

U.S. Federal Judge grants Stay on Subpoenas in Alfa Nero Matter

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APUA warns of a water shortage in the country

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U.S. Federal Judge grants Stay on Subpoenas in Alfa Nero Matter

A U.S. federal judge has granted a temporary stay on subpoenas served to Antigua and Barbuda's Prime Minister Gaston Browne, the West Indies Oil Company Ltd. (WIOC), and other individuals connected to an ongoing discovery dispute initiated by Russian national Yulia Guryeva-Motlokhov.

In a decision issued Monday, Judge Jesse M. Furman of the Southern District of New York ruled that the subpoenas will be suspended while motions to quash them are under review. The stay covers Prime Minister Browne, the group referred to as the "Antiguan Movants," and WIOC, which is not a party to the case.

Guryeva-Motlokhov is seeking evidence under 28 U.S.C. § 1782—a statute that permits individuals to obtain documents and testimony in the United States for use in foreign legal proceedings. Both WIOC and Antiguan officials have opposed the subpoenas, prompting legal motions to halt them.

Judge Furman explained that the stay was necessary, as compliance with

the subpoenas could interfere with the pending motions to quash. Guryeva-Motlokhov has until April 21 to submit a written response, limited to four pages, if she intends to challenge the stay.

The court also ordered that a single, consolidated legal brief be filed in response to both motions to quash.

Attorneys for Prime Minister Browne and the Antiguan officials view the swift issuance of the

Order for Stay of Discovery—granted within 24 hours of their request—as a sign that the judge is closely engaged with the case and understands the significance of the issues at hand.

Case 1:25-mc-00098-JMF Document 37 Filed 04/15/25 Page 1 of 1

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF NEW YORK

-----X	:	
	:	
IN RE APPLICATION OF YULIA GURYEVA-	:	25-MC-98 (JMF)
MOTLOKHOV FOR AN ORDER SEEKING	:	
DISCOVERY PURSUANT TO 28 U.S.C. § 1782	:	<u>ORDER</u>
	:	
-----X	:	

JESSE M. FURMAN, United States District Judge:

On April 11, 2025, non-party West Indies Oil Company Ltd. ("WIOC") filed an unopposed motion to intervene. *See* ECF No. 30. Later the same day, the Clerk of Court docketed an endorsement — signed before WIOC filed its motion — granting an earlier, unopposed motion of the "Antiguan Movants" to intervene and setting a briefing schedule on their motion to quash, *see* ECF No. 33, although the minute entry for the endorsement erroneously referenced WIOC's motion rather than the Antiguan Movants' earlier motion. Since that time, both WIOC and the Antiguan Movants have moved to stay the subpoenas at issue. *See* ECF Nos. 34 and 35.


In light of the foregoing, the Court ORDERS as follows:

- WIOC's unopposed motion to intervene is GRANTED;
- Unless and until the Court orders otherwise, the briefing schedule set forth at ECF No. 33 shall apply to **both** motions to quash. Applicant shall file a single, consolidated memorandum of law in opposition to both motions to quash.
- Because compliance with the subpoenas would moot the motions to quash, the motions to stay are GRANTED unless and until the Court orders otherwise. If Applicant believes that compliance should not remain stayed, she shall file an opposition to the motions, not to exceed four pages, by **April 21, 2025**.

The Clerk of Court is directed (1) to correct the docket entry for ECF No. 33 to reflect the fact that it pertains to ECF No. 21, not ECF No. 30; and (2) to terminate ECF Nos. 34 and 35.

SO ORDERED.

Dated: April 15, 2025
New York, New York


JESSE M. FURMAN
United States District Judge

US seeking recovery of superyacht maintenance expenses from Russian oil magnate

In another legal matter that is of interest to the government and people of Antigua and Barbuda, are media reports that the US government is seeking compensation for the monies it spent on maintaining a Russian sanctioned yacht moored in one of its marinas.

Media reports state that the government is asking the court to charge Eduard Khudiatov upwards of US\$25 million spent maintaining the Amadea superyacht seized by US authorities in 2025.

In response to this development, Prime Minister Gaston Browne, said this further justifies the action of the government in selling the similarly sanctioned superyacht, Alfa Nero, rather than incurring a huge maintenance fee and then having to battle to recoup the monies spent.

“It shows the wisdom to sell, instead of incurring US\$5M annually in fees, which was beyond our means.

“The ship was sanctioned by the US, not the Antigua and Barbuda government. Had we left the ship there (in the Falmouth Harbour) for a few more years, the charges on the boat would have been astronomical, with a declining value. We could not have gone to US Treasury or State department for reimbursement. We would have gotten stuck with the maintenance costs, if we did not sell,” he explained.



It has been further explained that with the Alfa Nero under sanctions by both the US and UK governments, what many have not realized is that it was impossi-

ble to even buy a fuel filter for it, as every engine part was under sanction including the engines.

“With the failure of the Bilge pumps, and very pos-

sible without maintenance, the Alfa Nero could have sunk right there without any insurance, in our most sacred harbour, ending our valuable Yachting Tourism Sector, which contributes about 3% of our GDP! Additionally, the question then would have been who would have been required to pay the hundreds of millions of dollars to clean up the environmental disaster that would have been created,” one of the persons advising the government on the matter observed.



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f i t

APUA appeals for the public to assist by conserving water

The water situation in Antigua and Barbuda has now reached a critical stage with APUA ending the extraction of water from two surface water sources because of falling water levels.

Communications Officer for the Authority, Anazette Reynolds said that effective Monday, the Water Business Unit ceased the extraction of water from Potworks Dam. One day later, on Tuesday, the extraction of water from one of the dams in Bendals also came to a halt for the same reasons.

Reynolds explained that the authority was extracting a total of nine-hundred-thousand gallons of water daily from Potworks Dam and now it has made arrangements to replace the loss from the surface water source by turning to additional reverse osmosis sources.

According to the communications of-



APUA Communications Officer
Anazette Reynolds


ficer, APUA has expanded the water purchase agreement it had in place


with North Sound Marina. She said the company has added additional capacity and that they are currently carrying out tests before going into full production in the coming weeks.

Reynolds stated that the additional capacity will bring production from North Sound Marina to a total of one million gallons of water daily; thereby replacing the deficit caused by the closure of the Potworks Dam pipeline.


She explained that the country is going through a hydrology drought, which is what happens when surface water and the water in the well reach a critical level forcing the authority to drastically reduce water from these sources.


Under these circumstances, APUA wants the public to begin to conserve water as much as possible starting immediately.





Hi I'm Piper





And I'm Dewey

Water works wonders.

