

Dollar barrel, ABST reduction return for Christmas, 2025

Story on page 2



Senator Jamilla Kirwan is the newest appointee to the Upper House of parliament following her swearing in at a ceremony at Government House on Thursday. Senator Kirwan (center) is congratulated by Governor General Sir Rodney Williams (left) and Lady Sandra Williams (right)

Dollar barrel, ABST reduction return for Christmas, 2025



The popular Dollar Barrel initiative along with the reduction in the Antigua and Barbuda Sales Tax (ABST) are returning in time for the Christmas holiday period as the Cabinet has approved a series of measures designed to ease the cost of living, enhance household purchasing power and support local businesses during the season.

Cabinet spokesman, Director of Communications, Maurice Merchant said the relief package includes the following:

- A reinstated Christmas Barrel Initiative, which will run from 1 December 2025 to 15 January 2026.
- A modest US \$10.00 processing fee plus a Revenue Recovery Charge (RRC) of 10% on the value of items imported under the scheme — allowing households to access essential items,

gifts, and holiday goods at significantly reduced cost.

- A temporary reduction of the Antigua and Barbuda Sales Tax (ABST) to 7% from Friday 19 December to Sunday 21 December 2025, encouraging retail activity and holiday shopping.
- A waiver of duties and taxes (customs duties, import duty, ABST, and other applicable charges) on the importation of hams, turkeys, and whole chicken between 25 November and 25 December 2025, aimed at lowering the price of festive foods and supporting households over the Yuletide period.

According to Merchant, by lowering costs on staple and festive items, the measures help families — particularly low- and middle-income households — stretch their budgets further during the holidays, at a time

when expenses typically rise.

“The temporary ABST reduction and Christmas Barrel initiative are expected to boost retail activity, increase consumer spending, and benefit small and medium-sized businesses across the islands.

“In the face of rising global food and import costs, the waiver on poultry and holiday imports, combined with broader recent measures to zero-rate essential food imports, is part of the government’s commitment to help households manage inflationary pressures,” Merchant indicated.

He noted that the holiday season is typically a peak period for consumer spending. These relief measures are expected to stimulate demand, support retail and trade sectors, and help sustain incomes for workers in commerce, distribution, and hospitality.

“These measures reflect government’s ongoing commitment to support Antiguans and Barbudans, especially at times when they need it most. It is not just about immediate relief, but also about sustaining the lifeblood of commerce, reinforcing local supply chains, and ensuring that the benefits of growth touch the wider population.

“The Government of Antigua and Barbuda remains committed to protecting the welfare of its citizens, promoting equitable access to essential goods, and supporting economic activity. This Yuletide relief package is designed to make the holiday period more affordable and joyous for households, while also strengthening local businesses,” the communications director observed.

Jamilla Kirwan appointed Independent Senator



Senator Jamilla Kirwan is the newest appointee to the Upper House of parliament following her swearing in at a ceremony at Government House on Thursday.

She was appointed a Senator by the Governor General, Sir Rodney Williams, acting under the powers given to him under Chapter IV, Part 1, Section 28(4) of the Constitution of Antigua and Barbuda. Under this section, the Governor General is empowered to appoint Independent Senators in his 'own deliberate judgment'.

"This mechanism strengthens our parliamentary system by ensuring that voices of balance, reflection, and independence are always present in national debates," Sir Rodney stated in his remarks at the swearing in ceremony.

He revealed that his appointment of Senator Kirwan followed careful consideration and the required consultations, and it reflects confidence in her integrity, her judgment and her long-standing contributions to society. He added that she comes to the role with a rich and multifaceted portfolio of



experience.

These include her more than two decades as a respected media practitioner, her work in the creative and performing arts, especially the theatre as well as her philanthropic work, which he described as 'equally impactful'.

In her response, Senator Kirwan said she was 'deeply honoured and profoundly humbled to accept the appointment as an Independent Senator'.

"My journey to this moment has been shaped by many roles: mother, daughter, communications specialist, self-development coach, mentor, actor and most recently, cancer survivor.

"Each chapter of my life has



taught me resilience, empathy, discipline and the importance of listening. It has shown me that leadership is not about elevation; it is about service; stepping into rooms not for recognition, but for representation and fulfilment," she remarked.

The new senator accepts that her mandate as an Independent Senator is quite clear; to evaluate issues objectively, and to bring balance, perspective and fairness to national debates. "I intend to carry out this role with diligence, humility and devotion – rooted always in truth, transparency, and the best interest of the people of Antigua and Barbuda," she indicated.

According to Senator Kirwan, she is especially passionate about youth empowerment, community development and women's advancement, particularly meaningful today as the world observes 16 days of activism against gender-based violence.

UK to offer technical assistance to Antigua and Barbuda in preparations for CHOGM next year

Antigua and Barbuda is getting technical assistance from the UK as it ramps up preparations for the next Commonwealth Heads of Government Meeting (CHOGM) which the country will host in November 2026.

Permanent Secretary in the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Ambassador Dr. Clarence Pilgrim and the Resident British High Commissioner, John Hamilton, on Thursday inked a Memorandum of Understanding paving the way for the technical assistance to Antigua and Barbuda.

“This particular agreement will assist Antigua and Barbuda in its preparations for next year’s CHOGM. It is important to note that this will be a significant undertaking and as such we are looking to our friends to offer assistance. So, for this particular assistance being offered, we are going to have someone seconded to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs to work with us from April next year. This person will be on the ground helping us to make sure that everything is in place so that we can have a successful and historic occasion,” PS Dr. Pilgrim stated.

High Commissioner Hamilton said it was a pleasure to continue to demonstrate the UK’s support for Antigua and Barbuda’s work to deliver what he predicts would be ‘an incredibly successful and momentous’ CHOGM.

“The UK is very happy to provide this individual to work with you and building on the successful model that was used in the run-up to SIDS4 in 2024, when we were



Permanent Secretary in the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Ambassador Dr. Clarence Pilgrim and the Resident British High Commissioner, John Hamilton

also able to second staff to come and work with you here in Antigua and Barbuda. So once the idea came up we were very happy to replicate

this assistance. This is just one of several lines of assistance where we will be helping you in the run-up to the CHGM,” he stated.



NOTICE OF THE 69TH ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

**TO: SHAREHOLDERS OF ANTIGUA COMMERCIAL BANK LTD.
TRADING AS ACB CARIBBEAN**

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the SIXTY - NINETH (69th) ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING (AGM) of the Company will be held via hybrid format (both online and in-person) on Thursday December 4, 2025, at 2:00 pm at the Sir John E. St. Luce Finance and Convention Centre on Factory Road, St. John's, Antigua and on the Microsoft Teams Platform.

Shareholders are asked to arrive at the AGM venue at least 30 minutes prior to the scheduled start time to allow for registration and other pre- Meeting matters to be addressed. Adequate parking will be available.

Notice of the Annual General Meeting has been distributed to Shareholders as at the record date, **Friday October 31, 2025**, by email and uploaded to the Company's website, www.acbonline.com in accordance with Article 12.4 of the Company's Bylaws.

Shareholders may access their **69th AGM Shareholders' Package (to include the Annual Report 2024; Proxy Form; Circular to Shareholders; 68th AGM Minutes; Meeting Etiquette Guidelines for Online Attendees)** under the **Investor Relations tab** on the Company's website and may request hard copies of all documents via email: ACBSecretariat@acbcaribbean.com.

To attend the AGM online, Shareholders will be required to pre-register by latest, **Monday December 1, 2025**. The registration link will be emailed to Shareholders on record and can be found on our ACB Caribbean Facebook page: ACB Caribbean or on the Company's website under the Investor Relations tab. Shareholders will be subject to due-diligence

requirements. Help Desk Service and Support will be available via the email contact above.

For Shareholders attending the Meeting in – person, we also encourage you to pre-register by reserving your seat via the above email **on or before Monday December 1, 2025**.

Proxies are to be deposited with the Legal/ Secretariat Department at Unit 20, Woods Centre Mall, Friars Hill Road, St. John's, Antigua or emailed to ACBSecretariat@acbcaribbean.com by latest **2:00 pm on Thursday November 27, 2025**.

The 69th Annual General Meeting will be hosted under the Theme – **STEADY HANDS. BOLD STEPS.**

The upcoming AGM will also be hosted during a period of celebration for the ACB Caribbean Group, as we mark a significant milestone, **OUR 70TH ANNIVERSARY**. We invite you to join us, as we celebrate under the Theme – **OUR LEGACY. YOUR FUTURE.**

We look forward to engaging with our Shareholders at our upcoming AGM.

Shareholders are encouraged to submit your questions in advance via the email above. **Your Voice Matters!**

BY ORDER OF THE BOARD

**RHODETTE F. C. PAIGE
LEGAL COUNSEL / CORPORATE SECRETARY**

Over 200-thousand dollars for new mammogram at SLBMC

The Sir Lester Bird Medical Centre (SLBMC) has received a significant donation of EC \$202,500 from the CIBC ComTrust Foundation, marking a major step toward the purchase of a new mammogram machine that will strengthen breast cancer screening and early detection in Antigua and Barbuda.

The presentation took place at SLBMC, where representatives from the hospital, CIBC Caribbean, and the Ministry of Health celebrated the partnership and its long-term impact on national healthcare.

SLBMC Medical Director Dr. Shivon Belle-Jarvis expressed deep gratitude, emphasizing the life-changing reach of the donation.

“Collaboration truly is priceless when it comes to meeting our mission as a hospital. In Antigua and Barbuda, we have more than 49,000 women who, at some point in their lives, will benefit from this new mammogram machine. And we must also remember our men who, though fewer in number, come to us with symptoms and will benefit as well.

What CIBC has done here will touch lives not only now, but for generations to come. This is the real power of public-private partnership. If we want to transform healthcare in this country, we can only do it together.

On behalf of the hospital, and on behalf of every family whose loved one will be helped by this gift, we say thank you.”

Speaking on behalf of CIBC Caribbean, Ladisha James – Williams, Director, Retail Sales OECS and Country Head Antigua, and Trustee of the CIBC FirstCaribbean ComTrust Foundation, highlighted why the bank felt compelled to support



the cause.

“When the hospital approached us, we knew immediately that we had to

respond in a meaningful way. Supporting this request aligns not only with our mission, but with our deep commitment to strengthening health-



STATE INSURANCE
 COMPANY LIMITED
 Live in a better State of mind

PROPERTY & CONTENTS INSURANCE

STORMS DON'T WAIT, WHY SHOULD YOU?

ANTIGUA (268) 481-7800/04 BARBUDA (268) 727-7422 www.siclfincial.com [f](#) [i](#) [t](#) [x](#)



A card for every
MOMENT / **A REWARD**
for every purchase

FIND OUT
MORE



OUR MASTERCARD® SUITE OF CREDIT CARDS ARE HERE

Experience increased **SPENDING POWER**, global **TRAVEL PERKS**, and **EXCLUSIVE REWARDS**, with the strong financial backing of Mastercard®



1-268-480-6186



info@ecabank.com



Live Chat: www.ecabank.com



care access for the people of Antigua and Barbuda.

