

Government Requests Secretary Rubio to Review U.S. Visa Restrictions

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Creative Industries Minister Dwayne George (third from right) welcoming home the newly crowned Caribbean Queen Miss Zaine Frederick and her entourage at the V.C. Bird International Airport.

Government Requests Secretary Rubio to Review U.S. Visa Restrictions Affecting Antigua and Barbuda

The Government of Antigua and Barbuda has taken a further diplomatic step in its efforts to secure a review by the United States of the visa restrictions and Visa Bond Program affecting nationals of Antigua and Barbuda.

Antigua and Barbuda's Ambassador to the United States, Sir Ronald Sanders, yesterday delivered a Diplomatic Note to United States Secretary of State, the Honourable Marco Rubio, requesting an early review of the measures. This follows a personal letter from Prime Minister the Honourable Gaston Browne to United States President Donald J. Trump requesting that he direct such a review.

The Diplomatic Note refers to the recent publication by the United States Department of State of the Final Rule establishing the permanent Visa Bond Program. It points out that the Department has explained that the Program is intended to encourage foreign governments to strengthen cooperation with the United States in areas including information sharing, identity verification, screening and vetting, document security and compliance with United States immigration requirements.

The Note advises Secretary Rubio that Antigua and Barbuda has responded positively and constructively to those objectives by implementing a series of measures to address concerns previously raised by the United States. It submits that the publication of the Final Rule provides an appropriate opportunity for the Department of State to assess whether those objectives have now been substantially



Prime Minister the Honourable Gaston Browne (right) greeting U.S. Secretary of State Marco Rubio

achieved in relation to Antigua and Barbuda and whether the country's continued inclusion in the Visa Bond Program and the related visa measures remains necessary.

The Government has therefore respectfully requested Secretary Rubio to undertake an early review of those measures. The Government believes that having responded positively to the concerns previously expressed by the United States and having substantially achieved the objectives identified by the Department of State in its Final Rule, Antigua and Barbuda's continued inclusion in the current measures warrants an early review.

Prime Minister Gaston Browne

said that the Diplomatic Note, conveyed by Ambassador Sanders, forms part of the Government's continuing engagement with the United States at the highest levels.

"Our Government has consistently responded in good faith to concerns raised by the United States and has taken practical measures to address them. We believe it is now appropriate for those actions to be recognised through an early review of the restrictions that continue to affect our citizens. Our objective remains the further strengthening of the longstanding friendship and cooperation between Antigua and Barbuda and the United States."

Momentum Builds For CHOGM 26



Momentum continues to build as Antigua and Barbuda prepares to host the 2026 Commonwealth Heads of Government Meeting (CHOGM) from 1–4 November 2026. With more than 40 Commonwealth countries expected to attend, the nation is gearing up to welcome Heads of Government, Ministers, senior officials, business leaders, youth representatives, and delegates

from across the Commonwealth.

CHOGM 2026 will mark several historic milestones. It will be the first CHOGM led by the Commonwealth's new Secretary-General, the Hon. Shirley Ayorkor Botchwey, and the first to be held under the Commonwealth's 2025–2030 Strategic Plan, setting the direction for collaboration, resilience, and sustainable development over the

next five years.

Antigua and Barbuda will also make history as the smallest country ever to host a Commonwealth Heads of Government Meeting, joining the distinguished ranks of previous Caribbean hosts Trinidad and Tobago, The Bahamas, and Jamaica. This achievement reflects the country's growing reputation for delivering world-class inter-

Local News



national events and showcasing the warmth and hospitality of its people.

Following the conclusion of the Meeting, Antigua and Barbuda will assume the role of Commonwealth Chair-in-Office, serving for the next two years until the 2028 CHOGM. This prestigious leadership position places the country at the forefront of advancing the Commonwealth's priorities and strengthening partnerships among its 56 member states.

As preparations continue, CHOGM

2026 represents more than a global summit—it is a once-in-a-generation opportunity to showcase Antigua and Barbuda on the world stage, strengthen international partnerships, and create a lasting legacy for the nation and its people.

Meanwhile, the accreditation of delegations and other support staff is now taking place as the accreditation process has been formally launched. As part of this process and in keeping with international standards, the ac-

creditation exercise includes security vetting.

Accreditation Lead for CHOGM 26, Josie-Anne Hampson revealed that discussions are ongoing with the IT Team regarding the feasibility of incorporating additional features, such as enhanced security vetting integration, automated certificate generation, badge printing capabilities, and improved workflow automation.

Over \$1 Million Worth of Cocaine Seized in Barbuda

The police have seized more than one million dollars' worth of cocaine, following two separate discoveries along the coastline of Barbuda.

On August 2, a package with twenty (20) vacuum-sealed parcels of a whitish substance suspected to be cocaine was seized near the dock at Coco Point.

A second seizure was made the following day, when a similar package containing twenty (20) vacuum-sealed parcels with a substance suspected to be cocaine was discovered along the said Coco Point Beach. The combined seizure weighed 104 pounds, with an estimated street value of EC\$1,084,910.00.

The Royal Police Force of Antigua and Barbuda has launched a full investigation into the origin of the drugs and is pursuing all available leads to identify those responsible.