Every drop counts, preserve it!



PRESS RELEASE FOR IMMEDIATE ATTENTION

APUA Launches National Water Conservation Campaign

St. John's, Antigua - April 14, 2025 - In a country long challenged by water scarcity where low rainfall and growing demand continue to place pressure on supply the Antigua Public Utilities Authority (APUA) has launched a revitalized national conservation campaign titled: "Water Works Wonders! Every Drop Counts! Preserve It!"

This nationwide public education initiative is designed to raise awareness and inspire action on the importance of water conservation. It complements APUA's ongoing investments in expanding the water production and distribution network to provide potable water across Antigua and Barbuda.

The campaign will be launched across multiple platforms, including television, radio, social media, print, and digital channels. At its core is a vibrant mix of educational and entertaining content that aims to resonate with audiences of all ages.

Spearheading the campaign are two animated characters Piper and Dewey Waterson. Piper, an impulsive teenager, often takes water for granted. His younger sister Dewey, sharp-witted and sensible, serves as the voice of reason constantly reminding Piper and the public that every drop counts. Through humor, heart, and relatable storytelling, the duo delivers key conservation messages in an engaging and memorable way.

"We understand the frustration many of our customers feel when it comes to the reliability of water," said Mr. John Bradshaw, CEO of APUA. "We want to assure the residents of Antigua and Barbuda that we are working tirelessly to improve the water supply. Ultimately, our goal is not just reliability, but long-term sustainability. At the same time, we are calling on everyone to be more water-conscious in their daily lives, and to take personal responsibility by storing an adequate supply in the event of service disruptions."

To date, APUA has invested millions into expanding its reverse osmosis (RO) network despite the high operational costs. In addition to upgrading RO plants, the Authority is advancing critical infrastructure projects, including increasing storage capacity, replacing aging mainlines, and implementing smart meters to improve billing efficiency and accuracy.

"We remain committed to doing our part," Mr. Bradshaw added, "but lasting success depends on a collective effort. Every drop saved helps reduce pressure on the system. This campaign is more than just raising awareness, it's a call to action."

Campaign Highlights Include:

- A signature animated video featuring Piper and Dewey
- A catchy, original jingle to reinforce the conservation message
- Engaging infographics and water-saving tips shared via social media, newspapers, and billboards
- Staff-led video segments showcasing APUA employees sharing their personal water-saving habits

"Water works wonders but only if we protect it," Mr. Bradshaw concluded. "Let's preserve it together, one drop at a time."

- END -

Local News



Supervisor of Elections Hughes to lead CARICOM observer team for Trinidad and Tobago elections



Supervisor of Elections, Ian. S. Hughes

Antigua and Barbuda's Supervisor of Elections, Ian. S. Hughes has been named to perform a critical task at the upcoming general elections in sister CARICOM territory, Trinidad and Tobago.

In an announcement, the Antigua and Barbuda Electoral Commission revealed that Hughes has been named the Caribbean Community's (CARICOM's) Chief of Mission to the Parliamentary Elections in the Republic of Trinidad and Tobago on April 28th, 2025.

It said the status of the Chief of Mission is that of an independent contractor, who will provide leadership and guidance to the CARICOM Election Observer Mission within the context of the Terms of Reference for the mission and the functions of the Chief of Mission as outlined in the Chief of Mission Handbook.

Furthermore, as part of his responsibilities, Hughes and his team will observe the final preparations prior to the elections, hold discussions with stakeholders on the progress towards the process and on the day of elections, observe the electoral process and col-

lect qualitative observations regarding preparations, comportment of the electoral officials and political actors and the overall political environment.

In the post-election phase, he will lead the CARICOM team in observing and assessing the outcome of the elections and the initial immediate impact on the social and political environment.

At the end of the mission, Hughes will issue an official statement on behalf of CARICOM on the process as well as prepare and submit the Report of the CARICOM Observation Mission to the Republic of Trinidad and Tobago National and Parliamentary Elections.

Hughes expresses his gratitude to the CARICOM organization for the trust and confidence that they have placed in his expertise and looks forward to playing a critical role in capturing the context of the upcoming electoral process in Trinidad and Tobago.

This is not the first time that the Supervisor of Elections has served as part of a CARICOM Observer Mission. He was appointed as the CARICOM's Chief of Mission to the 2021 Elections in the Bahamas and also served as member of the Observer team during the Parliamentary Elections in Turks and Caicos in 2021, Belize and Suriname in 2020 and Haiti in 2015.




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Tourism Minister Fernandez celebrates with aviation pioneer



Tourism Minister, Charles "Max" Fernandez recently met WITH Latesha Latoya Azille

Tourism Minister, Charles "Max" Fernandez recently met and congratulated Antiguan-born Latesha Latoya Azille, who made history as the first female Antiguan pilot to join a U.S.-based airline, Delta Air Lines.

The meeting took place in Miami where the minister was attending the 40th Anniversary of Seatrade Cruise Global 2025 and he took time out to meet with Ms. Azille. The encounter marked a proud and symbolic moment for the twin-island nation, bridging the worlds of tourism and aviation through the lens of Antiguan excel-

lence.

Minister Fernandez congratulated Azille on her tremendous achievement, stating "meeting Latesha was truly inspiring. She's a remarkable young woman whose accomplishments have made her entire nation proud. Young women across Antigua and Barbuda should see her as proof that with passion and perseverance, the sky is no limit."

Latesha Azille was officially welcomed into the Delta family during a special wing ceremony held at the Delta Flight Museum in Atlanta on March

19, 2025. The traditional event marked her transition into the airline's flight team and was made even more memorable as it coincided with Delta's 100th anniversary—celebrating a century of aviation since its founding in 1925.

Reflecting on her journey, Azille shared that this success is not only a personal and national milestone; it's a powerful statement for Caribbean women and girls everywhere: that no sky is too high, and no dream too bold.

During their discussion, Minister Fernandez and Azille explored the intersections of aviation and tourism and the importance of nurturing ambition, skill, and resilience in the pursuit of national

and personal goals.

Antigua and Barbuda's participation in Seatrade Cruise Global 2025—held under the theme "*Leading the Way in Cruising Excellence!*"—further emphasized the nation's commitment to innovation, connectivity, and leadership in regional travel. The event brought together over 11,000 cruise professionals, more than 600 exhibitors, and delegates from over 120 countries and 70 cruise brands.

As Antigua and Barbuda continues to position itself as a leader in Caribbean tourism, stories like Azille's highlight the spirit of determination and excellence that define the nation's people.