Corporate social responsibility isn't a checkbox for us—it's part of who we are. Here at home, the CIBC name has become closely tied to Walk for the Cure and to the wider fight against cancer, because we believe every community deserves the best chance at early detection and treatment.

We want to acknowledge the medical and administrative teams at SLBMC for the tireless, often unseen work they continue to do on the frontlines of cancer care. And we reaffirm CIBC Caribbean's commitment to standing with you—because when we collaborate, we strengthen not just systems, but lives."

Minister of Health, Wellness, Social Transformation, and The Environment, Sir Molwyn Joseph,

also underscored the significance of the donation within the context of the nation's healthcare system.

"Healthcare is a complex issue. Antigua and Barbuda made the decision many years ago that we would have

socialized medicine and that no one should be left behind. When you adopt that policy, you also take on significant responsibilities and burdens. For example, the total assets of this hospital amount to roughly \$25 million—and those assets must be maintained and eventually replaced. Your generosity has helped to shoulder some of that burden.

On behalf of the Prime Minister, the Cabinet, and myself, we extend our sincere and lasting gratitude for your generosity."

SLBMC Head of Marketing & Communication, Salma Crump, noted that CIBC's support is not new—but its consistency and impact continue to deepen.

"CIBC has been supporting the hospital for more than a decade, and they've become the kind of partners who always ask, 'How can we help?' Their long-standing commitment to cancer care has made a real difference year after year.

We often remind those who give that countless worthy causes exist—yet they chose us. And for that we are

truly grateful.

This year, our PINKparty campaign raised nearly \$90,000—the most we've ever raised—with one goal in mind: purchasing a new mammogram machine. Today, because of CIBC's generosity, that goal becomes a reality.

A hospital is only as strong as the people who work within it—and the people who believe in and support that work."

The CIBC Walk for the Cure activities continue with Raffle for the Cure which will be drawn on November 30th, and the formal handover of funds raised during the Walk for the Cure campaign will take place on World Cancer Day, February 4, 2026.

The acquisition of the new mammogram machine will significantly enhance the hospital's mission of strengthening early detection and timely intervention for breast cancer. This is crucial as breast cancer accounts for a significant portion of cancer cases diagnosed among women in Antigua and Barbuda.

Arbor Day 2025 hailed a success



Celebrating with staff of the Environment Division

The Department of Environment successfully celebrated Arbor Day 2025 with island-wide activities promoting environmental awareness, sustainability, and youth engagement.

As part of this year's celebrations, schools across Antigua and Barbuda received plants, plant bags, and healthy snacks, encouraging students to participate actively in conservation and home gardening.

In total, 25,000 plants were distributed, including 15,000 assorted fruit plants, 2,000 coconut trees, and additional varieties such as apple, grape, and citrus seedlings.

The event was attended by Junior Minister in the Ministry of Health, Senator Michael Joseph, who toured the displays, interacted with students, and participated in photo sessions with the children.

Students also visited educational stalls showcasing the work of the Plant Protection Unit, the Beekeeping Initiative, and the Solar Energy Exhibit, each demonstrating sus-



Senator Michael Joseph examining exhibits at Arbor Day



Sen Joseph with staff and students of the Victory Centre

tainable practices and innovations that support Antigua and Barbuda's environmental goals.

The Department of Environment extends appreciation to all participating schools, partners, and vol-

unteers who contributed to another successful Arbor Day celebration, reinforcing the nation's commitment to environmental stewardship and climate resilience.

Antigua Yacht Club AGM Highlights Unity, Youth Development, and a Shared Vision for the Future

By Zoe Carlton

Across oceans and continents, Antigua is known as an island of sailors — and at the centre of that reputation, part of the fabric of Caribbean and World sailing, stands the Antigua Yacht Club.

It is here that many of the island's greatest talents first touched the tiller: Junella King, Rocco Falcone, Shannon Falcone, Louis and Alex Sinclair, the legendary Karl James... the list goes on of Olympians and world champions who learned their craft in these waters. AYC is more than a club; it is the cradle of Antigua's global sailing legacy.

This year's Annual General Meeting came at the close of a period marked by significant hard work, careful planning and quiet determination from the Board. Over the past year, the volunteer team has dedicated countless hours to stabilising the club, strengthening operations, and laying the groundwork for long-term growth. This AGM was not just a meeting — it was the culmination of a year of steady vision and a renewed commitment to the club's future.

Despite past differences, recent discussions between AYC leadership and Marina Resorts Ltd have established a shared vision for a world-class club and marina. One of Antigua's most accomplished sailors, Shannon Falcone of Americas' Cup fame, addressed the meeting, speaking passionately about his love for the sport, Antigua's unique place in global sailing and the role the club has played in his own children's lives. He underscored the importance of moving beyond previous contention and embracing collaboration.

Falcone highlighted a vision centred on community, youth sailing, and expanding opportunities for Antiguan sailors across the industry — from grassroots development to the superyacht and professional racing sectors. He reiterated that the AYC has a



long tradition of producing exceptional sailors who now compete on the world stage, including in the America's Cup and the Ocean Globe Race.

AYC leadership echoed this sentiment, stressing that youth engagement is essential to the future of sailing in Antigua. Financial challenges remain, including outstanding sums owed to the club, but the Board emphasised its commitment to strengthening youth programmes, expanding events, and enhancing facilities that support both local talent and the wider sailing community. The meeting also reaffirmed the importance of Saturday racing, which remains the heart of the club throughout the year. Excitement continues to build for the upcoming Antigua Classic Yacht Regatta, with Robyn Stout reporting strong international interest and praising Nelson's Dockyard as the perfect home for the event. Volunteers were warmly welcomed.

The AYC Board, comprised entirely of volunteers, thanked members for their support and confirmed the following positions for the coming year:

- Commodore: Dr. Clarence Pilgrim
- Vice-Commodore: Cdr Richard Fear
- Rear-Commodore: Sandy Mair
- House & Grounds Director: John

Gaillard

- Honorary treasurer: Lorraine Gaillard
- Fleet Captain: Tommy Patterson
- Classics Fleet Captain: Robin Stout
- Director-at-Large: Jeff Hadeed
- Social Director: Gina di Renzo (newly appointed)
- Dinghy Captain: Sophie Brookes (newly appointed)
- Honorary Secretary: The AYC is still seeking an appropriate candidate.

Recognising the amount of work done by the board and the need to keep members engaged, it was agreed to form a five-person, members' committee to support the board in driving forward future initiatives. Five volunteers stepped forward—perhaps not exactly with eagerness, but certainly with a commendable willingness to serve.

With the new Board confirmed — and after a year defined by resilience, planning, and renewed vision — AYC looks to the horizon with confident purpose, ready to steer Antigua toward a future where community, collaboration, and opportunity come together to inspire the next wave of sailors who will carry the island's legacy across the world's oceans.

Antigua Barbuda
**FESTIVALS
COMMISSION**

**10TH JAN
2026**
NIGHT ONE



**ONE
NATION
CARIBBEAN
MUSIC FESTIVAL**

ONE PEOPLE ONE L  VE

MASICKA

**ANTIGUA
RECREATION
GROUND**

GEN \$100 | REGGAE KINGDOM \$375 | TIME: 8PM

ticketing
TICKETS AVAILABLE

TICKET LOCATIONS:
**EXOTIC ANTIGUA | ROTI KING
COOL & SMOOTH | THE LARDER**

 ANTIGUAFESTIVALSOFFICIAL  ANTIGUA CARNIVAL

Local News

Scores of senior citizens participate in the annual Senior Citizens Day festivities



Scores of senior citizens were fed, entertained and were the focus of attention at the annual Senior Citizens Day festivities on Thursday, organized by the Social Protection Board.

Held at the People's Place, the annual

celebration of the seniors whose contributions to nation building paved the way for much of the benefits that the current generations enjoy, marked a recognition that these senior citizens have not been forgotten but still remain uppermost in the minds of many

in the society,

“What we do is to take a day out of the year to appreciate our senior citizens. They have done so much in their time so today, we brought them here as an outing so that they could feel the love



Curry House
ANTIGUA

**Open Daily –
12:00pm – 10:30pm**


[currytandoorihouseanu](https://www.facebook.com/currytandoorihouseanu)


[curryhouseanu](https://www.instagram.com/curryhouseanu)


[\(268\) 736-7165](https://wa.me/2687367165)



Local News

PAGE 13



from other members of the communi-



ty. They were provided with a sumptuous lunch and the programme included entertainment for their enjoyment,” Coordinator of the Social Protection Board, Mary Baltimore stated.

Each of the seniors received a gift so that no one left empty-handed. “The atmosphere we created was quite helpful as it provided an opportunity for

many of them to socialize with each other rather than to be at home, lonely with no one to interact with,” Baltimore indicated.

Among the seniors was Ruth Benjamin of Ottos New Town, who at age 98, was the oldest senior attending the Senior Citizens Day festivities.



HOSTS:

DR, CHRISTOPHER, RAS KIMBA & LUTHER LEE

POINTE FM 99.1

THURSDAYS 9PM – 11PM



MINISTRY OF EDUCATION, SPORTS AND CREATIVE INDUSTRIES

**THE DEPARTMENT OF CREATIVE INDUSTRIES REMINDS EVERYONE THAT THE
CHRISTMAS HOME AND BUSINESS LIGHTING COMPETITION 2025 REGISTRATION IS
STILL ONGOING.**

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE – Monday, 17th November 2025 – *St. John's, Antigua and Barbuda.....*

The Department of Creative Industries is reminding the public that registration for the Christmas Home and Business Lighting Competition 2025 is still ongoing.

The competition aims to evoke the spirit of the season through the creative, dazzling lighting displays of our 2025 competitors. The Department encourages all interested Home and Business owners to register for the competition by Wednesday, December 17, 2025.

Registration Forms are available Mondays to Fridays, 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m., at the Department of Creative Industries Headquarters on Old Parham Road, upstairs in INET, or at the National Festivals Office, 1st Floor, Cecil George-John Building, Redcliffe Street and Corn Alley.

Pre-judging will commence on December 20th and 21st, 2025, while the final displays will be judged on December 28, 2025. Winners will be announced via Good Morning Antigua, Barbuda on Friday, January 5th, 2026.

Home entries will be categorized and judged according to the zones – East, West, North, and South. All Home participants will receive a 100% waiver on electricity service from December 15th, 2025, to January 15th, 2026, Duty-Free concessions on Christmas Lights and/or Decorations, and a Cash component for the top three winners in each zone, as outlined below.

- **First Place - \$ 3,000.00 XCD**
- **Second Place - \$ 2,000.00 XCD**
- **Third Place - \$ 1,000.00 XCD**

Business entries will receive a 50% waiver on electricity service for December 2025, DutyFree concessions on Christmas Lights and or Decorations and a Cash component for the top three winners as outlined below.

- **First Place - \$ 3,000.00 XCD**
- **Second Place - \$ 2,000.00 XCD**
- **Third Place - \$ 1,000.00 XCD**

Register now to be a part of the joy and splendor of Christmas 2025.

END.

Antigua and Barbuda Tourism Authority Announces Winners of the 2025 Student Art Competition

The Antigua and Barbuda Tourism Authority proudly announced the winners of its annual Student Art Competition, unveiled during the Rising Stars of Art event at V.C. Bird International Airport as part of the third edition of Antigua and Barbuda Art Week.

