

Court of Appeal Dismisses Barbuda Council's Rent Claim Against PLH

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Cheers to you Mr. Cummins!

Seaview Farm resident Denzil O'Brien Cummins celebrated his 101st Birthday yesterday at his home. Governor General, Sir Rodney Williams, joined relatives and friends of Mr. Cummins in celebrating his milestone. Barbadian-born Cummins worked as a chef, entrepreneur and carpenter. He was also a conductor with London Transport.

Court of Appeal Dismisses Barbuda Council Rent Claim

The Eastern Caribbean Court of Appeal has dismissed an appeal by the Barbuda Council in its long-running contractual dispute with PLH (Barbuda) Limited, the developer behind a major tourism project on the island.

The decision, delivered on Tuesday, affirms a High Court ruling that rejected the Council's claim for nearly US\$900,000 in unpaid rent.

The case stems from agreements signed between December 2016 and February 2017 involving the Government of Antigua and Barbuda, the Barbuda Council, and PLH. The arrangements paved the way for a large-scale resort and golf course development at Low Bay and Pink Sands.

Two leases central to the dispute are the 425 Lease, covering 425 acres for 99 years at US\$150,000 annual rent and the 174 Lease, covering



174.83 acres at US\$62,938 annual rent, with a detailed provision allowing rent to be offset against a US\$5 million airport contribution.

Under a Memorandum of Agreement (MOA), PLH agreed to deposit US\$5 million into an escrow account to help finance Barbuda's new airport. Crucially, this payment was to be treated

as prepaid rent under the leases.

PLH deposited the funds in March 2017. But in 2021, the Barbuda Council demanded rent arrears under the 425 Lease, insisting the airport contribution only applied to the 174 Lease.

The Council sued in February 2023, claiming US\$900,000 in arrears un-

der the 425 Lease. PLH countered that the MOA expressly allowed the US\$5 million payment to offset rent on both leases.

In September 2024, the High Court sided with PLH, ruling that the agreements were unambiguous and that the airport payment counted as prepaid rent across both leases. The Council was



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ordered to pay PLH's legal costs.

Dissatisfied with the outcome, the Barbuda Council appealed on four grounds, arguing that the trial judge wrongly dismissed its witness testimony and The 174 Lease showed the US\$5 million was only meant to offset rent under that lease. Additionally, that the judge failed to apply principles from leading contract cases such as *Rainy Sky SA v Kookmin Bank* and that The 425 Lease should have been interpreted as a standard commercial contract requiring direct rent payments.

However, Justices Vicki-Ann Ellis, Gerard St. C. Farara (Ag.), and Cadie St. Rose-Albertini (Ag.) unanimously rejected the arguments.

The Court held that evidence of private negotiations or one party's intentions cannot override the clear contractual wording, the MOA's clause 5.8 explicitly applied the rent offset to both the 174-acre and 425-acre lease and PLH's airport contribution had already been credited as rent, meaning no arrears were due.

As a result, the appeal was dismissed, and the Council was ordered to pay PLH's legal costs on the appeal.

E. Ann Henry, KC and Lenworth Johnson appeared on behalf of the Appellants, the Barbuda Council, while Anthony Astaphan, SC, Dr. Er-

rol Cort, Claneisha Gumbs and Alketz Joseph represented the Respondent, PLH (Barbuda) Limited.

This latest decision closes another chapter in the fraught relationship between the Barbuda Council and PLH, whose multi-million-dollar project has been the subject of political and

legal disputes for years.

The Court of Appeal has confirmed that PLH's US\$5 million airport contribution counts as prepaid rent for both its Barbuda leases, rejecting the Council's claim for arrears. The ruling cements PLH's contractual position and leaves the Council liable for costs.

The judgment underscores the weight courts place on the plain language of contracts, particularly in major development deals. It also means the Council cannot claim additional rent on the 425-acre parcel unless or until PLH exhausts its US\$5 million prepaid credit.

VACANCY

BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT OFFICER

Overview: The Antigua Public Utilities Authority (APUA) invites applications for the position of Business Development Officer within the Sales & Marketing Department. The successful candidate will play a pivotal role in identifying, managing, and delivering strategic business development initiatives that support revenue growth, digital transformation, and network expansion across APUA Telecom's services. This dynamic role requires both commercial insight and project management discipline to ensure timely and effective execution of enterprise-level initiatives.

Key responsibilities

- Identify and manage B2B and B2C opportunities to upsell and cross-sell APUA Telecom's products and services.
- Develop and execute strategies to penetrate new and underserved markets.
- Lead the end-to-end business development lifecycle from prospecting through to closing deals.
- Prepare and submit bids, proposals, and tenders for large-scale telecom/ISP projects.
- Build and maintain relationships with property developers, real estate firms, government agencies, and other key stakeholders.
- Introduce and manage CRM tools to support prospecting, pipeline visibility, and performance metrics.
- Coordinate with internal teams to ensure service readiness for new business opportunities.
- Lead the planning, execution, and close-out of development projects in line with APUA's strategic goals.
- Develop business cases, project plans, and risk mitigation strategies.
- Conduct post-project reviews to capture insights and drive continuous improvement.
- Explore strategic partnerships, joint ventures, and business collaborations.

Key competencies:

- Strong project management skills including budgeting, scheduling, and risk control.
- In-depth commercial knowledge of telecom/ISP products and market dynamics.
- Excellent analytical, communication, and stakeholder relationship skills.
- Strategic thinker with a proactive and solution-oriented approach.
- Highly organized, detail-oriented, and results-driven.
- Strong interpersonal and negotiation skills with the ability to lead cross-functional teams.