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Antigua and Barbuda demonstrates commitment to implementation of High Seas Treaty and protection of ocean resources



Antigua and Barbuda is among several countries around the globe taking part in a crucial meeting at the United Nations that is seeking to establish the framework for the effective execution of the landmark High Seas Treaty.

The agreement, which was adopted in 2023, known officially as the Biodiversity Beyond National Jurisdiction Treaty or BBNJ, seeks to protect ocean life beyond the national boundaries of respective countries.

With the dependence on island states, like Antigua and Barbuda, on the biodiversity of the ocean for food and livelihoods, the treaty is extremely crucial in maintaining the long term sustainability of marine resources.

The BBNJ Agreement ulti-

mately aims to conserve and sustainably use marine biological diversity in areas beyond national jurisdiction through effective implementation of the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea.

Representing Antigua and Barbuda at the two-week Preparatory Committee (PrepCom) meeting are Legal Officer at the Antigua and Barbuda Department of Marine Services and Marine Shipping (ADOMS) Darius Joseph and Crown Counsel at the Office of the Attorney General of Antigua and Barbuda Zachary Phillips.

They joined First Secretary at the Antigua and Barbuda Mission to the United Nations, Asha Challenger for the opening session of the meeting Monday. Challenger also rep-

resents Antigua and Barbuda as Vice Chair of the Preparatory Commission.

The PrepCom is focused on a number of key areas to include the establishment of institutional arrangements for the effective execution and management of the treaty and discussions on the capacity building and technology transfer needs for developing countries.

Other matters include financing options, especially for SIDS, and the design of systems for monitoring, reporting and compliance of the provisions of the Treaty.

“The PrepCom is a crucial step in establishing the institutional arrangements for the BBNJ agreements. It represents a critical phase in turning political will into practical action to protect marine biodiversity in areas beyond national jurisdiction,” Challenger explained.

Presently, 21 countries have ratified the BBNJ treaty, but for it to come into force, it needs to be ratified by 60 countries. Challenger expressed hope that the pace of ratifications will steadily increase so that the first Conference of Parties (COP) can be held in late 2026.

18-months in jail for Old Runway resident

Old Runway resident, Ed Archibald, has been ordered to an 18-month jail term when he appeared in the St. John's Magistrate's Court on Tuesday for sentencing after being found guilty for the illegal possession of a firearm and ammunition.

Senior Magistrate attached to District B, Ngaio Emanuel, imposed the 18-month prison term for the fire-

arm offence and a further 6 months for the ammunition offence. Both are to run concurrently.

Magistrate Emanuel followed the sentencing guidelines as established by the Eastern Caribbean Supreme Court when making her decision.

The case was considered Category 3 offence (less-

er) with a level B – medium seriousness. For such a sentence, the ECSC recommends a starting point of 40 percent of the 5 years maximum sentence.

The court also took into account Archibald's explanation for being found with the weapon and ammunition. He told the court that he was on his way to surrender the items as part of the current

Gun Amnesty announced by the government.

However, with the St. John's Police Station now operating from a temporary location at Dredge Bay, the court found it difficult to believe that Archibald would bypass the station less than a mile from his home in Old Runway and to be found in the city centre with the weapon.

Charges withdrawn against ABDF officer...brother pleads guilty

The prosecution on Tuesday withdrew the charges of the illegal possession of marijuana against the female officer of the Antigua and Barbuda Defence Force, allowing her to escape without a criminal record.

However, when the case resumed against Acting Chief Magistrate Dexter Wason on Tuesday, her brother, an

officer in the Immigration Department pleaded guilty to the charge.

The court heard that the police, armed with a search warrant, acted on certain intelligence and carried out a search of the home they shared in Bellevue.

The woman's brother pleaded guilty to possession 19 marijuana plants almost

four times the legal limit. It had a street value of under 34-hundred dollars. He was fined \$4,000.00 with a month in which to pay the fine.

It is not clear what impact this development will have on the status of the ABDF officer, who is an attorney at law.



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Local News



Antigua and Barbuda offers comfort to the people of the Dominican Republic



Antigua and Barbuda which has a large Dominican Republic nationals living here, is empathizing with the government people of that country over the recent tragedy where hundreds died when a nightclub roof collapsed unto patrons.

On Tuesday, the Permanent Secretary in the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Ambassador Clarence E. Pilgrim paid an official visit to the Consulate of the Dominican Republic in St. John's.

The visit was made in light of the tragic incident that

occurred last week at a nightclub in Santo Domingo, which claimed multiple lives and left several others injured.

Ambassador Pilgrim expressed condolences on behalf of the government and people of Antigua and Bar-

buda to the DR's Ambassador, Yolanda Alexandra Victoria.

He also signed the condolence book opened for the occasion.



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Regional News



Haitian government approves funding for 'war budget'

The Transitional Presidential Council (TPC) says it has approved US\$ 275,000 towards dealing with the security crisis facing the French-speaking Caribbean Community (CARICOM) member country Haiti.

It said that the funding represents the commitment of the state to act decisively with the criminal gangs that control most of the capital and are seeking to overthrow the government.

In a statement, the government said that the "war budget" will help the police and the military "to fight the armed groups that threaten national stability".

It said that nearly 20 per cent of the funding will go towards fortifying the border with the Dominican Republic.

According to the TPC statement, funding will also be provided for social programmes as well as on education, health and humanitarian assistance.

Last week, the International Organization for Migration (IOM) said armed attacks in the past few weeks in the Centre department's communes of Saut d'Eau and Mirebalais have displaced more than 30,000 people.

It said the vast majority of them have remained in the department and together with other partners, are providing assistance, including food, hygiene kits, safe water and psychosocial support.

Last Sunday, CARICOM governments issued a strong condemnation of recent reports that criminal gangs in Haiti are threatening to overthrow the transitional government through violence.

In their statement, the CARICOM leaders described the threats as "completely unacceptable" and warned that any attempt to forcibly change



the governance structure in Haiti would only worsen the country's already dire humanitarian situation.

The United States has since said that it supports the statement issued by CARICOM and that Washington also supports the efforts by the Ken-

ya-led Multinational Security Support (MSS) Mission and CARICOM to assist the government in its efforts to bring peace and stability to Haiti in the face of armed criminal gangs.

The United Nations (UN) Security Council in 2023 passed a resolution for the MSS aimed at combating gang violence and restoring stability in the country. Criminal gangs are seeking to take complete control of the capital Port au Prince, and have launched several attacks, killing women and children among others. (*Loop Caribbean*)

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St Kitts and Nevis PM initiates legal action over defamatory publication



The Office of the Prime Minister of St Kitts and Nevis has confirmed that Prime Minister Dr Terrance Drew has taken legal action against Annette Frank in response to what has been described as “grave and false allegations” published against him on March 7, 2025.