A standout feature of Art Week celebration, the competition attracted more than 50 entries from schools across Antigua and Barbuda. Students created artwork under the theme “Life in Antigua and Barbuda,” producing vibrant interpretations of the nation’s culture, landscapes, and everyday experiences. Winning pieces are now on display in the airport’s Expressions of Art and Fashion exhibit.

Competition Winners

Ages 13–17

- ▶ 1st Place: Summer Goodwin – Christ the King High School
- ▶ 2nd Place: Gabrielle Grant – Antigua and Barbuda College of Advanced Studies
- ▶ 3rd Place: Josea Morris – St. Anthony’s Secondary School
- ▶ Honourable Mention: Mahi Singh – St. Anthony’s Secondary School

Ages 10–12

- ▶ 1st Place: Zoey Carter – Sir Novel-le Richards Academy
- ▶ 2nd Place: Haizea Carrer Falcone – Mill Academy
- ▶ 3rd Place: Zandaya Joseph – St. Anthony’s Secondary School

Ages 7–9

- ▶ 1st Place: Chris Oribia – Island Academy
- ▶ 2nd Place: Lele Rozay Jane – Mill Academy
- ▶ 3rd Place: Breana Haughton – St. John’s Lutheran School




Local News



Gold sponsor Flow presented prizes to the winners. Country Manager Wayne Hull reaffirmed the company's com-

mitment to youth development and the creative arts.

"It is truly inspiring to witness the tal-

ent and imagination of our young artists," said Colin C. James, CEO of the Antigua and Barbuda Tourism Authority. "Their artwork not only reflects the beauty of our island but also demonstrates the importance of encouraging *creativity and self-expression from an early age.*"

Head judge Kwame Delfish, a Toronto-based artist with Antiguan heritage, praised the exceptional quality of submissions, noting that each piece regardless of placement demonstrated meaningful storytelling, strong technique, and a unique artistic voice.

Geneva George, Commercial Manager of the Antigua and Barbuda Airport Authority, highlighted the importance of the initiative, "The airport is proud to be part of Art Week. A traveler's first impression starts at the airport, whether they are arriving or departing, and these beautiful pieces of art will enhance the welcome and showcase the creativity of our young artists."

In special recognition, Island Academy received a \$500 award from Diamond International for its art department after submitting the highest number of entries, 20 pieces.

The Antigua and Barbuda Tourism Authority extends heartfelt congratulations to all participating students and commends teachers, parents, and sponsors for supporting and nurturing the creative talents of the nation's youth.



PAYING SCHOOL FEES? IT'S AS EASY AS ACB, AND HASSLE FREE!

Use the ACB Smart App and pay fees on the go. With our instant ACB Merchant Payment or EFT Options, **we've got you covered!**

follow us on for the list of schools

Deputy DPP delivers well-researched and well-received lecture on backlogs within the court system

The Deputy Director of Public Prosecutions, Shannon Jones-Gitten, delivered a well-researched and a very well presented lecture on the root causes of backlogs within the court systems of the Eastern Caribbean Supreme Court system.

The lecture is the third in a series of lectures organized by the ECSC and the first to be held in Antigua and Barbuda.

Jones-Gitten noted that backlogs within court systems are not confined to countries such as Antigua and Barbuda but are part of the challenges faced by court systems the world over.

Within the ECSC system, she presented statistics that showed that the situation here in Antigua and Barbuda is better than in several other jurisdictions.

Jones-Gitten highlighted a lack of resources as perhaps the key reason for backlog in cases in Antigua and Barbuda. These range from inadequate financial resources to shortages of staff in key areas such as the police, the office of the DPP and the shortage of defence attorneys to handle the number of cases within the system.

Despite the challenges, she said there are reasons for persons to be optimistic. For example, she noted that COVID-19 forced the court to move to adopt technologies at a rate faster than it perhaps would have otherwise.

According to the Deputy DPP, there is need for an efficient court system as the main states; justice delayed is justice denied.

“An efficient criminal justice system is critical in any civilized society. Delayed trials harbour a great risk of ensuing injustice – not just for accused persons who are guaranteed a fair trial within a reasonable time by our Constitutions but the victims of crime who desire to be restored or recompensed for the harm done to them or their



Deputy DPP Shannon Jones-Gitten



loved ones,” she observed.

She noted too that when matters span years from commission to trial, there is a risk that include diminished quality of evidence as memories fade, exhibits deteriorate or are damaged or stolen among a hosts of other concerns.

Jones-Gitten credits the court in Antigua and Barbuda for being proactive in addressing some of the issues at the heart of the backlog issue. “Our court has maintained high standards and de-

livered sound judgments which offer guidance and are relied on beyond the jurisdictions it serves. It is therefore not surprising that challenges have been transformed into opportunities for change. Of course, there is room for further improvements – there always is,” she stated.

Attorney General, Sir Steadroy Benjamin gave an official welcome to Thursday’s lecture that was held in the High Court in t. John’s.

Flow Celebrates Young Artists at Art Week



Flow Antigua and Barbuda was delighted to present laptops, smartphones, and other prizes to the first, second, and third place winners of the 3rd Annual Antigua and Barbuda Art Week (ABAW) Student Art Competition. Country Manager Wayne Hull presented the prizes during a ceremony at the VC Bird International Airport arrivals area, where the winning pieces will be on display until December 2nd.

This year's competition, themed "Life in Antigua and Barbuda," invited students aged 7–17 to showcase their creativity through visual stories of island life, family traditions, natural beauty, and cultural experiences.



**"Feel the Magic of Christmas
Only on Pointe FM 99.1"**

Pointe FM "Season of Sound" Advertising Package
Campaign Name: "Season of Sound"

Duration:
 17 November – 31 December 2025
 Total Mentions: 66 Investment.

Package Breakdown
Feature Details

- Spot Count 66 total spots over 6 weeks (11 per week)
- Spot Length 15 sec
- Air Time Between 8 AM and 10 PM (prime listening hours)
- Rotation Evenly distributed across weekdays and weekends
- Bonus Mentions 6 festive shout-outs during Christmas week
- Creative Support Ad scriptwriting and voiceover (if needed)

Vernon A. Springer 1-268-726-8731
or Kayra Hughes 1-268-728-2122

28th November

Happy
Birthday



Everton Barnes

Warmest birthday wishes to you. Your leadership, integrity, and unwavering dedication continue to inspire and guide us. May the year ahead bring you fulfillment, good health, and renewed strength. —

The Management and Staff of Pointe Xpress



28th November



Happy Birthday

JAMAL PRINCE

Have a fantastic day, and we wish you all the best for the new season that you are stepping into.

30th November

Happy Birthday!



Charmaine Donovan

Have a blessed day!



Abandoned Property for CIBC Caribbean Bank (Barbados) Limited, Antigua branch, as of October 31, 2025

In accordance with Section 168 of the Banking Act 2015, we now publish details of property which has been classified as abandoned. Account holders can claim ownership through visiting one of our convenient branch locations with some means of identification.

Current - XCD

Branch	Account #	Name	Address
HIGH AND MARKET STREETS	106912290	DONYZIA ROYER	DONNOVANS ST JOHNS ANTIGUA
HIGH AND MARKET STREETS	1118589	GORTOY ENGINEERING CONTRACTORS (ANU) LTD	PAYNTERS INDUSTRIAL ESTATE P O BOX 2217 ST. JOHN'S ANTIGUA
OLD PARHAM ROAD	1005410	ADELIN ACTIVISTS	P O BOX W260 WOODS CENTRE ST JOHNS ANTIGUA
OLD PARHAM ROAD	10107078	SEAGLANS CENTRAL T/A SEAGLANS CENTRAL	SEVENTH DAY PO BOX 109 ST JOHNS ANTIGUA AND BARBUDA

Savings - XCD

Branch	Account #	Name	Address
HIGH AND MARKET STREETS	4227120	DOLLIS MAE RYNER-ROYER	HERBERTS ESTATE ST JOHNS ANTIGUA

Managers Cheque

Issued Date	Amount	Payee	Serial Number	Country of Origin
6-Nov-09	81.18	Cheque Writer 0106350820	1079736	ANTIGUA
6-Nov-09	49.75	COMPTROLLER OF CUSTOMS	382260	ANTIGUA
13-Nov-09	82.00	ICAEC	1153582	GRENADA
25-Nov-09	414.00	CONCRETE & AGGREGATES (SVG) LTD	1158520	ST VINCENT
15-Dec-09	400.00	ICON DISTRIBUTORS (GRENADA) LTD	1156145	GRENADA
17-Dec-09	296.44	Cheque Writer 000106353650	1079739	ANTIGUA
4-Jan-10	91.61	Cheque Writer 000106358890	1079743	ANTIGUA
6-Jan-10	304.54	AGATHA CROPPER	1130888	ANTIGUA
11-Jan-10	241.90	CARIBBEAN DEVELOPMENT CO (ST.K	1082071	GRENADA
18-Jan-10	1,000.00	JOCELYN ROBERTS	1082559	GRENADA
21-Jan-10	1,000.00	BRYAN HURST	1082202	GRENADA
5-Feb-10	200.00	FAO	369131	ST VINCENT
5-Feb-10	200.00	MARCIA PENNYFEATHER	369132	ST VINCENT
3-Mar-10	600.00	BUILDERS MERCHANT	1117409	ANTIGUA
4-Mar-10	3,347.35	ANGELINA PHILIP	369692	ST VINCENT
11-Mar-10	38.13	IAN SMITH	1117432	ANTIGUA
19-Mar-10	5,000.00	ABDF WARRIORS	1123999	ANTIGUA
25-Mar-10	2,375.00	NIGEL D. STEWART	1155009	GRENADA
30-Mar-10	173.07	VENETA C BURTON	1117982	ANTIGUA

Please note that should the subject property not be claimed within 90 days of the date of this publication, the funds will be transferred to the Eastern Central Bank of the Caribbean.



Abandoned Property for CIBC Caribbean Bank (Barbados) Limited, Antigua branch, as of October 31, 2025

In accordance with Section 168 of the Banking Act 2015, we now publish details of property which has been classified as abandoned. Account holders can claim ownership through visiting one of our convenient branch locations with some means of identification.