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Cultural and Tourism Ambassador Travels To Germany to Participate in African Festival

President of the Airport Taxi Association, Ian Joseph, who also serves in an unofficial capacity as Cultural and Tourism Ambassador for Antigua and Barbuda, is on his way to Tubingen, Germany to participate in the annual African Festival hosted by that city.

This year marks the third time that Joseph will represent Antigua and Barbuda at the Festival, where among other things he will participate in discussions and give talks on Antigua and Barbuda cultural and how it continues to reflect its strong African influence.

The festival runs from August 6 to 9 and it brings together members of the African diaspora living in Germany and other European counties as well as representatives from other areas such as North America and the Caribbean.

As a tourism ambassador, Joseph utilizes this platform to promote Antigua and Barbuda as a tourist destination and he said from his trip last year, he was able to encourage a number of individuals to visit the country. At least one person decided to attend medical school here due to his encouragement.



President of the Airport Taxi Association, Ian Joseph





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Julien Kentish Pursues MPH Degree

Julien David Kentish, from Antigua and Barbuda, is a health leader, Registered Nurse, Chartered Director, and humanitarian whose career spans clinical care, healthcare administration, governance, public service, and community development.

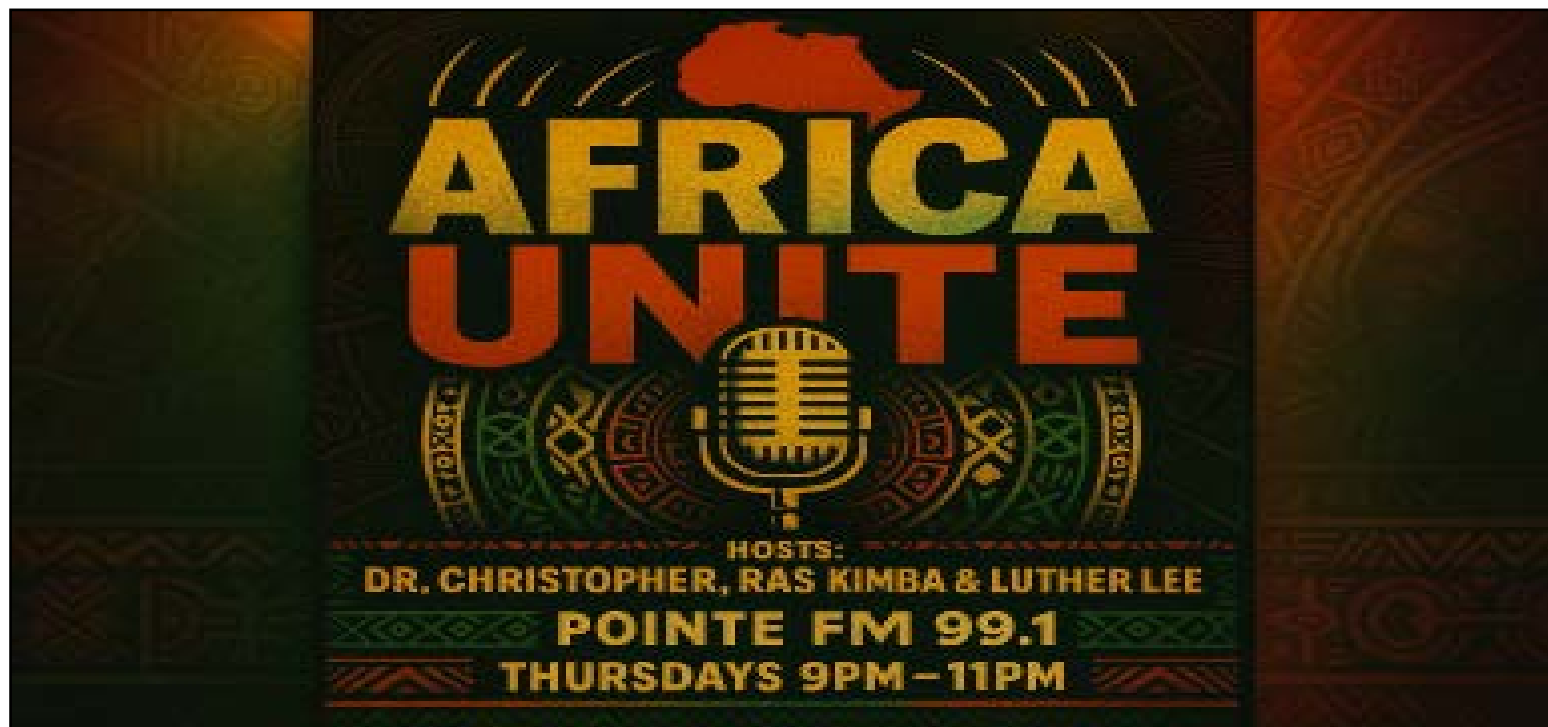
Currently pursuing his International Master of Public Health at the Hebrew University-Hadassah Braun School of Public Health and Community Medicine, Julien is passionate about strengthening health systems and advancing prevention-focused public health across Small Island Developing States.

