indies in a hole of 18/3 at the 12-over mark, and the hosts failed to recover through the middle overs as the South African support cast took the lead.

Quick Ayabonga Khaka followed Kapp's charge with 2/13, as the spin of Dane van Niekerk (2/14) and Sune Luus (2/27) gave the West Indies no respite.

Kycia Knight (22) and Qiana Joseph (21) were valiant in counter-attack-

ing aspirations, with Che-dean Nation (15) joining Knight in a partnership of 31. The efforts were in vain, however, as the tourists pressed their claims and cleaned up the tail.

South Africa closed the door on any miraculous comeback and – despite the loss of Lizelle Lee (18) in the 35-run opening partnership with Laura Wolvaardt – looked in complete control.

Matthews (1/13) claimed the only wicket

with the ball for the West Indies, who watched on as Wolvaardt (71\* from 84 balls) struck eight boundaries in her assault. Lara Goodall (25\*) enjoyed time in the middle at the other end, hitting three boundaries, as the Proteas chased down the target in 25.4 overs.

Match three of the series takes place today at the same venue

**DEWS**