Minimum qualifications & requirements:

- Bachelor's degree in Business Administration, Marketing, Telecommunications, or a related field.
- Minimum of five (5) years of experience in business development or corporate sales, preferably within the telecommunications or ISP sector.
- Demonstrated success in identifying and delivering commercial business opportunities.
- Proven experience managing projects from initiation to completion.
- Project Management certification (e.g., PMP) would be an asset.

Interested persons are asked to apply in writing to:

Human Resources Manager
 Antigua Public Utilities Authority
 Cnr. High Street & Independence Avenue
 P.O. Box 416
 St. Johns, Antigua
OR Email: hr@apua.ag



Deadline for application is Tuesday 30th September, 2025

** Only suitable applicants will be acknowledged **
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Local News



Tourism Authority US Team Charts Bold Path at Annual Retreat



The Antigua and Barbuda Tourism Authority's (ABTA) U.S. team convened recently for its annual weekend retreat, a gathering that was aimed at reviewing recent successes and refining strategy ahead of an ambitious marketing drive across the destination's largest source market.

During the retreat held from 4th to 6th September, 2025, U.S. Director of Tourism Dean Fenton commended the team for its tireless efforts, which have positioned Antigua and Barbuda as one of the region's strongest performers in the competitive U.S. market.

"Each of you should be extremely proud of yourselves," Fenton told the team. "Our numbers continue to improve, and Antigua and Barbuda is now well positioned, due largely to your efforts, to achieve even greater success in the months ahead."

The U.S. remains Antigua and Barbuda's most critical tourism market, and the team's performance has been key to sustaining momentum in visitor arrivals and brand visibility.

Now a cornerstone of the ABTA's annual calendar, the retreat serves as more than just a review. It provides team members with the chance to contribute to decision-making, address challenges openly, and refine strategies in a collaborative environment.

"This is always a crucial exercise for us," said Sales and Marketing Manager Norrell Joseph. "The retreat struck the perfect chord for our team as we set out on an ambitious campaign across the U.S. market for our annual road shows."

The weekend also highlighted individual contributions that have fueled the ABTA's U.S. success story. Renee

Ambrose and Sean Matthew, Sales and Marketing Officers, were recognized for their strong support as the newest members of the team. Rod Hinds, Senior Business Development Manager, received accolades for consistently surpassing expectations., Norrell Joseph, Sales Manager, was honored for outstanding commitment and leadership, while Kim Essen earned special appreciation for her years of dedicated service and exemplary leadership.

Other members in attendance included Senior Business Development Manager for Strategic Partnerships Donyelle Bird-Browne, Business Development Manager for Yachting Devin Joseph, Sales and Marketing Officer Aliah Maginley, Marketing and Administrative Officer Carolyn Punter, Executive Assistant Marilyn Pires, Sales and Marketing Officer Andy Liburd, and Advertising Consultant Wayne V. Lee Jr. of Wayne's World Media.

The retreat reinforced the ABTA U.S. team's commitment to strengthening Antigua and Barbuda's visibility, enhancing partnerships, and showcasing the destination's unique experiences to a wider audience.

With road shows and promotional campaigns set to roll out across the United States in the coming months, the ABTA U.S. team has left its annual retreat energised and united behind a shared vision: to keep Antigua and Barbuda front of mind for American travelers and to ensure the twin-island nation remains a top Caribbean destination of choice.



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Saturdays, 8pm - Live Band

Breakfast served from 7:30am

Games Night - COMING SOON!



Police investigate multiple reports of Breaking and Larceny

Golden Grove resident Rootical Justice Lee was granted bail when he appeared before Magistrate Ngaio Emanuel yesterday on a charge of breaking and larceny.

Lee is accused of unlawfully entering the dwelling of a man on Jonas Road sometime between 5th and 13th September, 2025, where he allegedly stole several personal items valued at more than EC \$11,000.

In addition to the charge of breaking and larceny, Lee was further charged with receiving.

In Saint John's Magistrates' Court yesterday, the 31-year-old was granted bail and will return in December, when the matter is expected to continue.

The Police Administration says it continues to remind members of the public to secure their homes and properties at all times and to promptly report any suspicious activity to the nearest police station or by dialing 911.

The police are investigating several reports of breaking and larceny, committed around the island.

In another incident, the police are questioning 35-year-old Ramone Thomas, also known as "Rusty," of New Winthropes in connection with a report of Breaking and Larceny.

Around 2:35 a.m. on Wednesday, September 17, police responded to a report of a break-in at a business place on North Street. Officers attached to the Criminal Investigations Department (CID) swiftly arrived on the scene, where they apprehended the suspect.

During the operation, several items suspected to have been stolen from the business were recovered by the police. Thomas was subsequently taken into custody, and further investigations are ongoing into the matter.

Meantime, between 15th and 16th September, 2025, several businesses in



Ramone Thomas

Saint John's have been targeted by burglars.

The proprietors of two clothing stores, located on Market Street, reported that some unknown person(s) broke into their stores sometime between 15th and 16th September and stole several items of clothing, shoes, and an undisclosed sum of money.

The proprietor of a store on Popeshead Street reported that between 12:01 a.m. and 9:30 a.m. on 16th September, unknown persons broke into the store and stole an undisclosed sum of money, a quantity of blunts, RAW papers, among other items.

The police are appealing to anyone with information that may assist in these investigations to contact the Criminal Investigations Department at 462-3913 or call the anonymous Crime Stoppers Hotline at 800-TIPS (8477).



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ABCAS President: Students will form core of Institution



President of the Antigua and Barbuda College of Advanced Studies (ABCAS), Dr. Ezra Jonah Greene

Newly-appointed President of the Antigua and Barbuda College of Advanced Studies (ABCAS), Dr. Ezra Jonah Greene says the institution will play a key role in supporting Prime Minister Gaston Browne's vision of Antigua and Barbuda becoming an economic powerhouse through delivery of quality education to its students.