His master's research explores a Healthy Family Feeding Programme aimed at reducing childhood obesity by promoting healthy nutrition during the first 1,000 days of life. By equipping healthcare workers and empowering parents with practical feeding knowledge, the programme seeks to foster healthier families from preconception through early childhood.

After graduation, Julien plans to return home to Antigua and Barbuda to help implement innovative public health programmes, strengthen health



governance, and contribute to national and regional health policy.



Legendary 70 Starts Here

The dust was not fully settled on the closing of the 2026 Carnival Festivities as the Festival Commission indicating that already it has its eyes cast on the 2027 edition of Antigua Carnival...the 70th.

On Tuesday, the Commission released the dates for the 2027 Carnival.

“Save the date for Antigua Carnival 2027 as we celebrate 70 legendary years of culture, music, mas, and unforgettable memories.

“July 20 – August 3, 2027,” a statement from the Commission revealed.

It is urging Carnival lovers, participants and spectators to ‘Get ready’ for Antigua Carnival 2027 – Legendary 70, as the *Caribbean’s Greatest Summer Festival* returns for a historic celebration of our people, our culture, and our unmatched Carnival spirit.



 A vibrant graphic celebrating the 70th anniversary of Antigua Carnival. On the left is the Antigua Carnival logo, featuring a stylized bird and the text "ANTIGUA Carnival THE CARIBBEAN'S GREATEST SUMMER FESTIVAL". In the center, the word "Legendary" is written in a large, pink, cursive font above a large, 3D, diamond-encrusted number "70". To the right is a close-up of a smiling woman in a highly detailed, colorful feathered costume with a large headdress. At the bottom, a red banner reads "SAVE THE DATE JULY 20TH - AUGUST 3RD 2027". Below this, social media icons for Facebook and Instagram are shown with the handles "ANTIGUA CARNIVAL" and "@ANTIGUAFESTIVALSOFFICIAL".

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From Captive Child to Russian General: Hannibal, the Unconquered Mind and the Unfinished Work of Emancipation



By Ambassador Dr. Clarence E. Pilgrim

An African child was taken from his homeland, carried into a foreign empire and placed in a world that increasingly regarded people like him as objects of ownership, servitude or display. Yet that child would master mathematics, engineering and military science—and eventually rise to the rank of General-in-Chief in one of the largest empires on Earth.

His name was Abram Petrovich Hannibal, more commonly rendered in English as Abram Hannibal.

As communities across the Caribbean and other former British territories commemorate Emancipation Day, Hannibal's extraordinary life offers a powerful lesson about captivity, opportunity, intellectual achievement and the unfinished struggle for true freedom.

Born in Africa near the end of the seventeenth century and removed from his homeland while still a child, Hannibal began life under circumstances that appeared to offer little prospect of independence or distinction. Nevertheless, he rose to become a respect-

ed military engineer, administrator, scholar, nobleman and senior officer of the Russian Empire.

His story demonstrates that personal circumstances, however severe, do not necessarily determine a person's final destination. Intellectual capacity, education, discipline and the determined will to transform one's condition can enable an individual to rise beyond the limitations imposed by displacement, prejudice and misfortune.

This must not be misunderstood as suggesting that enslaved or oppressed people can defeat organised systems of injustice through willpower alone. Slavery, serfdom and colonialism were maintained by law, military power, commerce and institutions. They required collective resistance and political transformation. Hannibal's achievement nevertheless proves that oppression can restrict opportunity without extinguishing human potential.

An African Child and Peter the Great

The exact place and date of Hannibal's birth remain uncertain. Different accounts have connected him with northeastern Africa or with the region of present-day Cameroon. His birth is usually placed around 1696.

What is broadly accepted is that he was taken from Africa as a child, carried through the Ottoman world and eventually brought to Russia.

There, his life changed dramatically.

Hannibal came under the patronage of Tsar Peter I, remembered as Peter the Great. Peter became his godfather, and Hannibal's patronymic, "Petrovich," reflected that relationship.

Peter deserves substantial credit for recognising the intelligence and potential of the young African and giving him access to education, military training and advancement. At a time when Africans were increasingly dehumanised by the transatlantic slave system

and racist European thought, Peter did not permanently confine Hannibal to a menial role.

That patronage, however, should not cause us to romanticise the circumstances that brought Hannibal to Russia. His separation from Africa was an injustice. African children were sometimes taken into European royal courts as servants or symbols of status. The opportunity to advance came only after the original wrong of his displacement.

Yet opportunity alone does not produce greatness.

Hannibal studied languages, mathematics, geometry, artillery, fortification and engineering. In 1717, Peter sent him to France for advanced military and scientific education. There, Hannibal studied engineering, served in the French military and acquired practical experience before returning to Russia.

Peter opened the door. Hannibal's intellectual capacity, discipline and determination enabled him to walk through it.

From Displacement to General-in-Chief

Hannibal's rise was not merely ceremonial. He became an accomplished military engineer, educator and administrator. He worked on fortifications and infrastructure and contributed to the technical development and defence of the Russian state.

His career suffered serious reversals after Peter the Great's death. Political changes removed him from the centre of power, but he survived those setbacks and later returned to favour under Empress Elizabeth, Peter's daughter.