Managers Cheque

Issued Date	Amount	Payee	Serial Number	Country of Origin
31-Mar-10	67.50	INTIMATE TOUCH	1118092	ANTIGUA
23-Apr-10	21,323.56	VIOLET L & KURT H KRETSCHMA	1152282	ANGUILLA
26-Apr-10	2,000.00	ROLSTON ALLEN	1126614	ANTIGUA
30-Apr-10	72.00	NOC	1126677	ANTIGUA
20-May-10	713.00	SUN PRINTING & PUBLISHING LTD	1119460	ANTIGUA
27-May-10	67.50	INIZIO	383013	ANTIGUA
8-Jun-10	9.95	MINI WALLS	369602	ST VINCENT
23-Jun-10	270.00	NATIONAL INSURANCE SCHEME	1166327	GRENADA
25-Jun-10	347.70	THE CARIBBEAN DEVELOPMENT CO.	1166499	GRENADA
25-Jun-10	876.90	MARJORIE RYAN	1166501	GRENADA
25-Jun-10	68.40	GEORGE EZEKIEL ABBOTT	1166503	GRENADA
25-Jun-10	876.90	BERYL MARY FRANCISCA ALLYENE	1166504	GRENADA
25-Jun-10	141.90	BERNICE COOMBS	1166506	GRENADA
30-Jun-10	680.00	GGBL A/C#113000263	1166629	GRENADA
9-Jul-10	946.93	DIANFRANCO DOCCI	1121105	ANTIGUA
21-Jul-10	544.00	INLAND REVENUE DEPARTMENT	1163346	ANTIGUA
18-Aug-10	40.00	CARL BHOLA	1167282	GRENADA
13-Sep-10	129.00	Cheque Writer 106312367	1079750	ANTIGUA
14-Sep-10	2,613.92	ST KITTS, SUPPLY OFFICER	1177519	ANGUILLA
28-Sep-10	67.50	DIGICEL	1178032	ANTIGUA
5-Oct-10	3.23	MR LESLIE E WINTER	1073015	ANTIGUA
29-Oct-10	53.80	ALBERT LAKE	1175495	ANGUILLA

BBD Drafts

Issued Date	Amount	Payee	Serial Number	Country of Origin
2010-01-14	30.00	UNIVERSITY OF THE WE	105408	ANTIGUA
2010-01-14	30.00	UNIVERSITY OF THE WE	105407	ANTIGUA
2010-02-05	360.90	MOORE PARAGON CARIBB	104707	ANGUILLA
2010-03-17	5.00	UWI CAVEHILL CAMPUS	105469	ANTIGUA
2010-04-09	30.00	UWI (CAVE HILL CAMPU	111046	ANTIGUA
2010-07-21	244.44	ANTHONY O`DOWD	111299	ANTIGUA

Please note that should the subject property not be claimed within 90 days of the date of this publication, the funds will be transferred to the Eastern Central Bank of the Caribbean.



Abandoned Property for CIBC Caribbean Bank (Barbados) Limited, Antigua branch, as of October 31, 2025

In accordance with Section 168 of the Banking Act 2015, we now publish details of property which has been classified as abandoned. Account holders can claim ownership through visiting one of our convenient branch locations with some means of identification.

USD Drafts

Issued Date	Amount	Payee	Serial Number	Country of Origin
2009-11-04	30.00	GPC	479322	ANTIGUA
2009-11-04	30.00	LAO	479320	ANTIGUA
2009-11-04	30.00	GPC	479321	ANTIGUA
2009-11-13	40.00	PRIZEMASTERS	479363	ANTIGUA
2009-11-13	50.00	BRIANNA ROBERTSON	263138	ST VINCENT
2009-11-24	50.00	BANK OF AMERICA	478523	ANTIGUA
2009-11-24	121.46	KENNETH KING	480226	ANTIGUA
2009-11-25	20.00	UNIVERSITY OF THE WE	263236	ST VINCENT
2009-11-25	110.00	INTERNATIONAL SEGWAY	336843	ST VINCENT
2009-11-26	20.00	UNIVERSITY OF THE WE	263237	ST VINCENT
2009-11-26	50.00	LM	479380	ANTIGUA
2009-11-26	80.00	PRIZEMASTERS	479381	ANTIGUA
2009-11-27	48.00	SCMS	479389	ANTIGUA
2009-12-02	50.00	BHM	479394	ANTIGUA
2009-12-02	50.00	NEW ENGLAND CULINARY	272693	GRENADA
2009-12-02	50.00	(BREAKTHROUGH) ROD P	336859	ST VINCENT
2009-12-04	50.00	LM	479447	ANTIGUA
2009-12-04	441.68	ANDY NARELL	478528	ANTIGUA
2009-12-08	50.00	KIM BROWNE	272705	GRENADA
2009-12-08	100.00	LORNA BROWNE	272702	GRENADA
2009-12-09	100.00	WILLIAM DAVID	328745	GRENADA
2009-12-09	184.11	BANCO CENTRAL DE VEN	336911	ST VINCENT
2009-12-10	14.65	DR BARRY GLASSMAN	479616	ANTIGUA
2009-12-10	30.00	MORRIS CERULLO	479612	ANTIGUA
2009-12-29	92.00	STEVE BONAPARTE	273047	GRENADA
2009-12-29	100.00	MEGAN SETTLE	263153	ST VINCENT
2009-12-30	121.46	KENNETH KING	480911	ANTIGUA
2009-12-30	298.00	MERCURY TRAVEL AGENC	479532	ANTIGUA
2010-01-06	32.00	AMERICAN PROPERTY BU	479580	ANTIGUA
2010-01-06	40.00	PRIZEMASTERS	479582	ANTIGUA
2010-01-08	45.00	WJ	480336	ANTIGUA
2010-01-08	60.00	GPC	480337	ANTIGUA
2010-01-12	50.00	WJ	480343	ANTIGUA

Please note that should the subject property not be claimed within 90 days of the date of this publication, the funds will be transferred to the Eastern Central Bank of the Caribbean.



Abandoned Property for CIBC Caribbean Bank (Barbados) Limited, Antigua branch, as of October 31, 2025

In accordance with Section 168 of the Banking Act 2015, we now publish details of property which has been classified as abandoned. Account holders can claim ownership through visiting one of our convenient branch locations with some means of identification.

USD Drafts

Issued Date	Amount	Payee	Serial Number	Country of Origin
2010-01-14	50.00	KIRK RUSSELL	507611	ST VINCENT
2010-01-14	107.00	PAUL CAMPBELL	480376	ANTIGUA
2010-01-15	30.00	WJ	479793	ANTIGUA
2010-01-22	7.68	DESMOND DEGALE	273097	GRENADA
2010-01-22	200.00	MARY GODETTE	481014	ANTIGUA
2010-01-25	121.46	CARMEN MARTIN	481414	ANTIGUA
2010-01-25	121.46	LESROY LOOBY	481495	ANTIGUA
2010-02-03	30.00	LAO	481001	ANTIGUA
2010-02-03	40.00	PRIZEMASTERS	481000	ANTIGUA
2010-02-10	40.00	PRIZEMASTERS	481086	ANTIGUA
2010-02-10	50.00	LIFE OUTREACH MINIST	333474	ANTIGUA
2010-02-12	38.32	BOI BANK	481463	ANTIGUA
2010-02-15	630.00	INTERLINE INTERNATIO	481468	ANTIGUA
2010-02-16	60.00	CHOICES	481100	ANTIGUA
2010-02-19	121.46	LESROY LOOBY	481580	ANTIGUA
2010-03-01	165.00	HARVARD BUSINESS REV	480564	ANTIGUA
2010-03-18	700.00	TRINITY BROADCASTING	481187	ANTIGUA
2010-03-19	179.78	VERONICA SIMON	472430	ANTIGUA
2010-03-22	62.53	JANICE REESON	271848	GRENADA
2010-03-24	53.00	F I A CARD SERVICES	272467	GRENADA
2010-04-08	17.28	AUSTIN VOUZAN	471737	ANTIGUA
2010-04-09	10.00	MINISTRY OF NATIONAL	481268	ANTIGUA
2010-04-12	60.00	ANGELIQUE DE SUCCES	331417	ANGUILLA
2010-04-15	160.78	ADARSHSINGH BHOLAH	329480	GRENADA
2010-04-15	195.54	ROHAN A. PHILLIP	271918	GRENADA
2010-04-15	196.95	RICHARD G. HANSFORD	271913	GRENADA
2010-04-15	198.52	SARAH ANNE MIHALEK	271923	GRENADA
2010-04-15	201.62	KLEOLANI BRYAN	329468	GRENADA
2010-04-15	292.06	AUGUSTINE TEKA	271915	GRENADA
2010-04-15	384.50	SARA RANA BEG	271914	GRENADA
2010-04-19	35.00	MONROE COLLEGE	480629	ANTIGUA
2010-04-20	45.00	ADVANCED SOLUTIONS T	480756	ANTIGUA
2010-04-22	121.46	MORVEL SIMON	472703	ANTIGUA

Please note that should the subject property not be claimed within 90 days of the date of this publication, the funds will be transferred to the Eastern Central Bank of the Caribbean.



Abandoned Property for CIBC Caribbean Bank (Barbados) Limited, Antigua branch, as of October 31, 2025

In accordance with Section 168 of the Banking Act 2015, we now publish details of property which has been classified as abandoned. Account holders can claim ownership through visiting one of our convenient branch locations with some means of identification.

USD Drafts

Issued Date	Amount	Payee	Serial Number	Country of Origin
2010-04-27	30.00	DAA	480768	ANTIGUA
2010-04-27	171.87	EDRIS SILSTON	472633	ANTIGUA
2010-04-27	197.43	HAYDN R SOLOMON	472632	ANTIGUA
2010-04-27	256.63	JOYCE KENTISH	472631	ANTIGUA
2010-05-05	20.00	CL PAYMENTS	480804	ANTIGUA
2010-05-06	235.67	CONRAD FORTE	271995	GRENADA
2010-05-12	25.00	W. J.	481346	ANTIGUA
2010-05-20	50.00	E L G SERVICES	480732	ANTIGUA
2010-05-28	20.00	MONROE COMMUNITY COL	471313	ANTIGUA
2010-06-02	200.00	GARY C JOSEPH	471327	ANTIGUA
2010-06-10	200.00	CAPITAL ONE	472787	ANTIGUA
2010-06-21	57.05	ROQUEL HERNANDEZ	473169	ANTIGUA
2010-06-21	121.46	MILBURNE CLAXTON	473204	ANTIGUA
2010-06-21	209.92	FERDIE CARR	473865	ANTIGUA
2010-06-21	385.23	JOSEPH MORRIS	473190	ANTIGUA
2010-06-22	50.00	ELFRIEDA BISSEMBER	272542	GRENADA
2010-06-25	16.20	LEON A. B. WELLS	331155	GRENADA
2010-06-25	52.36	MARY BARTHOLOMEW	331153	GRENADA
2010-06-25	94.67	VERONICA MITCHELL	331158	GRENADA
2010-06-25	323.58	TITAN CHARLES THOMAS	331152	GRENADA
2010-06-29	200.00	SYLVIA V WILSON	263424	ST VINCENT
2010-07-07	544.00	CARIBBEAN HOTEL & TO	473339	ANTIGUA
2010-07-08	48.00	ANDREWS UNIVERSITY	472886	ANTIGUA
2010-07-22	121.46	MAUDELINE SHADRACH	481717	ANTIGUA
2010-07-29	121.46	ADELFA JARVIS- MENDE	473892	ANTIGUA
2010-08-25	15.00	UNIVERSITY OF TRINID	472998	ANTIGUA
2010-08-25	50.00	ELFRIEDA BISSEMBER	330674	ANTIGUA
2010-09-10	75.00	UWI SCHOOL OF NURSIN	473059	ANTIGUA
2010-09-13	27.28	THE ESTATE OF ROGER	473531	ANTIGUA
2010-09-15	52.97	FEDEX	330714	GRENADA
2010-09-20	121.46	ADELFA JARVIS- MENDE	540586	ANTIGUA
2010-09-20	209.92	FERDIE CARR	540525	ANTIGUA
2010-09-20	438.39	CORNEL HUGHES	540608	ANTIGUA

Please note that should the subject property not be claimed within 90 days of the date of this publication, the funds will be transferred to the Eastern Central Bank of the Caribbean.