The ABCAS, an amalgamation of several public post-secondary institutions of learning was launched on Tuesday, with the aim of meeting "the unique needs of our people and the region", producing well-rounded graduates who will contribute to economic devel-

opment.

"ABCAS is committed to producing graduates who are both globally competitive, yet locally grounded. We will also stand as a hub for regional cooperation, for forging partnerships that ensure our students gain not only knowledge, but also opportunities to apply that knowledge for the greater good of the Caribbean," the ABCAS president told Tuesday's ceremony.

Dr. Greene revealed that ABCAS has already formed strategic partnerships with institutions of higher learning in the United States, Canada, the United Kingdom and with The UWI, all of

which will contribute to its success. But it is those who will walk through its doors to seek higher education that will remain priority.

"ABCAS is about our students. They are the centre of this vision. We commit to walking with them—not just into classrooms, but into futures filled with possibilities," she added. "We will guide them to develop critical skills, ethical values and a spirit of service."

Dr. Greene has made an impassioned plea for stakeholders in education including the government and civil society to support the rise of ABCAS.

"When we invest in ed-

ucation, we invest in the very soul of our nation," she declared.

Meantime, another development in the establishment of the Antigua and Barbuda College of Advanced Studies is the finalisation of the renaming of three campuses. Antigua State College's campus has been renamed in honour of late principal Dr. Alister Francis. Antigua and Barbuda Hospitality Training Institute will now carry the name of Muriel O'Mard, while the late Eustace Hill's name will be affixed to the Antigua and Barbuda International Institute of Technology.



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2025 INDEPENDENCE SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

25 OCT - 03 NOV

SATURDAY 25 OCT

- **NATIONAL SCHOOLS' PANORAMA**
ANTIGUA PORT AUTHORITY PARKING LOT
5:00PM

SUNDAY 26 OCT

- **INDEPENDENCE CHURCH SERVICE**
SEVENTH DAY ADVENTIST CHURCH CREEKSIDE
4:00PM

MONDAY 27-29 OCT

- **NATIONAL INDEPENDENCE
BUSINESS DECOR COMPETITION**

MONDAY 27 OCT

- **NATIONAL HEROES DAY
WREATH LAYING CEREMONY**
HEROES PARK- SIR SYDNEY WALLINGS HIGHWAY
10:00 AM

TUESDAY 28 OCT

- **FESTIVAL OF CHOIRS**
ST. ANTHONY'S SECONDARY SCHOOL
8:00PM
- **BARBUDA DAY ACTIVITIES (TBC)**



WEDNESDAY 29 OCT

- **SCHOOLS' INDEPENDENCE PROGRAMS**
SCHOOLS ACROSS THE STATE
- **GOLDEN AGE CELEBRATIONS**
VARIOUS COMMUNITIES IN ANTIGUA AND BARBUDA
- **THEATRICAL PRESENTATION
"WADADLI ROOTS"**
7:30PM (TBC)

THURSDAY 30 OCT

- **NATIONAL YOUTH RALLY** 8:30AM
- **CHEERLEADING COMPETITION** 11:30AM
SIR VIVIAN RICHARDS STADIUM
- **INDEPENDENCE CALYPSO COMPETITION**
JACK IDLE
8:00PM

FRIDAY 31 OCT

- **NATIONAL DRESS DAY**
- **NATIONAL FLAG DAY**
- **UNCHARTERED WATERS**
JOHN E ST. LUCE BUILDING
8:00PM

SATURDAY 01 NOV

- **INDEPENDENCE FLAG CEREMONY**
BARBUDA
9:00AM
- **NATIONAL FOOD FAIR**
SIR VIVIAN RICHARDS STADIUM
10:00AM UNTIL
- **INDEPENDENCE CEREMONIAL
PARADE & NATIONAL AWARDS**
SIR VIVIAN RICHARDS STADIUM
5:30PM

MONDAY 03 NOV

- **BURNING FLAMES HIGHWAY
TRAFFIC JAM**
BURNING FLAMES HIGHWAY
(TIME TBC)

PM Browne congratulates Indian counterpart on 75th Birthday

Prime Minister Gaston Browne has dispatched a correspondence to New Delhi, India on the occasion of Prime Minister Narendra Modi's 75th birthday.

In the letter dated 17th September, 2025, Prime Minister Browne offers best wishes to his Indian counterpart on achieving the milestone.



GOVERNMENT OF ANTIGUA AND BARBUDA
Office of the Prime Minister

Queen Elizabeth Highway
 St. John's
 Antigua and Barbuda

Tel. (268) 460-5100
 Fax. (268) 462-3225
 pmsecretariat@ab.gov.ag

17 September 2025

His Excellency Narendra Modi
 Prime Minister
 Republic of India
 New Delhi, India

Excellency:

I wish you happy birthday, today! Your wisdom and well-honed intellect, Excellency, are trademarks of your leadership of the most populous nation on earth. Happy 75th Birthday, Excellency, and may you live to see many more!

The world needs more Narendra-Modis to inspire innovation, modernity, and new paths to development. Let me congratulate India under your leadership for strengthening South-South cooperation and for identifying new ways to speed development in the countries of the South. The expansion of the BRICS initiative, to include those countries willing to face a new future, has occurred because of India's drive.

I wish to thank India for its willingness to share its expertise with Antigua and Barbuda, to include medical personnel who bring relief and caring to a population of patients yearning for medical expertise. Your offer to enable more of my country's Information Technology experts to train in India, is a welcome step in forging stronger bilateral relations.

I look forward to welcoming you, Excellency, to Antigua and Barbuda for the Commonwealth Heads of Government Meeting next year. Enjoy your birthday!