By the closing years of the 1750s, Hannibal had attained the rank of General-in-Chief, one of the highest military ranks in Imperial Russia. He was also entrusted with important respon-

sibilities in military engineering.

He was not the sole commander of all Russian forces. Nevertheless, his elevation placed an African-born former captive among the most senior officers of a great European empire.

By the height of Hannibal's career, Russia stretched across an estimated 15 to 16 million square kilometres and contained roughly 20 million people. It extended from eastern Europe through Siberia towards the Pacific and was already one of the largest states in the world.

The magnitude of his achievement is therefore unmistakable. A child forcibly removed from Africa had entered the senior ranks of an empire of continental proportions.

His accomplishments directly contradicted the racial doctrines later employed to justify African enslavement and colonisation. While Africans were being portrayed as intellectually inferior, Hannibal was mastering mathematics, engineering, military science and administration.

He did not merely survive within European society. He excelled within some of its most demanding intellectual and professional disciplines.

His descendants entered the Russian nobility, and his great-grandson, Alexander Pushkin, became one of the most influential writers in Russian history.

A World Still Bound by Unfreedom

Hannibal's personal transformation occurred within a world in which millions remained unfree.

Russia was governed by serfdom, a system that bound peasants to estates and subjected their labour, movement and opportunities to the authority of landowners. Russian serfdom was not legally identical to the racialised chattel slavery imposed upon Africans and their descendants in the Caribbean and the Americas.

Under Atlantic chattel slavery, human beings were treated as property. They could be bought, sold, inherited and separated from their families. Their



children could inherit the enslaved status of their mothers.

The systems differed in law and racial character, but both subordinated human freedom to compulsory labour and inherited power.

Hannibal died on 14 May 1781, at approximately 85 years of age, although the uncertainty surrounding his exact year of birth means that his age cannot be stated with absolute precision. Russian serfdom was not abolished until 1861—eighty years after his death. Across the Atlantic, slavery in the British colonies also continued for more than half a century after his passing.

His life therefore illustrates both the power and the limits of personal transformation. One exceptional person may transcend the circumstances imposed upon him, but individual success does not dismantle the structures holding millions in bondage.

Hannibal had shown what education and opportunity could accomplish in one life. The wider abolitionist movement faced the greater challenge of changing the laws and institutions governing entire societies.

Faith, Conscience and Organised Abolition

The campaign against slavery emerged from many forces: the resis-

tance of enslaved Africans, the testimony of Black abolitionists, political reform, religious conviction and popular mobilisation.

Among the earliest organised Christian opponents of slavery were the Religious Society of Friends, commonly known as the Quakers. Quaker meetings increasingly condemned slaveholding during the eighteenth century and helped organise petitions, distribute anti-slavery literature and build public support for abolition.

The Wesleyan Methodist movement also contributed significantly. John Wesley published *Thoughts Upon Slavery* in 1774, denouncing the institution, and later encouraged William Wilberforce to continue the parliamentary struggle against it.

Evangelical Anglicans associated with the Clapham Sect, including Wilberforce, helped gather evidence, influence public opinion and sustain political pressure.

These contributions deserve recognition, but Christian history was not uniformly honourable. Some churches, ministers and believers supported or benefited from slavery. The importance of the Quakers, Methodists and evangelical reformers lies precisely in their willingness to challenge an evil that others tolerated.

Their example demonstrates that moral conviction becomes historically meaningful only when it is converted into organised action.

Earl Grey, Parliament and Emancipation

The parliamentary struggle against slavery developed over many decades. William Wilberforce became one of its most prominent advocates, while Thomas Clarkson investigated and publicised the brutality of the slave trade.

The decisive legislation was enacted under Charles Grey, 2nd Earl Grey, British Prime Minister from 1830 to 1834. Earl Grey's reforming administration secured the Slavery Abolition Act of 1833.

Feature



The Act received royal assent on 28 August 1833 and came into force on 1 August 1834.

Earl Grey should therefore be recognised as the Prime Minister under whose government legal abolition was enacted. Emancipation, however, was not simply a generous gift from Parliament.

Enslaved Africans had resisted through revolts, escape, work stoppages, cultural survival and daily defiance. Black abolitionists gave testimony and exposed the brutality of the system. Churches, campaigners and ordinary citizens organised petitions and public meetings. Parliament acted under pressure created by generations of resistance.

Even then, freedom was restricted. In many British territories, slavery was replaced by compulsory “apprenticeship,” forcing formerly enslaved adults to continue labouring for their former enslavers. Full emancipation in those territories came only when apprenticeship ended in 1838.

Compensation for the Enslavers, Nothing for the Enslaved

The injustice of slavery did not end with Emancipation. In one of history’s most disturbing inversions of justice, the British Government compensated the slaveholders, not the people they had enslaved.

Parliament authorised £20 million—equivalent to several billion pounds in present-day purchasing power and approximately 40 per cent of British

government annual expenditure at the time—to compensate enslavers for the loss of what the law had recognised as their “property.”

The formerly enslaved, whose unpaid labour had created enormous private and imperial wealth, received nothing.

Those who had profited from human bondage were paid, while those who had endured captivity, violence, family separation and generations of stolen labour were required to begin freedom without financial redress, adequate land or accumulated capital.