According to an official statement, the Prime Minister considers the publication not only a personal attack but also a serious threat to the integrity of his office.

“This action stresses the gravity with which the Prime Minister views false and malicious attacks on his personal reputation, and that

of Prime Minister,” the release stated. “It also reflects a commitment to upholding the reputations of persons from the dissemination of baseless and false attacks, and the duty of persons to act responsibly before publishing or republishing false allegations of misconduct.”

Acting on Dr Drew’s instructions, legal counsel issued a formal letter to Frank on April 7, 2025. The letter characterizes the statements made in the March 7 post as “scandalous, totally false and defamatory,” and alleges the publication was made “with clear malice in order to cause reputational damage.”

The letter, addressed through the Prime Minister’s legal representation, demands the following actions from Frank: an unequivocal retraction of the publication from all media, including social media platforms; public apology to the prime minister; payment of EC\$500,000 in compensation for damage and distress; payment of EC\$50,000 in legal costs and a formal undertaking not to repeat or republish any similar defamatory allegations.

Frank has been given 10 days to respond. “In the absence of a speedy and constructive response to this letter within the time spec-

ified, the Hon. Prime Minister will have no choice but to issue proceedings for defamation,” the letter stated.

The Prime Minister’s Office said this legal response underscores Dr. Drew’s intention to defend his integrity and ensure that falsehoods do not go unchallenged.

While reaffirming his commitment to press freedom and freedom of expression, the Prime Minister also emphasized that there are limits when those freedoms are abused.

“Further updates on the matter will be provided as necessary, according to the Prime Minister’s Office. (Loop Caribbean)



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Regional News



Trinidadian mother of five wins life-changing prize



A devoted mother from South Trinidad is embracing a future filled with hope and possibility after securing the top prize in NLCB's Win for Life game.

In a statement the NLCB said the winner matched all six numbers and the Cash Ball after purchasing her Quick Pick ticket from 299 Lotto Outlet at LP #299 Syne Village, Penal, for the Win for Life draw held on Tuesday March 18, 2025.

The NLCB said:

"With \$20,000 coming her way every month for the next 20 years, she is now on the path to achieving life-long dreams and ensuring a brighter future for her family.

"After seeing the Win for Life game advertised on television with the prize of \$20,000 every month for 20 years, she decided to focus on it exclusively, hoping for the day her numbers would come through. She even dreamt that she would win on two occasions, and when she saw the winning numbers appear on the screen during the live TV draw,

she could hardly believe her eyes."

The winner said:

"I kept looking at the screen in disbelief. I even took the torch from my phone to double-check the numbers on my ticket."

Her youngest daughter's reaction was priceless, she screamed and jumped with joy upon hearing the incredible news. Now, with this life-changing win, the winner feels like she could "jump to the sky".

A woman of faith and compassion, she has always been driven by a deep love of caring for others. Whether it's cooking, gardening, writing, or singing in worship, she finds joy in the simple things. To celebrate this blessing, she told us that she plans to hold a heartfelt thanksgiving, expressing gratitude for this miraculous turn of events.

While financial security is a blessing, this prize means so much more than just money. For years, she has dreamed of starting her own business, building savings, and

having peace of mind. Now, she can finally make those dreams a reality.

The winner said the funds would help her to support her family, close friends and her neighbourhood, our winner added that on a personal note, they will also help her take care of her health, including recent issues with her vision.

The NLCB said the winner plans to continue playing the NLCB games as she believes that more good fortune may come her way; in particular, she has her sights set on the Scratch Big Ride vehicle.

For those still chasing their dreams, she offers this advice "Stay focused, believe in yourself, trust in God, and know that He will miraculously make a way."

Win for Life offers a top prize of \$20,000 every month for 20 years and a second prize of \$20,000 every month for 2 years, with draws every Tuesday and Friday at 7:00pm. (Loop Caribbean)

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El Salvador President Bukele says he won't be releasing a Maryland man back to the US



President Donald Trump's top advisers and Nayib Bukele, the president of El Salvador, said Monday that they have no basis for the small Central American nation to return a Maryland man who was wrongly deported there last month. Bukele called the idea "preposterous" even though the US Supreme Court has called on the administration to "facilitate" Kilmar Abrego Garcia's return.

Trump administration officials emphasized that Abrego Garcia, who was sent to a notorious gang prison in El Salvador, was a citizen of that country and that the US has no say in his future. And Bukele, who has been a vital partner for the Trump administration in its deportation efforts, said "of course" he would not release him back to US soil.

"The question is preposterous. How can I smuggle a terrorist into the United States?" Bukele, seated alongside Trump, told reporters in the Oval Office Monday. "I don't have the power to return him to the United States."

Should El Salvador want to return Abrego Garcia, the US would "facilitate it, meaning provide a plane," Attorney General Pam Bondi said.

But "first and foremost, he was illegally in our country, and he had been illegally in our country," she said. "That's up to El Salvador if they want to return him. That's not up to us."

The refusal of both countries to allow the return of Abrego Garcia, who had an immigration court order preventing his deportation over fears of gang persecution, is intensifying the battle over the Maryland resident's future. It has also played out in contentious court filings, with repeated refusals from the government to tell a judge what it plans to do, if anything, to repatriate him.

The judge handling the case, Paula Xinis, is now considering whether to grant a request from the man's legal team to compel the government to explain why it should not be held in contempt.

The fight over Abrego Garcia also underscores how critical El Salvador has been as a linchpin of the US administration's mass deportation operation.

Since March, El Salvador has accepted from the U.S. more than 200 Venezuelan immigrants — whom Trump administration officials have accused of gang activity and violent crimes —

and placed them inside the country's maximum-security gang prison just outside of the capital, San Salvador. That prison is part of Bukele's broader effort to crack down on the country's powerful street gangs, which has put 84,000 people behind bars and made Bukele extremely popular at home.

"I want to just say hello to the people of El Salvador and say they have one hell of a president," Trump said as he greeted Bukele, who was wearing a black mock turtleneck sans tie.

Bukele struck a deal under which the US will pay about \$6 million for El Salvador to imprison the Venezuelan immigrants for a year.

Though other judges had ruled against the Trump administration, this month the Supreme Court cleared the way for Trump to use the Alien Enemies Act, an 18th century wartime law, to deport the immigrants. The justices did insist that the immigrants get a court hearing before being removed from the U.S. Over the weekend, 10 more people who the administration claims are members of the MS-13 and Tren de Aragua gangs arrived in El Salvador, Secretary of State Marco Rubio said Sunday.