Abandoned Property for CIBC Caribbean Bank (Barbados) Limited, Antigua branch, as of October 31, 2025

In accordance with Section 168 of the Banking Act 2015, we now publish details of property which has been classified as abandoned. Account holders can claim ownership through visiting one of our convenient branch locations with some means of identification.

USD Drafts

Issued Date	Amount	Payee	Serial Number	Country of Origin
2010-10-11	100.00	ELIZABETH PROCTOR	395957	ST VINCENT
2010-10-18	50.00	MADISON SHULMAN	273275	ANTIGUA
2010-10-18	121.46	gweneth davis	540707	ANTIGUA
2010-10-18	438.39	cornel hughes	541015	ANTIGUA
2010-10-19	597.42	THOMSOM WEST	331542	GRENADA
2010-10-28	611.65	JIMMY ABOUD	331551	GRENADA

EUR Drafts

Issued Date	Amount	Payee	Serial Number	Country of Origin
2010-03-30	40.00	UNIVERSITY COLLEGE C	105439	ANTIGUA

GBP Drafts

Issued Date	Amount	Payee	Serial Number	Country of Origin
2009-11-12	1.19	BARCLAYCARD #4929480	97022	ST VINCENT
2009-12-14	32.00	EXETER FRIENDLY SOCI	117315	ST VINCENT
2010-03-22	6.18	ANN MARIE ALLAMBY TH	100953	GRENADA
2010-03-22	11.92	CATHERINE C. CHARLES	100949	GRENADA
2010-05-21	100.00	THELMA GAGE	104775	ANGUILLA
2010-06-07	50.00	HAROLD A THOMPSON	111064	ST VINCENT
2010-06-23	41.72	LENORE CRICHLow SYKE	108255	GRENADA
2010-06-23	517.98	FRANCES HETTA THOMAS	108259	GRENADA
2010-08-12	20.00	SUREYA STRATTON VASS	108132	GRENADA

TTD Drafts

Issued Date	Amount	Payee	Serial Number	Country of Origin
2010-06-23	57.65	EST.ENA FLORENCE BLA	78487	GRENADA
2010-06-23	74.10	MAURICE EDGAR ANNESL	78492	GRENADA
2010-06-23	87.25	EST.MARJORIES JOSEPH	78500	GRENADA
2010-06-23	87.25	GLENN HACKSHAW	78493	GRENADA
2010-06-23	87.25	LEE HUNTE CARRINGTON	78488	GRENADA

Please note that should the subject property not be claimed within 90 days of the date of this publication, the funds will be transferred to the Eastern Central Bank of the Caribbean.



Abandoned Property for CIBC Caribbean Bank (Barbados) Limited, Antigua branch, as of October 31, 2025

In accordance with Section 168 of the Banking Act 2015, we now publish details of property which has been classified as abandoned. Account holders can claim ownership through visiting one of our convenient branch locations with some means of identification.

TTD Drafts

Issued Date	Amount	Payee	Serial Number	Country of Origin
2010-06-23	153.03	MANNIE SOOKAR	78503	GRENADA
2010-06-23	185.91	WINIFRED JESSIE REMI	78501	GRENADA
2010-06-23	185.91	ARTHUR HUGH KNOX WIG	78506	GRENADA
2010-06-23	185.91	IVY PHYLLIS SPRINGER	78504	GRENADA
2010-06-23	251.69	MARY L THOMAS &/OR F	78483	GRENADA
2010-06-23	317.46	MARCUS A. MCLEAN	78474	GRENADA
2010-06-23	317.46	MEDEA SEBASTIAN	78480	GRENADA
2010-06-23	317.46	FREDA BRENNEN CHARBO	78489	GRENADA
2010-06-23	383.24	HORACE ERNEST HOBBS	78470	GRENADA
2010-06-23	383.24	EST. EDWARD DAVIDSON	78476	GRENADA
2010-06-23	383.24	FRANK COWIE	78466	GRENADA
2010-06-23	383.24	EDWIN LAVINGTON GEOR	78468	GRENADA
2010-06-23	383.24	ASHTON RANDOLPH CURV	78491	GRENADA
2010-06-23	566.31	VALMAI FARAH	78467	GRENADA
2010-06-23	580.57	OSCAR WILLIAMS	78505	GRENADA
2010-06-23	712.11	EST. LEON LAFOREST	78473	GRENADA
2010-06-23	975.21	PERCIVAL MERVYN HUSB	78471	GRENADA
2010-06-23	1,632.96	EST. STANLEY THEODOR	78479	GRENADA
2010-06-23	3,277.33	MARJORY RAMCHARAN	78478	GRENADA
2010-07-02	200.00	JAPANESE EMBASSY	78775	GRENADA
2010-09-01	448.27	ANTON GEORGE	122991	ST VINCENT
2010-09-10	464.20	AILENE PRINCE	123004	ST VINCENT

CAD Drafts

Issued Date	Amount	Payee	Serial Number	Country of Origin
2009-11-12	125.00	JOHNNY BULLEN	96840	GRENADA
2009-12-14	90.00	NIALI SADLER	68697	GRENADA
2010-06-22	16.17	JASON MILNE	85531	GRENADA
2010-07-23	100.00	CIBC VISA 4502 2295	113020	ST VINCENT

Please note that should the subject property not be claimed within 90 days of the date of this publication, the funds will be transferred to the Eastern Central Bank of the Caribbean.



**11TH JAN
2026
NIGHT TWO**



**ONE
NATION
CARIBBEAN
MUSIC FESTIVAL**

ONE PEOPLE ONE LOVE

SAMUEL MEDAS

**ANTIGUA
RECREATION
GROUND**

GEN \$100 | KINGDOM \$250 | TIME: 5PM
ALL INCLUSIVE



TICKET LOCATIONS:
**EXOTIC ANTIGUA | ROTI KING | COOL & SMOOTH
THE LARDER | QUINTESSENCE VARIETY PLUS**

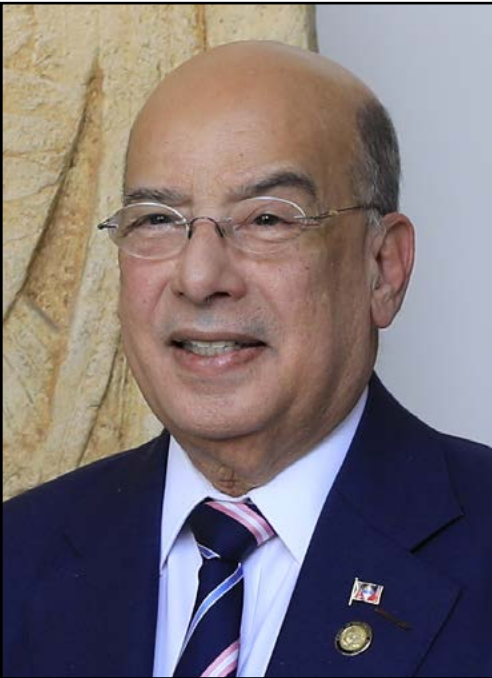


ANTIGUAFESTIVALSOFFICIAL



ANTIGUA CARNIVAL

The cost of less than a cup of coffee could end world hunger in five years



By Sir Ronald Sanders

(Author's Note: This commentary is dedicated to Patrick Cozier of Barbados, whose probing occasioned its

writing.)

In my article last week, *"Hunger and War: The Oldest Crime the World Still Permits,"* I argued that global hunger is not caused by a lack of food but by political decisions that produce war, destroy livelihoods, and block humanitarian access. That view is echoed by the United Nations: a recent briefing on food insecurity, drawing on World Food Programme (WFP) analysis, noted that ending hunger by 2030 would cost about US \$93 billion a year, while governments have spent US \$21.9 trillion on their militaries over the last decade.

Those figures from the UN and WFP show that US \$93 billion per year—less than one per cent of that military spending—would end global hunger. The contrast exposes the chasm between our professed values and our actual priorities.

If the world can afford trillions for weapons, it can afford a fraction of that to feed the hungry. But outrage alone fills no stomach. We need action. That is why I am suggesting here a clear, affordable way to do so: a global humanitarian contribution of just US \$0.75 for every barrel of oil produced, applied for five years. That task is not easy, but the arithmetic is simple.

Data based on the U.S. Energy Information Administration show that global petroleum and liquids supply in 2023 averaged about 101.8 million barrels per day—roughly 37 billion barrels a year. A contribution of US \$0.75 per barrel, if applied to all globally produced barrels, would raise about US \$28 billion annually—around US \$140 billion over five years—nearly US \$50 billion more than the UN's estimate of what is needed to eradicate hunger.

For every US \$100 earned from selling



a barrel of oil, just 75 cents would end hunger. Even at modest oil prices, such a levy amounts to well under one per cent of global oil receipts—far smaller than routine daily price swings. Yet for hundreds of millions of people, that 75 cents would mean survival.

The concentration of global oil production makes coordination feasible. Various international energy datasets show that a relatively small group of major producers—including the United States, Saudi Arabia, Russia, Canada, China, Iraq, Brazil, the United Arab Emirates, Iran and Kuwait—accounts for most of the world's output.

From a geopolitical standpoint, the fact that so much production is centred in a small number of countries adds weight to the moral argument. Those who extract vast value from the earth have both the capacity and, arguably, the responsibility to contribute to humanity's survival.

Oil and gas revenues have enriched producing states and their companies and helped fuel global development. But the same fossil-fuel use has driven climate change and intensified droughts, floods and storms that destroy crops, displace people, and deepen food insecurity—especially in vulnerable regions such as the Sahel, the Horn of Africa, small island developing states, and parts of Central America and South Asia. UN-backed assessments now consistently identi-

fy conflict and insecurity, economic shocks and climate-related extremes as the key converging drivers of acute food insecurity and malnutrition.

Critics will say the oil industry will never agree to a 75-cent contribution from every US \$100 barrel. That may be true if voluntary goodwill is the expectation. But governments can act collectively. Both oil-producing and oil-consuming nations could adopt this solidarity measure at the point of extraction or import—much as France, Brazil and Norway did when they introduced a modest levy on airline tickets to fund UNITAID's lifesaving programmes. That mechanism has functioned successfully for nearly two decades and is now a template for new global solidarity levies.

Unlike military spending, which has risen for six consecutive years and reached a record US \$2.72 trillion in 2024, according to the Stockholm International Peace Research Institute, this humanitarian contribution would be modest, transparent and morally compelling. It would also allow the energy sector—often criticised for its environmental record and windfall profits—to participate meaningfully in one of the great humanitarian achievements of our century. The reputational return for governments and companies would far outweigh the cost.

For energy-exporting nations, such a measure could be a diplomatic asset,

demonstrating global leadership and compassion at a time when trust is in short supply. For importing nations, it could be an act of solidarity toward a world fracturing under the strain of inequality. And for multilateral institutions, it would show that cooperation can still cut through an era of fracture and mistrust.