This was not merely an administrative imbalance. It was a profound inequity in the dispensation of justice. The law recognised the economic claims of the enslavers while disregarding the human, moral and material claims of the enslaved.

Those who had endured slavery—not those who had profited from it—were the people entitled to compensation.

Emancipation ended legal ownership of the person, but it did not redistribute the land, wealth, education or political influence accumulated through slavery.

The Mind as the First Territory of Freedom

It is within this history that Bob Marley’s call to “emancipate yourselves from mental slavery” acquires its deepest meaning.

Drawing upon the thought of Marcus Garvey, Marley identified the mind as the first territory that oppression attempts to occupy.

Slavery and colonialism did not operate through physical violence alone. They also promoted the belief that African people were inferior, incapable of intellectual achievement and unprepared for self-government.

Mental emancipation does not suggest that oppressed people caused their own condition. Nor can positive thinking replace legal reform, economic justice or reparations.

It means rejecting the false identity manufactured by oppression.

Hannibal’s life embodied that rejection. He learned, adapted, survived political reversals and mastered difficult disciplines. He demonstrated that circumstances may limit opportunity without destroying human capacity.

His experience shows that intellectual development and the will to change are necessary foundations of personal freedom. Yet his story also reminds us that personal emancipation must be joined to collective action.

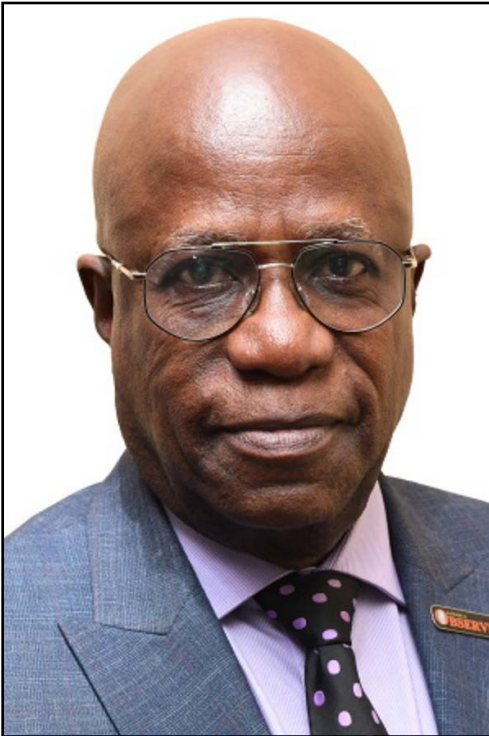
A liberated mind recognises injustice. An organised people changes the structures that sustain it.

From Emancipation to Reparatory Justice

Emancipation remains incomplete wherever the consequences of slavery and colonialism continue to shape economic and social development.

Formerly enslaved people entered freedom without compensation, sufficient land, accumulated capital or adequate institution...

Belize Voted For the Caribbean



Belize's Senate has transformed a regional promise into national law. The rest of CARICOM should take notice.

By Julian Rogers

Belmopan, Belize

There are moments in Caribbean integration that arrive quietly.

No summit declaration. No ceremonial signing. No dramatic headlines. Just legislators doing the essential work of turning regional agreements into national law.

The Belize Senate's passage of the Caribbean Community Free Movement and Contingent Rights Bill, 2026 deserves to be recognised as one of those moments.

The legislation does more than amend Belize's laws. It advances one of CARICOM's founding ambitions: creating a Community in which Caribbean citizens can move more freely to live, work, establish businesses and contribute across the region.

For decades, that vision has often seemed to move more slowly than the rhetoric surrounding it.



Belize has now helped to change that.

By giving legal effect to the Protocol on Enhanced Cooperation, Belize joins Barbados, Dominica and Saint Vincent and the Grenadines in taking a practical step towards making regional integration something citizens can experience rather than simply hear discussed at Heads of Government meetings.

The Protocol itself recognises an important political reality. Not every CARICOM member state is prepared to move at the same pace. Rather than allowing hesitation to stall progress altogether, it enables willing states to advance together while leaving the door open for others to participate when they are ready.

It is an approach based on progress rather than paralysis.

The rights contained in the legislation are substantial.

Eligible CARICOM nationals will be able to enter and remain in Belize, seek employment, establish businesses, access education and health services, obtain financial services and receive emergency social assistance under clearly defined legal protections.

These are not abstract treaty provisions.

They are rights that affect people's everyday lives.

One revealing detail emerged during the Senate debate.

Government indicated that 146 CARICOM nationals have already been granted indefinite stay under existing administrative arrangements.

That should reassure those who instinctively fear that every advance in regional integration represents uncontrolled migration.

The legislation does not suddenly open Belize's borders.

It provides legal certainty for administrative practices that have already demonstrated they can be managed responsibly.

That distinction matters.

CARICOM has often attracted criticism for producing ambitious declarations without corresponding implementation. Too many summit communiqués have struggled to find expression in national legislation.

Belize has demonstrated that implementation matters just as much as as-

Feature

piration.

Regional integration is ultimately built not only by Prime Ministers around conference tables, but also by parliamentarians willing to transform treaties into enforceable law.