 Honourable Gaston Browne M.P.
 Prime Minister



Fire Brigade moves into temporary facilities

Saint John's Fire Station has completed its relocation to Dredge Bay.

The move took place between Tuesday and Wednesday.

The brigade is occupying the space that was previously utilised by Saint John's Police Station when their permanent facilities underwent major refurbishment.

Inspector Lester Bagot says there will be no disruptions to the services that are provided by the brigade, adding their telephone numbers, 462-0020 and 462-0044 remain the same.

On Monday, telephone extensions were being transferred to Dredge Bay, along with the emergency system.

The relocation to Dredge Bay may be for approximately two years, to allow for demolition of the Factory Road fire station and construction of a new facility.



The Ministry of Works will now be responsible for demolition of the existing building and new foundation work,

while financing for the construction of the new fire station will be made available through the Global Climate Fund.

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PROGRAM



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**Dr. Anesa
Ahamad**
RADIATION
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Moitt**
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4 OCTOBER 2025 SANDALS
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Regional News



St Lucia gov't to give public servants bonus with December salaries

The St Lucia government says it will be providing a bonus to all public sector workers in December, along with their regular monthly salaries.

A government statement Monday quoted Prime Minister Phillip J Pierre as saying that the bonus is part of the government's commitment to workers and families.

"For the first time in St Lucia's history, civil servants will receive consecutive December bonuses under this Administration, an unprecedented development in the treatment of the public



service," the statement said.

In December 2024, the St Lucia government granted public servants an EC\$500 bonus, and the statement said, "extending the initia-

tive into 2025 demonstrates the administration's continued recognition of the invaluable contributions of public officers in maintaining essential services and advancing national devel-

opment."

The statement gave no indication as to the amount to be paid to every public servant as a bonus.

The main opposition United Workers Party (UWP) has been calling for the government to hold fresh general elections now, accusing the ruling party of corruption, among other allegations.

In the last general election held on July 26, 2021, the St Lucia Labour Party won 13 of the 17 seats, with two independent legislators later joining the government. (CMC)

Leadership is a privilege, GG tells PM Holness at swearing-in

Governor General Sir Patrick Allen says leadership is not merely a title, but a privilege and solemn responsibility.

Allen made the declaration while delivering remarks before he administered the Oath of Office to Dr Andrew Michael Holness, installing him as Jamaica's ninth Prime Minister since Independence.

The swearing-in was held at King's House on Tuesday.

Holness' Jamaica Labour Party was elected to form the Government following the September 3 General Election, securing 35 seats to the 28 won by the main opposition People's National Party.

Commenting on the elections, Allen remarked that Jamaica's democratic tradition is strong.

"The smooth conduct of the recent General Election – the 15th such exercise since Independence – testifies to the professionalism of the Electoral



Office, the Electoral Commission, and the thousands of election workers who gave of their time and talent," he said.

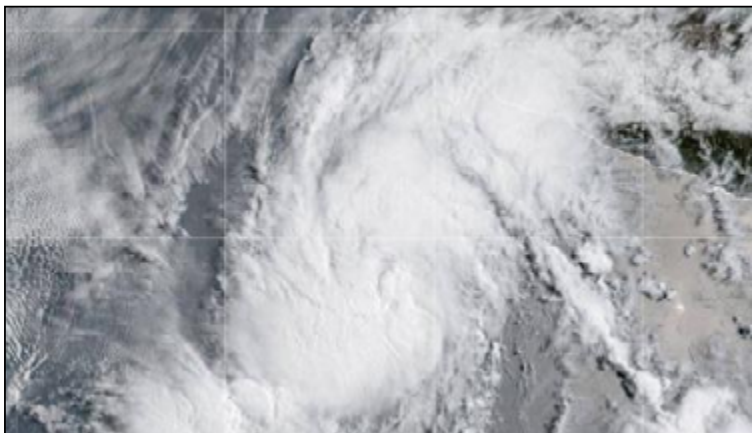
He encouraged Holness to be a good steward of the country.

Noting that important foundations have been laid during Holness' previous tenures, the Governor General said

Holness carried the hopes of a people who desire a society that is safer, more inclusive, prosperous, and more just.

"You are, once again, called to lead with clarity, conviction, and compassion to ensure that the fruits of the progress that we have shared [mean] that no Jamaican is left behind." (Jamaica Observer)

Tropical Storm Gabrielle has formed in the Atlantic Ocean, forecasters say



Tropical Storm Gabrielle formed Wednesday in the Atlantic Ocean but was far from land, forecasters said.

Gabrielle was centred over 1,000 miles (1,600 kilometres) east of the Northern Leeward Islands, with maximum sustained winds of 45 mph (72 kph), the US National Hurricane Center in Miami said. The “poorly defined” tropical storm was moving to the north-north-west at 22 mph (35 kph), forecasters said.

The weather service predicted little change in strength over the next couple of days but said the storm could intensify over the weekend.

There were no watches or warnings in effect, and no hazards affecting land. (AP)

NOTICE

The China Aid Programme in collaboration with The Embassy of China Antigua and Barbuda, Yuan Long Ping High Tech Agriculture Co. Ltd. Ministry of Agriculture Lands Fisheries and the Blue Economy presents, a 3-week training course on Agricultural Water Saving Irrigation for Antigua and Barbuda from 16 th October to 5th November 2025 at the Villa Poly Clinic ,Villa Area.

Please call 462 0418 or 764 1256 for further information on registration

VACANCY PROJECT MANAGER

Overview: The Antigua Public Utilities Authority is inviting applications for the post of Project Manager – Water Infrastructure within the Water Business Unit. The successful candidate will be responsible for leading and overseeing all phases of major water infrastructure construction projects, from planning and design review through to execution, handover, and close-out. This includes managing project timelines, budgets, quality assurance, and ensuring compliance with safety and environmental standards. The role also requires effective communication and coordination with internal teams, contractors, consultants, and regulatory stakeholders.