Trump has said openly that he would also favor El Salvador taking custody of American citizens who have committed violent crimes, a view he repeated Monday.

"We have bad ones too, and I'm all for it because we can do things with the president for less money and have great security," Trump said during the meeting. "And we have a huge prison population." It is unclear how lawful U.S. citizens could be deported elsewhere in the world.

Before the press entered the Oval Office, Trump said in a video posted on

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social media by Bukele that he wanted to send “homegrown” to be incarcerated in El Salvador, and added that “you’ve got to build five more places,” suggesting Bukele doesn’t have enough prison capacity for all of the U.S. citizens that Trump would like to send there.

Meanwhile, the Supreme Court has called for the Trump administration to “facilitate” the return of Abrego Garcia.

Trump indicated over the weekend that he would return Abrego Garcia to the US if the high court’s justices said to bring him back, saying “I have great respect for the Supreme Court.” But the tone from top administration officials was sharply different on Monday, “He’s a citizen of El Salvador,” said Stephen Miller, a White House deputy chief of staff. “So it’s very arrogant, even for American media, to suggest that we would even tell El Salvador how to handle their own citizens.”

Bondi asserted that two immigration court judges — who are under Justice Department purview — found that Abrego Garcia was a member of MS-13, although the man’s attorneys say the government has provided no evi-

dence that he was affiliated with MS-13 or any other gang. The allegation is based on a confidential informant’s claim in 2019 that Abrego Garcia was a member of a chapter in New York, where he has never lived.

While Bukele’s crackdown on gangs has popular support, the country has lived under a state of emergency that suspends some basic rights for three years. He built the massive prison, located just outside San Salvador in the town of Tecoluca, to hold those accused of gang affiliation under his crackdown.

Part of his offer to receive the Venezuelans there was that the US also send back some Salvadoran gang leaders. In February, his ambassador to the US, Milena Mayorga, said on a radio program that having gang leaders face justice in El Salvador was “an issue of honor.”

Populists who have successfully crafted their images through media, Bukele and Trump are of different generations but display similar tendencies in how they relate to the press, political opposition and justice systems in their respective countries.

Bukele came to power in the middle of Trump’s first term and had a straight-

forward relationship with the U.S. leader. Trump was most concerned with immigration and, under Bukele, the number of Salvadorans heading for the US border declined.

Bukele’s relationship with the U.S. grew more complicated at the start of the Biden administration, which was openly critical of some of his antidemocratic actions. Trump has also shown some irritation with Bukele in the past, accusing El Salvador of lowering its crime rate by sending people to the US.

“He’s just, ‘we’re working with our people that are causing problems and crime,’” Trump said of Bukele at a campaign rally last year. “He’s not working with them. He’s dumping them in the United States and their crime rate, their murder rate, is down 72%.”

Just before Bukele’s arrival in Washington, the State Department updated its travel advisory for El Salvador to Level 1, which is for countries that are considered the safest to visit for US citizens. The advisory notes that gang activity, and the accompanying murders and other violent crimes, has declined in the past three years. (*Loop Caribbean*)



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Attack by gunmen leaves at least 40 people dead in Nigeria, the country's president says



Nigeria's president said on Monday that at least 40 people were killed when Muslim gunmen, believed to be herders, attacked a Christian farming community in the north-central part of the country, the latest in an increasing wave of violence in the West African country.

President Bola Tinubu also said he has ordered an investigation over the late Sunday night attack on the Zike community, extending his condolences to the victims and their families.

"I have instructed security agencies to thoroughly investigate this crisis and identify those responsible for orchestrating these vi-

olent acts," Tinubu said in a statement late Monday.

Amnesty International said the victims, who included children and the elderly, were taken by surprise and could not flee from the gunmen.

Such attacks have become common in this part of Africa's most populous country, where gunmen — typically herders from Fulani, a Muslim tribe — exploit security lapses to launch deadly raids on farmers in a fight over land resources.

According to Andy Yakubu, a local resident, gunmen in Sunday night's attack also destroyed and looted homes in the Zike community, located in

the Bassa area of Plateau state.

Yakubu said he saw bodies after the attack and that the number of dead could exceed 50. No one has been arrested so far, he added.

The Fulani have been accused of carrying out mass killings across the northwest and central regions, where the decades-long conflict over access to land and water has further worsened the divisions between farmers and herders, Christians and Muslims.

Amnesty says that between December 2023 and February 2024, 1,336 people were killed in Plateau state — an indication

that the measures taken by Tinubu's administration to curb the violence are not working.

Samuel Jugo, spokesperson of the Irigwe Development Association, an ethnic organisation in the Bassa area, said in a statement on Monday that at least 75 people of the Irigwe, a Christian ethnic group, have been killed since December 2024.

Jugo said that despite deployment of additional security forces to the area, violence still occurs and described the latest assault as "very provocative, vexing and undeserving."

In May 2024, armed men attacked remote villages in Plateau, killing at least 40 people during a late-night raid.

The violence over land resources in north-central Nigeria is separate from the battles with Boko Haram, Nigeria's home-grown jihadis who took up arms in 2009 to fight Western education and impose their radical version of Islamic law. That conflict, now Africa's longest struggle with militancy, has also spilled into Nigeria's northern neighbours. (*Jamaica Gleaner*)

Trump administration freezes \$2.2 billion in grants to Harvard over campus activism

The federal government says it's freezing more than \$2.2 billion in grants and \$60 million in contracts to Harvard University, after the institution said it would defy the Trump administration's demands to limit activism on campus.

In a letter to Harvard Friday, President Donald Trump's administration had called for broad government and leadership reforms at the university, as well as changes to its admissions policies. It also demanded the university audit views of diversity on campus, and stop recognising some student clubs.

The federal government said almost \$9 billion in grants and contracts in total were at risk if Harvard did not comply.

On Monday, Harvard President Alan Garber said the university would not bend to the government's demands.

"The University will not surrender its independence or relinquish its constitutional rights," Garber said in a letter to the Harvard community. "No government — regardless of which party is in power — should dictate what private universities can teach, whom they can admit and hire, and which areas of study and inquiry they can pursue."

Hours later, the government froze billions in Harvard's federal funding — marking the seventh time the Trump administration has taken the step at one of the nation's most elite colleges. Six of the seven are in the Ivy League.

The first university targeted by the Trump administration was Columbia, which acquiesced to the government's demands under the threat of billions of dollars in cuts. In an attempt to force compliance with its agenda, the administration also has paused federal funding for the University of Pennsylvania, Brown, Princeton, Cornell and Northwestern.