As a Barbadian now living in Belize, I have experienced that spirit personally.

My wife and I have benefited from the administrative arrangements that have already made Belize feel like home. We have been welcomed not simply as visitors, but as fellow Caribbean citizens.

That experience convinces me that this legislation is much more than a technical amendment to Belize's immigration laws.

It gives statutory force to a generosity that Belize has already demonstrated in practice.

The law has now caught up with the reality.

My hope is that this same spirit of reciprocity becomes the regional norm.

Just as Belize has welcomed Caribbean nationals, Belizeans should encounter the same openness throughout the Community.

That is, after all, the essence of integration.

The greatest challenge facing CARICOM today is not writing new treaties.

It is ensuring that ordinary Caribbean people can feel the benefits of those treaties in their daily lives.

A graduate seeking work.

An entrepreneur opening a business.

A teacher accepting a new post.

A family beginning a new chapter in another Caribbean country.

When those experiences become commonplace, regional integration ceases to be an aspiration and becomes a lived reality.

Belize's Senate has reminded the Caribbean that integration succeeds when political will meets legislative action.

It has voted not only for a Bill.

It has voted for the Caribbean.

The rest of the Community should take notice.

Editor's Notes

Headline:

BELIZE VOTED FOR THE CARIBBEAN

Alternative Headlines

- ▶ Belize Makes CARICOM Real
- ▶ A Senate Vote for Caribbean Integration
- ▶ Belize Leads by Example on Free Movement
- ▶ Turning CARICOM into Reality
- ▶ A Vote that Strengthens the Caribbean

Suggested Pull Quotes

"Belize has voted not only for a Bill. It has voted for the Caribbean."

"The law has now caught up with the reality."

"Regional integration succeeds when ordinary Caribbean people can experience it."

About the Author

Julian Rogers is a Barbadian journalist, broadcaster and publisher of **Caribbean Bridges**, an independent regional commentary platform covering Caribbean integration, governance, business, artificial intelligence, technology and culture. Based in Belize, he writes on issues shaping the future of the Caribbean.

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Regional News



Cabinet ministers among those named by Integrity Commission

THE names of a number of parliamentarians appeared in a notice from the Integrity Commission yesterday, noting that they had failed to file declarations of their income, assets, liabilities and statements of registrable interests for the years 2024 and 2025.

The notice, published in the Sunday Express, listed a number of persons in public life, across various State boards whom it said failed to file declarations in accordance with Section 11 (6) of the Integrity in Public Life Act, between 2021 and 2025.

That section of the Act requires persons within three months of becoming a person in public life, to complete and file with the Commission in the prescribed form, declaration of their income, assets and liabilities in excess of \$10,000 in value.

Where a person fails to do so without

reasonable cause, it said, the Commission shall publish such facts in the Gazette and at least one daily newspaper in circulation in Trinidad and Tobago.

The Express counted more than 40 names under the Parliament of Trinidad and Tobago for both 2024 and 2025. They include Minister of Housing David Lee, Minister of Rural Development Khadijah Ameen, Minister of Foreign Affairs Sean Sobers, Senator Dr Kirk Meighoo, former senator Jayanti Lutchmedial-Ramdial, Opposition Chief Whip Marvin Gonzales, San Fernando East Member of Parliament Brian Manning and others.

Gonzales told the Express yesterday that he had submitted his declaration for 2024 and is in the process of providing further information.

Lee said yesterday that his 2025 declaration required filing and that he had

requested an extension to file which has been granted. He said he intended to file by the end of August.

Lutchmedial-Ramdial told the Express that she has filed up to 2023, attaching documents acknowledging receipt of these filings from the Commission in 2025. She said she was working on it.

Port of Spain South MP Keith Scotland declined to comment when contacted yesterday, while Minister in the Ministry of Energy, Ernesto Kesar, said he would offer a response at a later time.

The Express also reached out to Meighoo and Minister of the People and Social Development Vandana Mohit, who appears in the 2024 list, but neither responded. (Trinidad Express)

Vybz Kartel, fiancée Sidem Öztürk announces pregnancy during Reggae Land performance

Jamaican international dancehall star Vybz Kartel and his fiancée Sidem Öztürk have announced that they are expecting their first child together.

The couple shared the news during Kartel's performance at the Reggae Land 2026 music festival in Milton Keynes, in the United Kingdom, on Sunday.

With about 28 minutes remaining in his set, Kartel, born Adidja Palmer, invited Öztürk on stage before performing his 2009 hit song 'Come Breed Me'.

He affectionately rubbed Öztürk baby bump, confirming the pregnancy to cheering fans as the line from the song "can you give me a baby" played in the background.

The couple has been together since 2015 after she began corresponding with him while he was incarcerated. (Jamaica Gleaner)



Lyenda Delp elected first female chair of AFUWI

The American Foundation for The University of the West Indies (AFUWI) has entered a new phase with the election of Lyenda Delp as chair of its board of directors, making her the first woman and the first graduate of The University of the West Indies (UWI) to lead the US-based philanthropic organisation.

Delp succeeds Dr Cyrus McCalla, whose nearly decade-long tenure helped establish AFUWI as a leading supporter of higher education in the Caribbean through scholarships, strategic partnerships and philanthropy.