Key responsibilities

- Lead the planning, design review, and execution of large-scale water infrastructure projects, including reverse osmosis plants, pipelines, and water storage systems.
- Collaborate with engineers and consultants to ensure designs are efficient, constructible, and compliant with relevant standards.
- Develop and manage detailed project plans, schedules, budgets, and risk mitigation strategies.
- Oversee procurement activities, ensuring timely and cost-effective acquisition of materials and services.
- Conduct regular site inspections and project meetings; proactively resolve construction and scheduling challenges.
- Maintain strict compliance with health, safety, environmental, and quality assurance regulations.
- Serve as the main point of contact for all project-related communications with internal and external stakeholders.
- Monitor financial performance; approve invoices and manage change orders as needed.
- Ensure proper documentation, testing, and handover of completed infrastructure to the Operations team.

Minimum qualifications & requirements:

- Bachelor's degree in Civil Engineering, Construction Management, Environmental Engineering, Mechanical Engineering, or a related field.
- A minimum of five (5) years' experience managing large-scale water infrastructure projects.
- Proven experience with at least one of the following: Reverse Osmosis (RO) plant construction, HDPE pipeline installation, or water storage tank construction.
- Project Management Professional (PMP) or equivalent certification (e.g., PRINCE2) is highly desirable.
- Strong leadership and communication skills with experience managing cross-functional teams.
- Proficiency in project management tools (e.g., MS Project, Primavera P6).
- Sound knowledge of health, safety, environmental compliance, and quality management practices.
- Excellent organizational, problem-solving, and decision-making abilities.

Interested persons are asked to apply in writing to:

Human Resources Manager
 Antigua Public Utilities Authority
 Cnr. High Street & Independence Avenue
 P.O. Box 416
 St. Johns, Antigua
OR Email: hr@apua.ag

Deadline for application is Tuesday 30th September, 2025

** Only suitable applicants will be acknowledged **
 "APUA is an equal opportunity Employer"



Trump's second state visit to the UK meets with protests and arrests



US President Donald Trump received a royal reception at Windsor Castle on Wednesday, but beyond the castle walls many others did not welcome his unprecedented second state visit.

Several thousand people marched through central London to protest his trip, which includes a lavish banquet in his honour hosted by King Charles III and a meeting with Prime Minister Keir Starmer.

Carrying banners reading “No to the racism, no to Trump,” the crowd, organised by the Stop Trump UK coalition, headed down Regent Street on their way to Parliament.

Some carried small versions of the giant Trump baby blimp, an orange-tinted caricature of the blond-coiffed leader in a diaper, that made a big impression during his first visit in June 2019.

Others carried signs reading “No to Trump, no to fascism” and “Dump Trump.”

The crowd booed a counter protester who held a sign that read “We Love Trump.”

London's police force deployed 1,600

officers as they expected members of about 50 different groups that included climate, anti-racism and pro-Palestinian activists.

The number of people participating in the march was much smaller than six years ago, when Trump visited London during his first term. This visit almost entirely avoids the capital by holding royal ceremonies at Windsor, a historic town about 20 miles (32 kilometres)

to the west, and at Chequers, the prime minister's country estate where Trump will meet with Starmer on Thursday.

Trump and first lady Melania took a helicopter to Windsor Castle, where they were greeted warmly by the king and enjoyed a horse-drawn carriage ride through the royal estate's massive grounds as military bands played the national anthems of the US and UK.

Dozens of protesters took to the streets of Windsor chanting “Hey, hey, ho, ho, Donald Trump has got to go” and “Donald Trump's not welcome here.”

“I don't think it's right that we're having Trump come for the second state visit due to his horrible rhetoric, policies and actions toward women and people of colour,” Grace Nathew said.

On a street lined with British and American flags, the group held signs that said, “Trump your politics stink” and “Go away. You are polluting Windsor.”

Police said they arrested four people Tuesday over a stunt that saw an image of Trump and Jeffrey Epstein projected on a tower at Windsor Castle, a reminder of the president's relationship with the disgraced financier. (AP)



Cardi B is pregnant with her fourth child

Cardi B is pregnant with her fourth child. It will be her first with boyfriend Stefon Diggs, the New England Patriots' wide receiver.

The Grammy Award-winning rapper revealed the news Wednesday in an interview with Gayle King on "CBS Mornings."

"I'm excited. I'm happy," she told King. "I feel like I'm in a good space. I feel very strong. I feel very powerful that I'm doing all this work. But I'm doing all this work while I'm creating a baby, me and my man, we're very supportive of each other."

She added that she and Diggs are in similar positions because they're both ambitious and are some of "the greatest" in their respective fields.

Cardi B also said that Diggs makes her feel safe. "I mean, like, two weeks ago I was literally having a panic attack. I was, like, crying and crying and crying, just because I was just getting really nervous with you know, the whole album rollout," she said, referring to her forthcoming sophomore album, "Am I the Drama?", out Friday. "People were coming at me very hard. You know, sometimes people love you, people hate you. And people was just saying very mean things about me."

"He makes me feel very confident," she added. "Feeling safe is feeling confident."

Cardi B has three children from her previous marriage with the rapper Offset: daughters Blossom, 1, and Kulture, 7, and son Wave, 4. Diggs also has a daughter from a previous relationship, Nova, who was born in 2016.

In 2024, Cardi B announced that she filed for divorce from Offset.

They were secretly wed in September 2017 in Atlanta. They only announced their engagement a month later. In 2020, Cardi B filed for divorce from Offset, claiming their marriage was "irretrievably broken."