Trump's administration has normalised the extraordinary step of withholding federal money to pressure major academic institutions to comply with the president's political agenda and to influence campus policy. The administration has argued universities allowed antisemitism to go unchecked at campus protests last year against Israel's war in Gaza.

Harvard, Garber said, already has made extensive reforms to address antisemitism. He said many of the government's demands don't relate to antisemitism, but instead are an attempt to regulate the "intellectual conditions" at Harvard.

Withholding federal funding from Harvard, one of the nation's top research universities in science and medicine, "risks not only the health and well-being of millions of individuals but also the economic security and vitality of our nation." It also violates the university's First Amendment rights and exceeds the government's authority under Title VI, which prohibits dis-

crimination against students based on their race, colour or national origin, Garber said.

The government's demands included that Harvard institute what it called "merit-based" admissions and hiring policies and conduct an audit of the student body, faculty and leadership on their views about diversity. The administration also called for a ban on face masks at Harvard — an apparent target of pro-Palestinian campus protesters — and pressured the university to stop recognising or funding "any student group or club that endorses or promotes criminal activity, illegal violence, or illegal harassment."

Harvard's defiance, the federal antisemitism task force said Monday, "reinforces the troubling entitlement mindset that is endemic in our nation's most prestigious universities and colleges — that federal investment does not come with the responsibility to uphold civil rights laws.

"The disruption of learning that has plagued campuses in recent years is

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unacceptable. The harassment of Jewish students is intolerable.”

Trump has promised a more aggressive approach against antisemitism on campus, accusing former President Joe Biden of letting schools off the hook. It has opened new investigations at colleges and detained and deported several foreign students with ties to pro-Palestinian protests.

The demands from the Trump administration had prompted a group of Harvard alumni to write to university leaders calling for it to “legally contest and refuse to comply with unlawful demands that threaten academic free-

dom and university self-governance.” “Harvard stood up today for the integrity, values, and freedoms that serve as the foundation of higher education,” said Anurima Bhargava, one of the alumni behind the letter. “Harvard reminded the world that learning, innovation and transformative growth will not yield to bullying and authoritarian whims.”

The government’s pressure on Harvard also sparked a protest over the weekend from the campus community and residents of Cambridge and a lawsuit from the American Association of University Professors on Friday challenging the cuts.

In their lawsuit, plaintiffs argue that the Trump administration has failed to follow steps required under Title VI before it starts cutting funds, including giving notice of the cuts to both the university and Congress.

“These sweeping yet indeterminate demands are not remedies targeting the causes of any determination of noncompliance with federal law. Instead, they overtly seek to impose on Harvard University political views and policy preferences advanced by the Trump administration and commit the University to punishing disfavoured speech,” plaintiffs wrote. (*Jamaica Gleaner*)

Pakistan accelerates deportation of Afghans: UN

Pakistan has ramped up the forced mass deportation of Afghan refugees and migrants, with nearly 60,000 having crossed the border since the start of April, the United Nations International Organization for Migration (IOM) said.

Nearly three million Afghans in Pakistan are facing deportation after Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif announced in October a three-phase plan to send them back to their home country. The IOM said in a statement on Tuesday that it has assisted more than one million people returning from Pakistan and Iran.

Amid the second phase of the plan, the IOM said it has registered a sharp rise in forced returns. Between April 1 and 13, nearly 60,000 individuals crossed into Afghanistan through the Torkham and Spin Boldak border points, it noted.

“With a new wave of large-



scale returns now underway from Pakistan, needs on the ground are rising rapidly – both at the border and in areas of return that are struggling to absorb large numbers of returnees,” said Mihyung Park, head of the agency’s Afghanistan mission.

In March, Islamabad set an early April deadline for some 800,000 people carrying Afghan Citizen Cards (ACC) issued by Pakistani authorities to leave the country.

Families with their belongings in tow have crowded key border crossings of Torkham in the north and Spin Boldak in the south, recalling scenes in 2023 when tens of thousands of Afghans fled deportation threats in Pakistan.

Many of the Afghans have been living in Pakistan for decades after fleeing successive conflicts in their country and following the Taliban’s return to power in 2021.

The deportation order came

amid a dramatic increase in armed attacks across Pakistan, with the government blaming groups and nationals based in Afghanistan, an allegation the Taliban government in Kabul has rejected.

Among those facing deportation is Afghan journalist Freshta Sadid, who holds a valid exit permit, according to the Joint Action Committee for Refugees.

The group is calling for “urgent action” to protect Sadid, warning that she is on the Taliban “hit list”.

Pakistan is not a signatory to the UN’s 1951 Refugee Convention that protects the rights of refugees.

The country also lacks domestic laws to protect refugees, as well as procedures to determine the status of individuals seeking international protection within its borders. (*Al Jazeera English*)

Sports News

Chargers Eagles continue successful start in D-2 volleyball league



Chargers Eagles 2. (ABAVA)

Chargers Eagles 2 and High Flyerz Valkyries achieved more success in their latest games of their campaigns in the female Division 2 of the Antigua and Barbuda Amateur Volleyball Association's (ABAVA) Development League.

Both teams notched up their second wins in three matches in their latest Division 2 encounters at the indoor stadium at the YMCA Sports Complex.

After losing the opening set 22-25, the Chargers Eagles 2 snatched a 2-1 win against Royal Cruisers 2 by winning the other sets, prevailing 25-19 and 15-12. It was the first loss in two games for Royal Cruisers 2.

High Flyerz Valkyries pulled off a 2-0 victory against the Dynasty Queens 2, winning 25-10, 25-13. The Dynasty Queens 2 remain in the cellar of the nine-team Women's Division 2

League without any points after suffering their third loss in as many games.

Stoneville 2 continued their successful start to their campaign in the Men's Division 2 League as well.

They recorded their second win in as many games with a 2-0 victory against the Invaders 2, who lost for the second time in three encounters. Stoneville 2 prevailed 25-19, 25-10.

Meanwhile, the Antigua and Barbuda Amateur Volleyball Association's (ABAVA) Division-1 Local League will resume with a double-header at the YMCA Sports Complex this evening (Wednesday).

Reigning three-peat champions Caribbean Alliance Insurance (CAI) Da Squad will resume their quest for a fourth consecutive title when they take on Starz 1 in a top-of-the-table Women's Division 1 contest.

Both teams will enter tonight's game with perfect records as the top two teams thus far in the Women's Division 1 League. Starz 1 currently lead the standings with four wins from four games.

Da Squad will go into the match in second place, having won all three previous matches.

High Flyerz and Invaders will clash in a Men's Division 1 affair after the female encounter.