This proposal recognises that hunger is not a failure of food production but of political will. International reports show how conflict, climate extremes and economic shocks drive food crises—from Gaza, Sudan and Ukraine to the eastern Democratic Republic of the Congo, Haiti, and climate-vulnerable regions in the Caribbean, Central America, sub-Saharan Africa and the Pacific. These crises persist not because the world lacks means, but because those with power choose inaction.

A contribution of US \$0.75 per barrel—far less than the cost of a single cup of coffee—to ensure that no child goes to bed hungry is not charity. It is justice—long overdue, and well within reach.

(The author is the Ambassador of Antigua and Barbuda to the United States and the OAS, and Dean of the OAS Ambassadors accredited to the OAS. Responses and previous commentaries: www.sirronaldsanders.com)



BYD

DOLPHIN \$85,900

BYD DOLPHIN

FREE
PLATES, LICENSE &
REGISTRATION

\$2000
INSURANCE VOUCHER

484-4450 | Scotts Hill Road, Antigua

Day 4 - 16 days of activism against gender-based violence



Orange Fire, Orange Frame, Orange Strength, Orange Rhymes.

Sixteen Days, One Phrase: Protect Her All Ways.

Day Four — November 28: No More Shadows: Standing Up to Domestic Violence

Day Four rises like a gentle Wadadli sunrise, soft but certain, touching the hills, villages, and heartbeats of women whose stories too often remain in the shadows. Today we speak of women with disabilities — women who move through the world with courage stitched into their steps, even when the world places obstacles in their path. And we ask the questions we avoid: How many of these women suffer in silence? How many depend on those who harm them? How many carry wounds no one sees? Violence against women with disabilities wears many masks. It may be the caregiver who withholds her wheelchair, or the partner who hides her cane. It may be a relative who dictates her every move, or a neighbour who assumes her silence is ignorance. It may be someone who uses her disability as a cover for control. The United Nations warns us that women with disabilities are three times more likely to face violence — and in our Caribbean reality, where pride, secrecy, and cultural taboo run deep, that number feels even heavier.

She may not bruise easily on the outside — but inside, worlds crumble. She may not shout when she is hurt

— but her silence is not consent. She may not move fast — but that does not mean she is weak. Caribbean women with disabilities are not fragile; they are fierce. They have survived systems that excluded them, spaces that ignored them, and attitudes that underestimated them. Yet violence hides easily when society refuses to learn her language. Maybe she communicates differently, with hands instead of voice. Maybe she sees the world through touch or sound instead of sight. Maybe she processes information in ways others do not understand. But difference is not deficiency. UNESCO says it clearly: “Inclusion is justice, not generosity.” Justice means a shelter she can enter. Justice means transportation that serves her. Justice means police trained to respect and assist her. Justice means a society that does not punish her for being different.

In Antigua and Barbuda, we carry both warmth and wounds. We love community, yet too often, families hide their daughters with disabilities out of shame or misunderstanding. Some women spend years inside homes built with steep steps they cannot climb. Some miss medical appointments because transportation is unreliable or inaccessible. Some swallow pain because they fear no one will believe them. If the community does not see her, how will it protect her? Financial abuse is another chain. A caregiver can control money, medication, movement, or communication. A partner can dictate where she goes, who she speaks to, or whether she attends therapy. A relative can restrict her phone or monitor her messages. These are not “small things” — they are tools of power. Tools of fear. Tools of domination.

But Day Four is not only a day of calling out harm — it is a day of calling in hope. Because when women with disabilities gain access, they gain free-



dom. When they gain inclusion, they gain visibility. When they gain support, they gain safety. They become unstoppable. Imagine an Antigua and Barbuda where shelters have ramps, where hotlines accept all forms of communication, where police officers are trained in disability response, where community groups provide support instead of pity, and where every public building welcomes every body. Imagine communities where stigma has no soil and discrimination has no home.

Sixteen days, one mission: protect every woman and girl. Day Four reminds us that protection must rise to meet those who face the steepest hills. When we safeguard the most vulnerable, we strengthen the entire nation. Let this be the year Antigua and Barbuda says loudly: No more silence. No more stigma. No more barriers. Women with disabilities deserve safety, dignity, and love — not later, not eventually, but now.

Joshuanette Francis

Founder and President, Good Humans 268 Inc.

Mobile: +1 (268) 789 GOOD (4663)

Website: <https://goodhumans268.org/>

Tel 268 727 2120 or 268 463 5674

**TUES - FRIDAY
11AM - 2PM**



**HOSTED BY
SENATOR COLIN O'NEAL BROWNE**

TALKING POINT

CALL: 562-3989 OR 562-2991 | US: 718 285 7889
FACEBOOK LIVE @ POINTE FM99.1
WE ARE GETTING STRONGER

Regional News



Schools, NGOs partner to help children cope amid growing post-storm stress SafeSpot braces for wave of distress calls once youngsters regain Internet access

With hundreds of mental health cases already reported before Hurricane Melissa struck, professionals now fear a surge as communication lines reopen and more Jamaicans seek help.

Already, several Jamaicans – especially those in the west – are grappling with homelessness, joblessness, and deep uncertainty about their future. But according to Dr Kevin Goulbourne, head of the Ministry of Health's Mental Health Unit, the most serious impacts may still lie ahead.

“At this stage, many people are still in disbelief. Some people still refuse to go to shelter even though their homes have been reduced to rubble. Some persons are very anxious and apprehensive over what will happen in the future. At the moment, persons are really in survival mode,” said Goulbourne.

He noted that people are focused on basic needs, such as food, clothing, and shelter, and that the full emotional weight of their losses has not yet registered. While outside assistance is creating hope for now, he warned that support must be sustained, particularly for people already diagnosed with mental illnesses who depend on ongoing medication.

Goulbourne cautioned that



anxiety, depression, and post-traumatic stress disorder are likely to increase over time, especially once residents accept that their livelihoods have vanished. Children remain among the most vulnerable, he added, pointing out that many were still recovering from the upheaval caused by Hurricane Beryl last year.

Concerns are also rising at the Office of the Children's Advocate (OCA). Even before Hurricane Melissa, the OCA recorded more than 800 mental health-related cases, most involving children ages 13 to 15.

Anna-Maria Dawkins-Johnson, manager of SafeSpot – the OCA's national child and teen helpline, created five years ago in response to COVID-19 disruptions – said the number of cases is expected to climb once students in the hardest-hit parishes regain Internet access and can con-

tact the service.

“In the last two months, we have seen an uptick in mental health needs. Last month alone, we had over 800 contacts and the majority of those have reached out for mental health support. This was prior to the storm, so we are anticipating that that trend is going to move upwards once the students have access to any sort of Internet,” she said.

For now, most calls have come from the Corporate Area, St Catherine, and Manchester. Dawkins-Johnson said children often report family conflicts, concerns about caregivers, and fear for their family's well-being. She expects heightened depression, anxiety, and exam-related stress in the months ahead.

She emphasised the importance of resilience-building and sustained support for adolescents, noting that

SafeSpot's 20 agents respond to calls and messages around the clock.

“Academics is important, but if the child cannot balance success and sanity, then they are not going to be productive members of society,” she said, adding that 20 agents respond to calls and messages from troubled children 24/7 as part of the SafeSpot programme.

Yesterday's initiative – supported by Mindfulness Jamaica, Chevening, the British High Commission, UNICEF, and the Ministry of Health – brought together 50 Jonathan Grant High School students for sessions on mental health, responsible AI use, social media management, digital stress, and life-skills training.

Meanwhile, Goulbourne said the Mental Health Unit continues to deploy teams of up to 40 people to the most heavily affected parishes, including St Elizabeth, St James, Trelawny, and Hanover, providing both physical and psychological support and referring individuals for further care when needed.

“We just have to try to see how we connect with each other, support each other, and provide the help for persons with mental illness,” he said. (Jamaica Gleaner)

Dominican Republic grants US access to restricted areas for its deadly fight against drugs



Dominican Republic President Luis Abinader announced Wednesday that he has authorized the United States government to operate inside restricted areas in the Caribbean country to help in its fight against drug trafficking.

For a limited time, the US can refuel aircraft and transport equipment and technical personnel at restricted areas within the San Isidro Air Base and Las Américas International Airport, said Abinader, who made the announcement with US Defence Secretary Pete Hegseth at his side.

Hegseth was in Santo Domingo Wednesday to meet with the country's top leaders, including Abinader and Minister of Defense Lt. Gen. Carlos Antonio Fernández Onofre.

It is the first major public agreement that the US has struck with a Caribbean nation as it seeks friendly allies to support its attacks against alleged drug-smuggling boats in the region and beyond. Since the strikes began in early September, at least 83 people have been killed.

Hegseth said the Dominican Republic

was a regional leader willing to take on hard challenges.

"That's why I'm here today. That's why we decided to come here first," he said. "The Dominican Republic has stepped up."

Hegseth said the US would respect the Caribbean country's sovereignty and laws as US service members and aircraft prepare to deploy to the Dominican Republic. He did not provide additional details.

Meanwhile, Abinader said the scope of the agreement is "technical, limited, and temporary."

"The purpose is clear: to strengthen the air and maritime protection ring maintained by our Armed Forces, a decisive reinforcement to prevent the entry of narcotics and to strike a more decisive blow against transnational organized crime," he said.

After a news conference where no questions were allowed, the office of the president issued a statement with more details, noting that several KC-135 tanker aircraft would be present to support air patrol missions, expanding monitoring and interdiction capabili-

ties over a large portion of the maritime and air domains.

"They would also provide refuelling services to aircraft from partner countries, thus ensuring sustained operations for monitoring, detecting, and tracking verified illicit smuggling activities," according to the statement.

Additionally, C-130 Hercules cargo aircraft would facilitate aeromedical evacuations, firefighting, weather reconnaissance, and disaster relief, the office said.

Abinader noted that the Dominican Republic has seized nearly 10 times more drugs per year in the past five years than in the previous decade thanks to close collaboration with the US.

"Our country faces a real threat, a threat that knows no borders, no flags, that destroys families, and that has been trying to use our territory for decades," he said. "That threat is drug trafficking, and no country can or should confront it without allies."

Hegseth praised Abinader, saying that the Dominican Republic "understands the importance of standing up to narco-terrorists and narco-traffickers who flood our countries with drugs and violence."

"We're deadly serious about this mission," Hegseth said, asserting that the US has the best intelligence, lawyers and process. "We know...where they're leaving from, where they're going, what they're bringing, what their intentions are, who they represent."

Some experts believe the ongoing strikes are a tactic to try and pressure Venezuelan President Nicolás Maduro to step down given that the US military has built up its largest presence in the region in generations. (Jamaica Gleaner)

Regional News



T&T government tables stand your ground legislation

The Trinidad and Tobago government on Wednesday defended its decision to pilot legislation allowing for homeowners to defend their properties, even by the use of deadly force, as the opposition warned that the legislation would damage the fabric of society.

Prior to the debate, Prime Minister Kamla Persad-Bissessar, writing on X, said that during the campaign for the last general election, she had given her word to the population that her administration “would act decisively to protect families, safeguard homes and restore peace of mind.

“Today I am proud that debate begins in the House of Representatives on legislation that will legally empower citizens to defend themselves and their loved ones against the frightening scourge of home invasions, an issue that was left unattended for too long,” she wrote.