Representatives for Cardi B and Diggs did not immediately respond to The Associated Press' request for comment. (AP)

NOTICE

TO: THE LICENSING MAGISTRATE

Magistrate Court
High Street
St. John's
Antigua

TO: COMMISSIONER OF POLICE

Police Headquarters
American Road
St. John's
Antigua

NOTICE OF APPLICATION FOR A TAVERN LICENCE FOR BUSINESS

**REGISTERED AS
NORMIN'S DELIGHT 2**

I, Marianna Mingo, DO HEREBY GIVE NOTICE, that it is my intention to apply at the next sitting of the Liquor Licence Court to be held at the Magistrate's Court, High Street, St. John's, Antigua, on Thursday, 2nd October, 2025, next ensuing for Tavern Licence in respect of premises known as "Normin's Delight 2" situated on Bishopgate Street, in the Parish of St. John's, Antigua pursuant to Section (11) (5) of the Licensing (Intoxicating Liquor) Act Cap 249 of the Laws of Antigua and Barbuda, Revised Edition 1992.

Dated the 26th day of August, 2025

Yours truly,

Marianna Mingo

268-778-3108

Obama condemns Charlie Kirk's killing, calls political violence 'a threat to all of us'

Former President Barack Obama on Tuesday condemned the assassination of Charlie Kirk and the spate of political violence that has gripped the country while rebuking President Donald Trump and his allies' for politicizing the shooting and not doing more to unite the country.

Speaking in Erie, Pennsylvania, at the Jefferson Educational Society, a nonprofit think tank, with moderator Steve Scully, Obama said that Kirk's murder was "horrific and a tragedy," adding that the nation's democratic system is grounded in the principle that people can disagree without resorting to violence.

"And when it happens to some, but even if you think they're, quote, unquote, on the other side of the argument, that's a threat to all of us," he said. "And we have to be clear and forthright in condemning them."

Obama added that he was generally aware of Kirk's ideas, and while he believed they were wrong, the conservative activist's death was a tragedy and he mourns for his family.

Still, that doesn't mean people can't debate ideas promoted by victims of political violence, Obama said. He criticized the Trump White House for immediately accusing the far-left of being responsible for the shooting even before details emerged



about the perpetrator.

Obama also spoke about how, as president, he tried to focus on the "ties that bind us together." Following the 2015 Charleston church shootings, for example, he steered clear of discussing the racist motive or using the murders to attack his political opponents. Obama also praised Utah Gov. Spencer Cox, a Republican, for his efforts to bring the country together after Kirk's killing.

But, he said, Trump is not taking that approach.

"When I hear not just our current president, but his aides, who have a history of calling political opponents 'vermin,' enemies who need to be 'targeted,' that speaks to a broader problem that we have right now and something that we're going to have to grapple with, all of us," Obama said, calling what the U.S. is going through a "political crisis."

People have to recognize that there are "extremists" on both sides of the aisle, he

said. "I will say that those extreme views were not in my White House. I wasn't embracing them. I wasn't empowering them. I wasn't putting the weight of the United States government behind extremist views," he continued, adding that "when we have the weight of the United States government behind extremist views, we've got a problem."

Susan Monarez hearing: Former CDC director says RFK Jr. pressured her to rubber-stamp vaccine approvals

In the days since Kirk's death, Trump and his allies have said they plan to target "radical left" groups despite Utah prosecutors not making any link between them and the shooting.

The former president said the current White House and many Republicans in Congress have demonstrated that they're "OK with just breaking the rules, just breaking the system in cer-

tain ways." He referred to Trump's deployment last month of the National Guard to Washington, D.C., and their cooperation with immigration officials.

Obama said the guardrails and norms that he and his predecessors abided in the White House suddenly "no longer apply."

"That makes this a dangerous moment," he said. "That's why citizens have to pay attention. That's why those who are in positions of power need to stand up on behalf of these norms and these rules."

Reached for comment, White House spokeswoman Abigail Jackson said in a statement: "Barack Hussein Obama is the architect of modern political division in America — famously demeaning millions of patriotic Americans who opposed his liberal agenda."

"Obama used every opportunity to sow division and pit Americans against each other, and following his presidency more Americans felt Obama divided the country than felt he united it," she said. "His division has inspired generations of Democrats to slander their opponents as 'deplorables,' or 'fascists,' or 'Nazis.' If he cares about unity in America, he would tell his own party to stop their destructive behavior." (NBC)

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Sports News



Joma Caribbean continues to show their passion for supporting School sports in Antigua and Barbuda. On Wednesday morning, Joma Caribbean donated 160 footballs to the Ministry of Sports ahead of the official start of the 2025 Interschool Football League. A knockout tournament will take place today to officially kick off the season.

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2025 schools' football programme kicks off today



Coach Divikka Tittle (wearing long grey pants) and players of the Princess Margaret School's Under-20 Girls team at the end of the 2022 Secondary Schools Girls Knockout Final at the King George V Grounds on Thursday, 12th January, 2023. (File photo)

The 2025 Ministry of Sports, Cool and Smooth, Joma Secondary Schools Football Programme is set to commence with a pre-season boys' knockout competition on Thursday (today).

This year's programme will also feature a girls' knockout competition and will be conducted in a format similar to the one that was used in 2022 when the Ministry of Sports last hosted a schools' football knockout competition.

The pre-season knockout will be limited to only one team per school in both competitions. Princess Margaret School won the girls' knockout crown, while the Ottos Comprehensive School captured the boys' knockout title in 2022.

Seven teams will participate in the girls' knockout competition. They are Ottos Comprehensive School, Antigua Girls' High School, Clare Hall Secondary, Princess Margaret School, Jennings Secondary, St. Mary's Secondary, and St. Anthony's Secondary Schools.

Twelve teams, which are divided into four groups, will contest the boys' knockout competition.