The foundation's newly elected executive committee includes Dr Ron Chase, a board-certified orthopaedic surgeon at NewYork-Presbyterian Hospital, as deputy chair; Wayne Melbourne, executive director and senior advisory compliance officer at Morgan Stanley, as secretary; and Andrea McNish, chief financial officer of The UWI, as treasurer.

Together, the leadership team brings experience spanning finance, medicine, law, higher education and corporate governance, positioning the organisation to deepen its impact and widen opportunities for Caribbean students.

Delp, who is head of Global Insurance and Institutional Asset Solutions at Franklin Templeton, has also held senior leadership roles at BlackRock, Goldman Sachs and Deloitte Consulting. Her career has been marked by a focus on strategic partnerships, organisational growth and team leadership.

Speaking after her election, she described the appointment as both an honour and a privilege.

"I am honoured to be elected Chair of the American Foundation for The University of the West Indies, whose mission to expand access to higher education transforms lives across the Caribbean," she said.



"It is a special privilege to be the first UWI alumna and the first woman to serve in this role. I look forward to working closely with the board, our staff, The UWI, our alumni, and supporters around the world to build on the strong foundation laid by those who have led AFUWI before us and to create even greater opportunities for Caribbean students and future leaders."

Delp said the foundation would focus on broadening its national presence, strengthening engagement with donors and alumni, expanding scholarship opportunities and creating more career pathways for students preparing to compete in an increasingly global economy.

The transition also brings to a close McCalla's stewardship of AFUWI. During his tenure, the foundation navigated the challenges of the COVID-19 pandemic while maintaining support for Caribbean students. It also mobilised significant philanthropic assistance in the wake of major hurricanes across the region, strengthening its reputation as a trusted partner in both education and crisis response.

Reflecting on his years of service, McCalla expressed confidence in the incoming leadership.

"It has been a privilege to serve AFUWI during a period that demanded resilience, collaboration, and unwavering commitment to our mission," he said.

"Together, our board, staff, donors, alumni, and partners remained steadfast in expanding educational opportunity and responding to the Caribbean's needs in extraordinary times. I have every confidence that Chair Lyenda Delp and the incoming board leadership team will build on this foundation and lead AFUWI to even greater impact in the years ahead."

Working alongside Executive Director Ann-Marie Grant and the foundation's professional staff, the new board leadership will continue AFUWI's mission of ensuring that financial barriers do not prevent talented Caribbean students from accessing higher education.

Over the past decade, AFUWI has awarded scholarships to more than 700 students at The University of the West Indies. Through philanthropy, alumni engagement and strategic partnerships, the foundation has continued to invest in the development of future Caribbean leaders, contributing to the region's resilience, prosperity and competitiveness. (Jamaica Gleaner)

Regional News

Holness promises more ROOFS funding as 50,000 await hurricane grants

Prime Minister Dr Andrew Holness has announced that additional funding will soon be allocated to the Government's ROOFS programme, assuring Jamaicans who have not yet received grants that they have not been forgotten.

Speaking at the Whitehouse Community Centre in Westmoreland during a tour last Friday, Holness said the initial allocation could only cover about half of the applicants.

"We have registered over 100,000 Jamaicans to receive the grant. We allocated, in the first instance, \$10 billion. That \$10 billion would have assisted just about 50,000 of the 100,000," he said.

"So half of the people who should get the grant have gotten them. The other half is now looking on and saying, 'How you get and I have not gotten? Have I been forgotten?' The answer is no; you have not been forgotten."

Holness acknowledged the frustration being experienced by people whose homes were severely damaged and who are still living under tarpaulins.

"I know the psychology. Many of you have lost your homes totally. You are still under tarps and you get frustrated. As your prime minister, I become the object of that frustration and that is indeed my job," he said.

He explained that the Government had to carefully phase payments to avoid placing undue pressure on the country's finances.

"We have to be very careful how we make the allocations in the Budget, because whilst we might make the allocation and give everybody one time, at the end of the day you end up in debt, which places more taxes on you," he said.



"As revenues come in, we make the allocation. And so we are now going to make a further allocation that will assist a certain number of the other 50,000 who have not gotten."

Holness said Finance Minister Fayval Williams would soon announce the new allocation "in a few more days".

Responding to concerns from residents who said they had registered but had not received any follow-up, Holness disclosed that the Government would review applications after receiving complaints that some genuine victims had been left off the list.

"We have gotten a number of those complaints. And just yesterday, I was speaking to the minister of labour and social security and we have agreed that we are going to do a review of the entire list to pick up those persons who should be genuine beneficiaries but were not on the list," he said.

He also clarified that the grant is awarded per household rather than per individual.

"So if your house is damaged, they come and they inspect your house; the grant is for the repair of the

house," Holness said.

Turning to criticism over the non-use of millions in donations received following the disaster, Holness said the funds had been earmarked for visible recovery efforts rather than direct cash payments.

"From the outset, we were very clear that we must use those donations in tangible ways, meaning in ways that we can point to," he said.

He noted that donated funds had been used to support roof restoration and the construction of modular, semi-permanent houses.