She said that the legislation is “more than a law and “it is a solemn commitment to your safety, your dignity and your right to to feel secure in the one place that must always be safe, your home.”

Attorney General, John Jeremie in tabling the Home Invasion (Self-Defence and Defence of Property) Bill 2025, commonly known as the “stand your ground legislation”, said that the state of crime and criminality in the twin-island republic was for the new government “untenable”.

“It was left to fester for a decade... this government promised to deal head on with crime, from the root causes to the manifestation of it and we are not afraid to deal with gang related crime, gang leaders and the perpetrators and bullies who have terrorised this country...

“We have taken decisive action in the interest of all of our people to destruct the relationship between gang leaders and their troops”.

Jeremie acknowledged that solving the problem of crime “is not a quick fix” and requires a “consistent strategic ap-



proach that empowers and equips the protective services to interdict and arrest criminals.

“It requires simultaneously that the justice system is fully functional and brings criminals to justice in the shortest possible time”.

He said that the new legislation is based on a long established maxim that a man’s home is his castle and that the “doctrine is that a lawful occupant of a dwelling house has the right to use necessary force, including deadly force against an attack and invader ... without retreating from that individual if the occupier reasonably believes that the invader would commit an offence against him or others in the dwelling house.”

He told legislators that in considering the legislation, questions arose as to the sufficiency of the doctrine at common law in present circumstances.

“Trinidad and Tobago, the question is whether the doctrine should be reformed and how should home invasion be addressed,” he said, adding that he had sought the assistance of the Law Reform Commission “to develop a policy position for our country.

“I am pleased to say that the Commission conceived of recommendations and a bill that was accepted by this government, well suited to our criminal justice system is now before us,” Jeremie added.

He said that the bill also provides for a

person assisting an occupier “in good faith...may use the same degree of force” and that to prevent an abuse of the measure the legislation provides that a “defence would not be valid if the individual against whom the force is used has a right to be in the dwelling and the force used against the invader is grossly disproportionate, the occupier has been engaged in criminal activity or an individual is a law enforcement officer lawfully executing his duties and the occupier knew or should have known at the time...”

But former junior national security minister, Keith Scotland, said that any innocent life “taken on a mistaken belief that a person is a criminal or has criminal intent that is a travesty of justice.

“In this life, it is not a dress rehearsal ..and for that deceased there is no return, there is no jury, there is no opportunity to present his or her defence and what about the person who actually does the act.

“What about that trauma. This is not a situation where a person has an opportunity to apply for bail if he falls afoul of this law, to present his defence, to say it was a mistake,” said Scotland, a criminal defence attorney noting that this situation occurred to a woman of four “who innocently found herself going to a wrong home saying she was about to clean it.

“She was killed. There is no return. She is dead. That is the mischief of this bill,” Scotland said, adding that there is a crime problem “but this bill is not the solution.

“This bill is a disproportionate, lazy, populist policy from an indolent, lazy and incompetent government who does not want to do the hard work. It is the bill and the piece of legislation of an administration, who I say is hell bent on destroying the very fabric of this society called Trinidad and Tobago, where we say that every creed and race must find an equal place.” (CMC)

Death of Florida teenager on Carnival cruise ship ruled a homicide



The death of a Florida teenager on a Carnival cruise ship earlier this month has been ruled a homicide, the latest development in a case that has drawn international attention and sparked intense speculation on social media.

Anna Kepner's cause of death was "mechanical asphyxia," according to a copy of her death certificate obtained by ABC News, which said the 18-year-old "was mechanically asphyxiated by other person(s)."

Mechanical asphyxia is when an object or physical force stops someone from breathing, according to Stephen Nelson, a chief medical examiner in Central Florida who is not involved in the case.

"In some way, shape or form, your airway has been cut off," said Nelson, a former chair of Florida's Medi-

cal Examiners Commission.

Kepner's death aboard the ship that sailed from Miami has remained shrouded in mystery with the FBI and medical examiner's office in South Florida refusing to disclose any information about the case for weeks.

The teen's 16-year-old stepbrother has been identified as a suspect in her death, according to court documents filed by his parents.

The disclosures — contained in motions filed in an ongoing custody dispute — offer the clearest public indication that federal investigators are scrutinizing a member of the victim's own blended family.

As of Tuesday, a final autopsy report had not been released and the Miami-Dade County Medical Examiner's Office has not responded to recent messages left by the AP. (AP)



DREAM BIG!

The land you need.
For the house
you want.



100%
Financing

Ideal
For:

✓ Residential
land buyers

✓ Future
builders

✓ Long-term
investors

Start now!



Call
+1 268-481-4200



Apply online at
acbonline.com



TERMS AND CONDITIONS APPLY

Venezuela bans six major airlines after tensions with US escalate



Venezuela has banned six major international airlines from landing in the country after they failed to meet a 48-hour deadline to resume flights there.

The airlines had temporarily suspended their routes into the capital, Caracas, after the US warned of “heightened military activity” in the area.

Angered by this, the Venezuelan government issued the carriers with an ultimatum that expired on Wednesday. While a number of smaller airlines continue to fly to Venezuela, thousands of passengers have been affected.

The US has deployed a large force to waters off Venezuela, which it says is to combat drug trafficking but which Venezuela’s leader has denounced as an attempt to overthrow him.

Venezuela’s civil aviation authority, which reports to the country’s ministry of transport, announced on Wednesday that Iberia, TAP Portugal, Gol, Latam, Avianca and Turkish Airlines would lose their landing

and take-off rights with immediate effect.

In a reference to the heightened US military activity off the coast of Venezuela, it also accused the airlines of “joining the actions of state terrorism promoted by the United States government and unilaterally suspending air commercial operations”.

The US has deployed 15,000 troops and the world’s largest aircraft carrier, the USS Gerald Ford, to within striking distance of Venezuela.

The US says the aim of the deployment, the largest by the US in the region since it invaded Panama in 1989, is to combat drug trafficking.

US forces have carried out at least 21 strikes on boats they say were carrying drugs, killing more than 80 people.

However, they have not provided evidence that the boats carried drugs and many analysts have pointed out that the US deployment is unusually large for a counter-narcotics operation.

The Venezuelan government thinks the aim of the operation is to depose President Nicolás Maduro, whose re-election last year was denounced by the Venezuelan opposition and many foreign nations as rigged.

Amid the rising tensions, the US Federal Aviation Authority (FAA) issued a warning on Friday to flight operators operating in Maiquetía, the international airport serving Caracas.

It urged airlines “to exercise caution... at all altitudes due to the worsening security situation and heightened military activity in and around Venezuela”.

It was in the wake of that warning that the now-banned airlines suspended their flights to Venezuela.

An attempt by aviation industry body Iata to defuse the situation - by stressing that its member airlines were keen to restore operations - failed to appease the Venezuelan government.

In recent days, both Maduro and his US counterpart Donald Trump have signalled a willingness to hold direct talks.

Asked about it on Air Force One, Trump said that he “might talk” to Maduro, but also warned that “we can do things the easy way, that’s fine, and if we have to do it the hard way that’s fine, too”.

Maduro, meanwhile, uploaded a video of himself driving around Caracas pointing to Christmas decorations, in what appeared to be an attempt to show that life in the city was going on as normal. (BBC)

Two West Virginia National Guard members killed near White House, state's governor says

Two West Virginia National Guard members who were shot Wednesday near the White House have died, the state's governor said.

Governor Patrick Morrisey confirmed their deaths in a social media post. "We are in ongoing contact with federal officials as the investigation continues," he said.

A suspect, now in custody, was also shot and has injuries that are not believed to be life-threatening, according to a law enforcement official not authorised to discuss the matter publicly and who spoke to AP on condition of anonymity. One National Guard member was shot in the head, according to a person familiar with the details of the incident who spoke to AP on condition of anonymity.

Two women exited the metro station just after the shots were fired, and someone told them: "run."

Emma McDonald and Leila Christopher told the AP that they ran to a cafe and hunkered down with others, including one that told them



they'd heard six gunshots in quick succession.

Several minutes later, McDonald saw an EMT truck pull up, and then responders rolling a stretcher carrying a National Guard member whose head was covered in blood, she said. Eventually they were told the area was secured.

In Fort Campbell, Kentucky, Vice President JD Vance

urged "everybody who's a person of faith" to pray for the two National Guardsmen. He cautioned that much remained unknown, including the motive of the shooter.

"I think it's a sombre reminder that soldiers, whether they're active duty, reserve or National Guard, our soldiers are the sword and the shield of the United States of America,"

Vance said as he delivered a Thanksgiving message to troops.

In a message posted on social media, Senate Majority Leader John Thune wrote that his "thoughts and prayers are with the National Guardsmen who were attacked this afternoon."

"I urge you to keep them in your prayers too," he added. (AP)

DRIVE MORE
WORRY LESS

Payments as low as
\$850
Monthly

5 Years
Warranty

\$2,000
Insurance Voucher

 **CHANGAN**
ALSVIN

FREE
GAS | PLATES | LICENSE & REGISTRATION

462-1062
  ChanganAntigua



Sports News

CEO Dehring warns CWI must cut costs to protect future

Cricket West Indies (CWI) chief executive officer Chris Dehring has sounded a warning that the regional body must make “very tough decisions” in the coming fiscal year to safeguard the future of West Indies cricket.

Speaking candidly on the Mason and Guest Show recently, Dehring made it clear that stabilising the organisation’s cost base is now unavoidable.

“I’ll be brutally frank, we have to look next year at managing our cost base,” he said. “Because it’s not just one year, we’re talking about making sure West Indies is sustainable into the future. And so we’re going to have to take some very tough decisions this fiscal (year) while we work through all the other plans to make sure that we’re sustainable for the future. That’s just the way we have to deal with.”

Pressed on whether CWI is simply running out of money, Dehring admitted the organisation’s financial strain is nothing new, but one that has grown increasingly perilous in a shifting global cricket economy.

“That has been a perennial challenge of Cricket West Indies,” he said. “It’s not something that I was not expecting when I came back. It doesn’t take rocket science to see what has happened with the rest of the world



The postal Services football team

and what has happened to Cricket West Indies. So that has never been not an issue that Cricket West Indies has had to face.”

He stressed that despite the region’s proud cricketing heritage, the survival of the sport cannot be assumed.

“It is a proud legacy and everybody’s working towards maintaining this legacy. But everybody needs to understand it’s something that faces serious threats,” he warned.

Dehring pointed to the massive economic footprint of West Indies cricket—one he believes is undervalued, under-supported and too often taken for granted.

He highlighted figures presented recently to stakeholders in Barbados: more than US\$80 million spent directly on air travel over the past decade, and another US\$180 million on hotel accommodation.

“That’s 200 million US,” Dehring noted. “And if you

double that, just based on fans flying around and staying in hotels as well, you’re talking about US\$400 million over the last 15 years. All hotels and all airlines should imagine not having that 400 million...400 million went away.”

He added: “We’re not asking for a gift. We’re saying, hey, this is something that is precious to the Caribbean. If you don’t see it as precious from a sporting perspective because you don’t love cricket, think about it from an economic perspective. What does it mean to your business? What does it mean if this legacy went away?”