High Flyerz will enter Wednesday's game with a record of two wins and three losses, while the Invaders have secured one win and suffered four defeats in their previous five encounters.

Six teams are battling top honours in the Women's Division 1 league, while seven teams are vying for supremacy in the men's category.



The Guyana fielders celebrate the dismissal of a Trinidad & Tobago batsman during their opening match in Cricket West Indies Rising Stars Under-15 Tournament at the Sir Vivian Richards Stadium in Antigua on Tuesday, April 15, 2025.

Leewards lose opener in CWI Rising Stars Under-15 Tournament

The Leeward Islands made a losing start as the Windward Islands, Barbados, and Guyana secured wins in round one of the Cricket West Indies (CWI) Rising Stars Under-15 Tournament, which got underway at three venues in Antigua on Tuesday (yesterday).

The Windward Islands defeated the Leeward Islands by eight wickets at the Coolidge Cricket Grounds (CCG).

The Windwards dismissed their counterparts for 109 in 29.4 overs after winning the toss and electing to field first.

Jathan Edward (23) and Karese Farrell (10) were the only two batsmen to hit double figures.

Jeanille Williams and Jorden Charles were the top performers with the ball, with three for 21 from 5.4 overs and three for 27 from

eight overs, respectively, while Dylan John and Jer-shaun Joseph each picked up two wickets.

The Windwards then reached 110 for two in 25.5 overs, thanks to 47 not out from Alex Armstrong and 25 from Derwin Lewis.

Defending champions Barbados defeated Jamaica by nine wickets at Barrel (Ball) Beef in Liberta.

Barbados, after winning the toss and electing to field first, bowled out the young Jamaicans for just 77 in 24.5 overs.

Luwain Pryce, Tesfah Ward, and Wayne Plummer were the only Jamaican batsmen to get to double figures, with 22, 13, and 12, respectively.

Pacer Asher Branford took 4-20 from his five overs to lead the rout, while left-arm spinner Joshua Thompson

and pacer Jahidi Hinds supported well with three for 14 from 7.5 overs and three for 16 from seven overs, respectively.

Barbados then needed only 18 overs to achieve victory at 78 for one. Hinds made 28 not out, while opening partner Javion Batson made 22. Captain Justin Parris finished on 11 not out.

Guyana secured a six-wicket win over Trinidad & Tobago at the Sir Vivian Richards Stadium. The Trinidadians were bowled out for 168 in 48.5 overs after being put in to bat.

Opener Jordan Julien led the way with 53 off 99 balls, including three fours and a six, while opening partner Davis Guerra made 32.

Brandon Henry (2-15) and Nathaniel Ramsammy (2-18) were two of five bowlers to take a pair of wickets for Guyana, with the other

three being Patrice Fraser (2-47), Rafell McKenzie (2-26), and Reyaz Latif (2-31).

Captain Richard Ramdehol then orchestrated the successful chase with 64 not out off 88 balls, including eight fours, as Guyana reached 171 for four in 41.5 overs.

He was well supported by Brandon Henry, who made 39 not out, and opener Justin Dowlin, who hit 31. Ethan Ramcharan took two for 36 from his seven overs of leg spin for T&T.

Action continues with the second round of matches on Thursday when Guyana faces Jamaica at the Antigua Recreation Ground, the Leeward Islands take on Barbados at the Sir Vivian Richards Stadium, and the Windward Islands tackle Trinidad and Tobago at Barrel Beef in Liberta.

Sports News



Deitz eyes strong finish as Windies Women's World Cup dreams fade

As the West Indies Women's hopes of qualifying for the 2025 ICC Women's Cricket World Cup hang by the thinnest of threads, head coach Shane Deitz says the team is now playing for pride and praying for a miracle.

Deitz admitted the regional side had underperformed and disappointed fans across the Caribbean as he spoke candidly after Monday's 65-run defeat to hosts Pakistan in their third match of the ICC Women's World Cup Qualifiers.

The result, their second loss of the tournament following a shock defeat to Scotland in their opener, leaves West Indies languishing in fourth place with just two points and two must-win games remaining.

"Obviously, now we have to recover. We've got two big games to come; train well over the next few days and come out fighting hard. Cricket is a funny game; anything can happen. But right now, we're just focused on finishing well, playing some really good cricket, and giving our fans something to cheer about," Deitz said.

Pakistan posted a modest 191 on Monday, but the West Indies, plagued by another batting collapse, were dismissed for 126. Aaliyah Alleyne (22), Shabika Gajani (21), and Jannillea Glasgow (18) offered brief



Shane Deitz

resistance, but no partnerships of substance materialized, once again exposing the team's frailties in the middle order.

Pakistan now lead the standings with six points, followed by Bangladesh and Scotland on four each. Only the top two teams will earn automatic berths to the World Cup in India later this year.

As such, the West Indies, with matches remaining against Bangladesh (Wednesday) and Thailand, need a miracle and favourable results elsewhere to stay alive.

Despite the bleak outlook, Deitz is by no means throwing in the towel just yet.

"We've let ourselves

down, and we've let the fans in the Caribbean down—that's really disappointing. But we're going to fight back. The only way to do that is to regroup, train hard, and stick together as a team.

Hopefully, a few things go our way, and something special happens. A miracle maybe, but right now, we just need to focus on playing better ODI cricket," he declared.

Deitz was quick to point out that West Indies' current position is the result of deeper issues that predate the tournament.

"We're in this position at this tournament because we haven't played good cricket over this last cycle of ODI cricket for about three or

four years. And that's something we've got to really improve on and look at and review after this and be better going into the next cycle of the championship for the next World Cup," the Australian stated.

Still, the coach found one silver lining from Monday's performance, which was the team's improved showing in the field.

The bowlers, led by Captain Hayley Matthews (2-30), Afy Fletcher (2-39), and Karishma Ramharack (2-55), held Pakistan to a chaseable total on a sweltering 40-degree day.

Ashmini Munisar, who has spent much of the past year on the bench, also stood out for Deitz, as she returned tidy figures of one for 29.

"We talked about being more resilient in the field, and the girls delivered. Obviously Ashmini Munisar hasn't played much cricket. She's been running drinks for about a year with us, and she bowled brilliantly. So it shows our skill levels there. But we just got to be smarter in different periods of the game, read the game better, have better plans, and be able to do that for longer," Deitz noted.