Antigua State College will not participate in the knockout contest but is expected to be included in the under-20 boys' league competition as the Antigua and Barbuda College of Advanced Studies (ABCAS), due to its merger with the Antigua and Barbuda International Institute of Technology (ABIIT) and the Antigua and Barbuda Hospitality Training Institute (ABHTA).

The Harrison Centre Antigua and Barbuda Institute of Continuing Education (HCABICE), which is expected to be a part of the ABCAS amalgamation, will continue to compete as a standalone learning institution in this year's schools' football programme.

The other teams contesting the boys' knockout competition are All Saints Secondary, Antigua Grammar School, Clare Hall Secondary School, Princess Margaret School, Sir Novelle Richards Academy, Ottos Comprehen-

sive School, St. Anthony's Secondary School, Irene B. Williams Secondary School, St. Mary's Secondary School, Jennings Secondary School and Pares Secondary School.

The 2025 schools' football knockout competition will kick off with matches in the boys' division at the ABFA Technical Center on Thursday.

Princess Margaret School will face Clare Hall Secondary School in a Group A affair at 3 pm and All Saints Secondary will tackle Antigua Grammar School in a Group C encounter at 4:30 pm.

The competition will continue with another boys' division double-header at the same venue on Friday. Jennings Secondary School will meet St. Anthony's Secondary in a Group D affair at 3 pm and Harrison Centre Antigua and Barbuda Institute of Continuing Education (HCABICE) will clash with Ottos Comprehensive School in a Group B encounter at 4:30 pm.

Sports News



Skerritt bows out of World Athletics Championships

Antigua and Barbuda's lone representative, sprinter Darion Skerritt, bowed out of the World Athletics Championships after failing to qualify for the semi-finals of the men's 200 meters in Tokyo, Japan, on Wednesday.

Skerritt, who is the current national 200-meter champion, finished last among all competitors in the six first-round heats in the men's 200-meter competition.

Skerritt's personal best of 20.67 seconds enabled him to be selected for the universality entry as the lone qualifier from Antigua and Barbuda at the World Athletics Championships after Antigua's national female sprinter Joella Lloyd was forced to withdraw from the event due to injury.

Skerritt, who was making his debut at the World Athletics Championships, produced one of his worst performances by clocking 30.18 seconds to finish last among nine competitors in Heat 6 of the men's 200-meter qualifying rounds.

Botswana's Olympic 200-meter champion Letsile Tebogo won Heat 6 in 20.18 seconds, ahead



Darion Skerritt (ABAA)

of Xavi Mo-Ajok of the Netherlands in 20.35 seconds and Towa Uzawa of Japan in 20.39 seconds, with all top three finishers qualifying for the semi-finals, which will take place on Thursday.

Meanwhile, American Noah Lyles began his bid for a fourth successive world 200-meter title in relaxed fashion on Wednesday when he cruised through his heat in 19.99 seconds.

Fellow Americans Kenny Bednarek and Court-

ney Lindsey, and Tebogo posted reminders that he will have to earn that medal.

Lyles, who got bronze in the 100 meters as Jamaican Oblique Seville took his title, looked relaxed before, during and after his heat.

Bednarek, whose 19.67 is second only to Lyles's 19.63 seconds on the year's rankings, is desperate to medal in the 200 after finishing fourth in the 100-meter and taking 200-meter silvers twice at

the Olympics and in the 2022 world championships.

He ran a superb bend on Wednesday and cruised the last 50 meters to clock 19.98 seconds, while Lindsey also looked impressive in 19.95 seconds.

Australia's 17-year-old sensation Gout Gout, appearing in his first major championship, had a shocking start in his heat and was swallowed up by Jamaican Bryan Levell within 20 meters.

Once into the straight, however, Gout unwound his long legs to finish third in 20.23 seconds and go through. Levell, the third-fastest in the field this year with 19.69 seconds to his name, looked superb in clocking 19.84 seconds - the fastest time of the night.

However, American Robert Gregory, a real medal hope after posting 19.80 seconds this season, paid the ultimate price for easing up too much as he was overtaken by two rivals on the line and finished fifth, failing to progress by six thousandths of a second.

Following Thursday's semi-finals, the final is set to take place on Friday.

CWI names squad for historic T20I series against Nepal



Players of the West Indies team

Cricket West Indies (CWI) has announced the 15-member squad for the historic T20 International series against Nepal, which will be played at the Sharjah Cricket Stadium in the United Arab Emirates (UAE) from September 27 to 30.

This groundbreaking series forms part of the team's build-up towards the ICC T20 World Cup in 2026, which will be staged in subcontinent conditions.

With the series falling outside the ICC's Future Tours Programme, selectors have seized the opportunity to include several emerging players who impressed in the inaugural West Indies Breakout League and the ongoing Caribbean Premier League (CPL).

At the same time, a number of senior players have been given the chance to rest and manage their workloads.

Akeal Hosein, a key member of the

T20 international leadership group, has been named captain of the squad, which features six potential debutants.

Rayon Griffith will head the team management unit as head coach, with experienced former West Indies Head Coach Ottis Gibson serving as fast-bowling consultant.

Speaking on the significance of the series, Cricket West Indies Director of Cricket, Miles Bascombe, said, "This series against Nepal is another important step in broadening the horizons of West Indies cricket. It allows our senior men's team to engage with a passionate emerging nation while providing invaluable match experience in different conditions.

"Beyond the immediate competition, this tour speaks to our long-term vision of developing a squad that is adaptable, resilient and ready for global challenges. Taking West Indies

cricket into new territories and against new opposition also helps us grow the game, inspire new fans, and strengthen the brand of West Indies cricket worldwide."