Dehring said too many in the region assume West Indies cricket will always exist simply because of its illustrious past. “I don’t think we have that luxury,” he said.

“The world of cricket is dramatically changing. And we have to make sure that West Indies Cricket can sur-

vive into the future despite all the changes that are taking place.”

Asked if the prize money for regional competition could be slashed to help the cause, Dehring said with financial pressures mounting, no area of expenditure is exempt from scrutiny.

“I will tell you, everything is on the table,” he said. “Anything that is contracted, we have to work through with the contracting partners. But you can imagine how uncomfortable some of these discussions are.”

Still, he said the organisation cannot shy away from the difficult trade-offs required.

“The good thing is when people see the reality, you know, you have to make some tough decisions sometimes and go without ice cream today, so you can get a proper meal tomorrow.”

Dehring said CWI will confront these financial realities head-on to ensure that West Indies cricket survives for future generations.

As part of its cost-cutting, CWI has scaled down the current Super50 Cup currently taking place in Trinidad, with the competition reduced to six team as opposed to eight in 2024.

The West Indies Academy and Combined Campuses and Colleges have been excluded from this year’s Super50 Cup, which ends on Saturday (tomorrow)

Final eight teams to battle in quarter-finals of Business Football League

The quarter-finalists have been decided in the 2025 JOMA Caribbean Ministry of Sports Business Football League Championship.

Eight teams will continue to battle for supremacy in the knockout stage of the competitions after securing their berth in the quarter-finals from the Round of 16 matches, which were contested at the Keithley Sheppard Recreational Park and the Fort Road playing field.

Initially, the teams advanced from a preliminary round-robin competition that involved 34 teams that were divided into four groups.

Defending champions Hermitage Bay Strikers, last year's runners-up Ministry of Agriculture, and 2023 winners APUA Telecoms have all qualified for the quarter-finals.

Also advancing to the quarter-finals are the Department of Immigration,



Blue Waters Hotel, the Sir Vivian Richards Stadium, Postal Services, and Central Housing and Planning Authority (CHAPA) Warriors.

In the Round of 16 matches, Hermitage Bay Strikers cruised to a 4-0 victory against last year's third-place finishers, Sandals Resort. The Ministry of Agriculture snatched a 1-0 victory over Keyonna Beach Resort.

APUA Telecoms surged to a 3-0 triumph over their col-

leagues at the APUA Head Office.

The Department of Immigration snatched a 1-0 win against the St. John's Development Corporation. Blue Waters prevailed 1-0 against Villa Tech Enterprise, who played with only seven players during their encounter at Fort Road.

The Sir Vivian Richards Stadium pulled off a 2-0 victory against His Majesty's Prison (HMP) United.

The Postal Services delivered a 3-0 win over the Ministry of Tourism, and the (CHAPA) Warriors recorded a 2-1 victory over Macky Enterprise.

The Postal Services and the CHAPA Warriors will clash at the Keithley Sheppard Recreational Park at 5:30 pm in the feature match in the quarter-finals, which will commence on Saturday.

In the other quarter-final matches, APUA Telecoms will face the Department of Immigration at the Keithley Sheppard Recreational Park at 5:30 pm.

Blue Waters Hotel will tackle Hermitage Bay Strikers at Fort Road at 6:30 pm, and the Ministry of Agriculture will clash with the Sir Vivian Richards Stadium at Fort Road at 5:30 pm.

Each winner of the matches in the quarter-finals will advance to the semi-finals.





PDV Caribe
Antigua and Barbuda Ltd.

THE PDV HOUR

MONDAYS
11AM - 12NOON

MRS. JELLETTE RALPH
(JELLY BEANS)

Sammy says Windies have winning mindset for New Zealand Test series



Daren Sammy

CHRISTCHURCH, New Zealand – Having been competitive in both the preceding T20I and One Day International series against New Zealand, West Indies head coach Daren Sammy says the team is brimming with confidence ahead of their upcoming Test series.

The visitors last defeated the Kiwis in a Test series in the Caribbean in 2012 and will be searching for their first Test series win in New Zealand in over 30 years.

In fact, the West Indies have not won a Test match in New Zealand since 1987, when they drew the three-match series 1-1.

Despite their underwhelming record against the hosts, Sammy said he was impressed by his team's

mindset heading into the first Test, which bowls off on December 2.

“In the (T20I and ODI) series, we created so many opportunities to win. When I look at the seven games that were played, we were in contention to win five of them, but we let it slip away, but credit must go to New Zealand on how they've made home a fortress.

“I was quite impressed with the positives that we had coming out of that series and now we're in the Test match arena. We haven't won here since 1995 – that's 30 years – so we have a challenge on our hands,” Sammy stated.

“But I was just watching these guys prepare and the intensity at training today

is something that we've spoken about and to see the immediate reaction to the things that we want to see, I'm quite happy with the way preparations are going.”

Sammy said the West Indies were looking to upset New Zealand in the three-match series and end the year on a winning note. He pointed out that the team had impressed in their last Test match against India and he was looking forward to them continuing in that vein.

“First, in order to win, you must be able to compete, and we have to compete. I'm just watching the Ashes and the Test match went two days, so you know it's not only West Indies.

“Then I watched a Test match in South Africa with India, and I don't think it went into the third day either. We came from India, and we pushed them into a fifth day in a Test match, something that has not been done in a while in India,” Sammy said.

“We might not have the numbers behind us coming into New Zealand, but I think the mindset that we have here and what we're trying to create here is good, and it boils down to execution.

“One thing we've shown over here is that we challenge them. In the T20I series, in the ODI series, I don't think the results reflected on how we played.” (CMC)

England Under-19s Win 5th YODI to keep series alive

Isaac Mohammed struck a half-century at the top of the order for England's Under-19s as he helped his side to a tense two-wicket win against the Young West Indies in the fifth Youth One-Day International (YODI) at the National Cricket Stadium in Grenada on Wednesday.

Chasing 277 to win, Isaac struck five-sixes and three-fours on his way to a confident 75-ball-74, playing his part in a dominant 158-run opening partnership that laid the foundations for England's memorable win.

The victory keeps England's hopes of a series win very much alive, taking the overall score to 3-2 in the favour of the host nation, with two matches still to play.

Kent batter Ben Dawkins maintained his good form falling just three runs shy of a century while Mohammed struck 74 – including five sixes – before the lower-order kept their cool to steer the visitors home.

Luke Hands (16 not out) and Manny Lumsden (15 not out), both of whom had earlier claimed two wickets apiece, took 13 from the penultimate over to win the game.

The Young Lions lost regular wickets before Hands and Lumsden steadied the innings to ensure the series in Grenada remains live heading into Saturday's sixth Youth ODI.

Left-arm pacer Jakeem Pollard claimed three for 39, left-arm spinner Vitel Lawes captured three for 42, and right-arm medium pacer Deshawn



Isaac Mohammed

James took two for 49 for the young Windies.

The West Indies made 276 for nine off their 50 overs after winning the toss and electing to bat. Opener Zachary Carter hit a topscore of 87 off 59 balls, smashing nine sixes and four fours.

Carter shared a 58-run opening stand with Antiguan wicketkeeper/batsman Tanez Francis, who made 24. He also added 57 runs for the second wicket with Brendan Boodoo, who scored 16.

The young Windies innings stuttered after losing three quick wickets before Antiguan all-rounder Matthew Miller led a lower-order revival to reach a respectable total.

Miller struck 44 off 71 balls, and

Isra-el Morton contributed 28 off 31 balls. Captain Joshua Dorne chipped in with 24 off 31 balls. Lumsden claimed two for 31, off-spinner Farhan Ahmed picked up two for 51, and Hands captured two for 53.

The Young Lions had lost the opening two games of the seven-game series in Grenada in the final over, with this last-gasp victory leaving the series poised at 3-2 in favour of the Windies.

Dawkins was the shining light in Monday's 98-run loss, when he struck 78, and with Mohammed, took control of this game.

His 97 included nine fours and three sixes before he was adjudged to have edged Jakeem Pollard behind following a half-hearted appeal.



Open Daily -

7:00am - 11:30pm

☎ 268 736 7165



↑ Thursdays, 7:30pm - Karaoke

♫ Saturdays, 8pm - Live Band

☕ Breakfast served from 7:30am

🎮 Games Night - COMING SOON!



PMS stays in contention to retain Under-16 Boys Division title

Defending champions Princess Margaret School (PMS) took a major step towards claiming their third consecutive title in the Under-16 Boys Division in the Ministry of Sports, Cool and Smooth, and Joma Caribbean Patrick C. Whyte Cup Secondary Schools' Football Competition on Wednesday.

Princess Margaret School enhanced their chances of advancing to the final after beating Irene B. Williams Secondary 2-0 in their final game in the round-robin preliminary stage to remain at the top of the 11-team standings with 25 points from their quota of 10 matches.

The team that finishes at the top of the standings in the preliminary stage will secure an automatic berth into the final, while the second and third-place finishers will meet in a playoff to determine the other finalists for the championship.

Goals by Allan Henry in the 27th minute and Allister Nibbs in the 29th minute propelled Princess Margaret School to their eighth win. Princess Margaret School recorded a draw and a loss in their other two matches this season.



The Princess Margaret School team with their medals and trophy after winning the Under-16 Boys Division league title in the Ministry of Sports, Cool and Smooth, and Joma Patrick C. Whyte Cup Secondary Schools' Football Competition at the Antigua Recreation Grounds (ARG) on Thursday, December 12, 2024. (File Photo)

Wednesday's result allows Irene B. Williams Secondary to remain on nine points after suffering their fifth defeat in eight matches.

However, Ottos Comprehensive School remains in contention for the automatic berth into the final despite suffering their first loss of the season in a 2-0 defeat to the Sir Novelle Richards Academy.

Tequan Anthony had a 34th-minute conversion, and Ajay Barthley scored in the 49th minute for Sir Novelle Richards Academy, who remain in contention for a place in the playoff.

The result allows the Sir Novelle Richards Academy

to remain in fourth place by advancing to 19 points after recording their sixth win in eight matches.

It also allows Ottos Comprehensive School to remain in second place with 22 points after suffering their first defeat in nine matches.

Victory in their final match in the preliminary stage will allow Ottos Comprehensive School to finish level on 25 points with Princess Margaret School at the top of the standings.

If both teams finished their quota of 10 matches level on points, other calculations will be used to determine the winner.

The Antigua Grammar School, which has one match remaining, is currently in third place with 20 points from nine matches.

St. Joseph's Academy claimed their sixth win in nine matches with a 5-0 drubbing of Pares Secondary School. Ajabe Rae struck a hat trick with conversions in the first, 18th, and 60th minutes.

The other goals were scored by Jaariq Roberts in the 22nd minute and Chase Williams in the 33rd minute.

The result allows St. Joseph's Academy to advance to 18 points, while Pares Secondary School remains on one point after suffering their fifth loss in six games.

Jennings Secondary claimed their third win in eight matches after being awarded victory via default against All Saints Secondary School, which failed to show up for their encounter.

The result allows Jennings Secondary School to advance to nine points, while All Saints Secondary School remains on nine points after suffering their sixth loss in nine matches.