The West Indies will face Bangladesh next in a fixture that could determine the fate of their World Cup campaign. The match is set for 12:30 a.m. Antigua time

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Sports News



Losing start for Bajans at Gillian Brazier Basketball Shoot-Out



The Dover Tigers of Barbados made a losing start on debut in the 19th Gillian Brazier Shoot-Out title at the JSC Sports Complex on Monday, April 14, 2025. (Photo courtesy of the CPTSA Wings)

The Dover Tigers of Barbados made a poor start to their debut campaign during the 19th Gillian Brazier Basketball Shoot-Out, which got underway at the JSC Sports Complex on Monday evening.

Following a brief official opening ceremony to start the five-team female basketball tournament, which is organized by the Concerned Parents/Teachers Sports Association (CPTSA) Wings Sports Club, the Bajans lost 30-80 to Juel Canucks of

Canada in the first encounter.

Anna Petridis sank 21 points and claimed six rebounds; Genevieve Stephens converted 15 points and grabbed 10 rebounds; and Alexia Schryburt had 10 points, nine rebounds, and five assists for the Canucks.

Myniya Haynes scored 12 points and snatched seven rebounds for the Barbadian Dover Tigers.

Hosts Wings Tough Gals of Antigua and Barbuda

also made a losing start to their campaign. The Wings Tough Gals lost 29-80 against another Canadian team, the Juel Stingers.

Hailey Fennema produced 28 points, 14 rebounds, and four steals; Caroline Chadwick had 12 points, seven rebounds, and six steals; Bryn Hardie scored 10 points and claimed six rebounds; and Maria Nicorescu grabbed 19 rebounds for the Juel Stingers.

Alyssa Jardine had 15 points, eight rebounds, and

three steals, while Melissa Haywood grabbed 10 rebounds for the Wings Tough Gals.

The Canucks and Stingers are two of the three Canadian teams that are representing Juel of Ontario in the tournament for the third successive year.

Defending champions, the Juel Ravens, are the other Canadian team contesting this year's tournament. Juel Ravens won the 18th Gillian Brazier Shoot-Out title in 2024.

The tournament is predominantly open for female players who are 19 years old or younger. However, each team is allowed to register a maximum of three players who are above the age limit but are not older than 25 years.

The champion team will receive US\$1000 for winning the tournament that will conclude on Saturday, April 19. Other awards will be presented to outstanding teams and individuals that excel at the event.

The tournament is held in honour of former national player Gillian Brazier, who died several years ago after succumbing to multiple sclerosis, which is a chronic disease of the central nervous system.

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Sports News

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23, and Rodney Williams captured two wickets for five runs.

Strictly Business advanced to the men's final by securing a five-wicket win against Dredgers in the other semi-final at the Dredgers playing field.

Dredgers were restricted to 59 for nine off their 10 overs. Mervin Higgins scored 18, and Javon James made 11. Winston Roberts snatched three wickets for seven runs, and Melvin Charles picked up two for 11.

Strictly Business achieved victory by scoring 60 for four in 6.4 overs. Raymond Lideautte struck 22 not out, Javon Hiwell scored 18, and Melvin Charles got 14. Javon James bagged three wickets for two runs.

Survivors captured the female division crown after pulling off an eight-wicket win against Sharon and Alzarri Joseph North Sails Female Flyers in the final at the Dredgers playing field.

Female Flyers made 83 without los-

ing a wicket off their 10 overs. Makada Hector smashed an unbeaten 46, including six sixes, and Terez Parker hit 24 not out.

Survivors achieved victory by scoring 84 for two with six balls to spare. Most Valuable Player (MVP) of the final Kimberly Anthony slammed 43, including four sixes, and Sacha Michael hit 24 not out. Akeda Francis took one for nine, and Diane Anthony claimed one for 18.

Survivors booked their place in the final by beating Bryson's Shipping and Insurance Bullets by eight wickets in the semi-final at Dredgers.

Bullets were restricted to 57 for three off 10 overs. Cheryl Williams struck 22, and Annette Frank made 13. Gale Lee took one for 12.

Survivors achieved victory at 59 for one in six overs. Kimberly Anthony hammered an unbeaten 30, and Sacha Michael hit 22 not out. Annette Frank claimed one for 26.

Female Flyers advanced to the final by snatching a one-run victory against

Potters Uprising Cricket Team in the other semi-final at the Potters playing field.

Female Flyers scored 59 for four off their 10 overs. Gaynel Ogarro struck 26 not out. Stacey Telemacque snatched two for 10, and Collier Simon had one wicket for six runs.

In reply, Potters just fell short after being restricted to 58 for three off their 10 overs. Nolia Elvin scored 21, Jemma Joseph got 13, and Liza Edwards hit 12 not out. Diane Anthony picked up one for 13.

Kimberly Anthony of Survivors and Mervin Higgins of Dredgers claimed the competition's MVP awards in the women's and male divisions, respectively.

Anthony and Higgins also finished with the most runs in the women's and male divisions, respectively.

Gaynel Ogarro of Female Flyers and Kennedy Tonge of Goody's Taxi Service and Tours 300 finished with the most wickets in the women's and male divisions, respectively.



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Buckley's 3Js and Survivors claim softball cricket titles

Marcko Inc. Buckley's 3Js and Wayne's Electrical Services Survivors have captured the male and female titles, respectively, in the first competition of the 2025 Antigua Barbuda Softball Cricket Association's (ABSCA) domestic season.

Buckley's 3Js defeated Rackaman Construction Strictly Business by 30 runs in the final at the Dredgers playing field to capture the men's division title in the ABSCA Rudy Mathew 10 Overs Competition.

Buckley's 3Js made 86 for eight off their 10 overs. Randino Turner hit 34, and Steve Martin got 13. Winston Roberts grabbed two wickets for three runs, and Alwyn Colbourne claimed two wickets for nine runs.

In reply, Strictly Business was restricted to 56 for nine off their 10 overs. Javon Howell struck 23, and Emanuel John hit 13 not out. Most Valuable Player (MVP) of the final Charanlall Ramjohan snapped up three wickets for two runs, Xavier Otto claimed three for 15, and Rodney Williams captured two for 17.

Buckley's 3Js booked their spot in the men's final by claiming a 34-run victory against PMS in the semi-final at the Potters playing field.

Buckley's 3Js scored 94 for six off 10 overs. Richie Thomas cracked 24, Nigel Fergus hit 16 not out, and Kenrick Scott struck 15. Terence Thompson bagged two for 29.

In reply, PMS was dismissed for 60 in 8.4 overs. Malik Marcellin made 17, and Michael Dover got 13. Richie Thomas grabbed three wickets for



Women's Division champions Wayne's Electrical Services Survivors. (Photos courtesy of the ABSCA).



Men's Division champions Marcko Inc. Buckley's 3Js.

nine runs, Xavier Otto took three for

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