West Indies Squad to face Nepal in UAE: Akeal Hosein (captain), Fabian Allen, Jewel Andrew, Ackeem Auguste, Navin Bidaise, Jediah Blades, Keacy Carty, Karima Gore, Jason Holder, Amir Jangoo, Kyle Mayers, Obed McCoy, Zishan Motara, Ramon Simmonds, and Shamar Springer.

Team Management Unit: **Head Coach Rayon Griffith; Coaching Consultant Ottis Gibson; Assistant Coach Nikita Miller; Assistant Coach Jerome Taylor; Assistant Coach Jamal Smith; Physiotherapist: Dr Dennis Byam; Massage Therapist Darc Browne; Team Analyst Gary Belle; Media Officer Nicholas Maitland; and Team Manager Dwain Gill.**



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Portugal's Nader claims shock world gold in men's 1500 meters



Portugal's Isaac Nader, left, reacts after crossing the finish line to win gold medal as Britain's Jake Wightman falls on the track in the men's 1,500 meters final at the World Athletics Championships in Tokyo, Wednesday, Sept. 17, 2025. (AP)

TOKYO (Reuters) - Portugal's Isaac Nader was a shock winner of the world 1,500 meters title when he thrillingly out-dipped Briton Jake Wightman on the line after defending champion and race favourite Josh Kerr suffered an injury mid-race at the World Athletics Championships in Japan on Wednesday.

Wightman, who has suffered terribly from injuries after winning the title in 2022, looked set for victory in a charge for the line but the race proved a meter too long for him as Nader snatched it by two hundredths of a second in three minutes and 34.10 seconds.

Wightman took silver in 3:34.12 seconds - Britain's first medal of the championships - with Kenya's 21-year-old Reynold Cheruiyot edging compatriot and namesake Timothy for bronze in 3:34.25 seconds.

With the last two Olympic cham-

pions Jakob Ingebrigtsen and Cole Hocker absent - the Norwegian going out in the heats and the American disqualified after his semi-final - it looked an open race, but with Kerr the strong favourite.

Once he dropped back midway through, however, it was anyone's. Wightman was the one to take it on in the final lap and, as the chasers closed on him 50 meters out, the Briton seemed to find a second wind to hold them off.

Nader, however, floated wide and kept driving, timing his lunge for the line perfectly for the biggest night of his life after a previous European Indoor Championships bronze.

"It's amazing," he said. "For me it's beautiful. I'm so proud."

Wightman, whose father Geoff was the stadium announcer on a memorably emotional night when he won the

title in Eugene, said, "This silver is a gold for me and I am so relieved.

"I still had something in me. I knew I was going to run to try and win today and whatever happened I would be happy.

"When you get that close you cannot help but think, 'What if I had done more?' But I left everything out there.

"It has been a few bleak years so making this team was the main thing and I have made some big changes in my life this year and I want to thank my new coaching team and my dad. I am so happy that all the persistence has been worth it."

Kerr missed out agonisingly to Hocker in Paris but appeared to pull a muscle mid-race here and jogged in half a minute adrift, before hauling his teammate off the ground after Wightman had crashed to the track on the line.

Falcons' CPL campaign ends after losing to TKR in eliminator

The Antigua and Barbuda Falcons' campaign in the 2025 Republic Bank Caribbean Premier League (CPL) came to an end in Guyana on Tuesday night.

Trinbago Knight Riders (TKR) kept their Caribbean Premier League campaign alive with a nine-wicket win over the Antigua and Barbuda Falcons in the eliminator match at the National Stadium in Providence.

The Falcons, who made 166 for eight off their 20 overs, had a brilliant second-wicket partnership of 108 between Andries Gous and Amir Jangoo, but a late flurry of wickets saw the Knight Riders keep them to a gettable total.

The stars for the Trinidadian franchise were captain Nicholas Pooran and Alex Hales, who both made fifties as the Knight Riders won with relative ease, scoring 168 for one in 17.3 overs.

Pooran struck an unbeaten 90 off 53 balls, including eight sixes and three fours and Hales cracked 54 not out off 40 balls, including three sixes and three fours, as both batters shared an unbroken second-wicket partnership of 143 runs.

For the Falcons, Gous hit 61 off 45 balls, including five fours and three sixes, and Jangoo slammed 55 off 49 balls, including three sixes and three fours, but both



Players of the Antigua and Barbuda Falcons leave the field after Nicholas Pooran, third right, and teammate Alex Hales guided the Trinbago Knight Riders to victory in their CPL eliminator at the National Stadium in Providence, Guyana, on Tuesday, September 16, 2025. (CPL/Getty Images)

fell within the space of two balls shortly after passing their half centuries.

Both batters fell to the bowling of off-spinner Usman Tariq, who was once again miserly with his bowling, claiming two for 19 off his four overs. The Falcons went from 129 for one with four overs to go to 166 at the end of their innings as Saurabh Netravalkar claimed three for 23 and Andre Russell picked up two for 30 at the death.

The Falcons would have been disappointed to not post a bigger target given the platform they had set.

However, when the Knight Riders' leading run scorer going into this match, Colin Munro, fell for 14 early to the bowling of Rahkeem Cornwall, there was hope that they could claim victory.

But from the point of Munro's wicket to the end of the match, it was the Hales and Pooran show, as the two made light work of the Falcons' total.

No Falcons' bowler found a way to keep the scoring under control as Hales and Pooran controlled the chase brilliantly to keep their dreams of a first CPL title since 2020 alive after the

Knight Riders came into the eliminator on the back of three consecutive losses.

The loss means the Falcons will head home having made the knockout stages for the first time in their two-year history after becoming the CPL's newest franchise in 2024.

The Knight Riders will now face the loser of the Qualifier 1 match between Guyana Amazon Warriors and defending champions St. Lucia Kings, which was slated to take place at the Guyana National Stadium in Providence on Wednesday night.