"Over 500 roofs have been restored. And in this constituency, over 200 of them have been restored by that process," he said, referring to Westmoreland Eastern.

Holness also urged grant recipients to use the money for rebuilding, saying many had done so responsibly.

"I would dare say that 90 per cent of the persons who have received their grants have done that. But you know how it is. The half that don't receive will cry louder than the half that receive. And that is the reality." (Jamaica Gleaner)

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Ebola kills 1,700 in eastern Congo as the fastest-growing outbreak surges

Ebola has killed more than 1,700 people in eastern Congo in the fastest-growing outbreak of the disease, data showed.

As of Tuesday, 3,802 cases had been recorded, with 1,707 deaths, according to the latest government update.

It is not clear when the outbreak will reach its peak, Africa CDC Director-General Jean Kaseya said during his second visit to the town of Bunia near the outbreak's epicenter on Tuesday. Kaseya cautioned that nearly 80 per cent of new cases are not coming from contact tracing but instead from community spread.

The Director-General of the World Health Organization, Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus, will arrive in the Congolese capital, Kinshasa, on Tuesday and is expected to visit Bunia later this week.

The outbreak, declared on May 15, has been linked to the Bundibugyo virus for which there are no approved vaccines or treatments. Delays in contact tracing, difficulties accessing affected areas, mistrust from communities, and violence by armed groups

and some residents have hampered the response, the Africa CDC has said.

Two clinical trials for post-exposure prophylaxis drugs are ongoing in Ituri province as well as two separate vaccine trials in the United Kingdom and Canada.

The outbreak is mostly concentrated in eastern Congo's remote Ituri province, which accounts for nearly 90 per cent of cases, but cases have also been confirmed in five other provinces, including in one of the country's largest cities, Kisangani.

Neighboring Uganda declared itself free of Ebola following the discharge of the country's last patient in mid-June.

A key challenge is that patient zero has yet to be identified in the outbreak while displacement from armed conflict and illegal mining in the region have made it difficult to trace thousands who have come in contact with infected individuals.

The WHO said Tuesday that it was monitoring over 17,000 potential contacts with nearly 80 per cent of them

being seen daily.

On Monday, healthcare workers in the hard hit town of Mongbwalu issued an ultimatum over unpaid wages saying that "if nothing is done within 24 hours, we will escalate our action".

Previously, healthcare workers in Bunia went on strike over a lack of pay and dangerous working conditions. The World Health Organization says more than 100 healthcare workers have been infected since the beginning of the outbreak.

The latest outbreak has killed people at a quicker rate than any previous outbreak, including in 2014-2016 when 28,000 cases were reported, of which over 11,000 people died. That outbreak took about eight months to reach 1,000 deaths.

The response is also hampered by a funding gap, attacks on health centers, an ongoing conflict in eastern Congo and mistrust among local communities.

Enrollment in a highly anticipated study of two possible Ebola treatments recently started in Ituri. (AP)



Heat kills 19 in South Korea this summer



South Korea's summer heat has killed 19 people so far this year, a government health agency said on Tuesday, as the nation swelters in a wave of searing weather.

A total of 2,221 people had suffered heat-related illnesses between May 15 and August 3, of whom 19 died, the Korea Disease Control and Prevention

Agency said.

President Lee Jae Myung earlier asked authorities to boost support for those affected by the ongoing record heatwave.

The whole of Seoul also remained under the highest-level heat alert on Tuesday, issued when the heat index is forecast to reach 38C or temperatures

are expected to climb to 39C or higher.

"Extreme, life-threatening heat is forecast," the weather agency said in a statement earlier on Tuesday.

South Korea set an all-time temperature record on Sunday, when the southeastern city of Yangsan reached 42.5C. (AFP)

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US states sue to block Trump tariffs impacting dozens of countries

Twenty-five states sued President Donald Trump's administration on Monday over a wave of tariffs against dozens of countries.

The US says the tariffs, which range between 10% and 12.5%, were imposed due to trading partners - including the UK, China and the European Union - failing to properly tackle forced labour.

In a legal document seen by the BBC, the coalition of Democratic states said the decision was "arbitrary, capricious, and contrary to law".

In response, White House spokesman Kush Desai said the US was "using its lawful authority" to address practices that burden American businesses.

Desai added that any foreign countries failing to deal with the importation of goods produced with forced labour was "unreasonable" and must be addressed.

The new tariffs, which came into effect in July, were imposed under Section 301 of the 1974 US Trade Act, legislation which is designed to target nations that use forced labour.

The duties cover 99.4% of US imports, according to the Office of the US Trade Representative (USTR).

During Trump's first term, he used Section 301 to impose trade tariffs on China and they survived challenges in court.

Desai added: "Section 301 tariffs have proven to be a legally durable tool since the president's first term, and they remain so now."

The lawsuit said the Trump administration "cannot use forced labour as a pretext to continue its illegal tariff scheme".

"The tariffs the USTR imposed are so broad that they defy the USTR's own stated aims and make a mockery of the statute used to justify them," it said.

The lawsuit added that the last time Trump used Section 301 to impose tariffs, solely targeting China in 2018, officials had investigated claims of forced labour in the country for eight months.

That compares with just two months for the most recent probe, which looked into 60 trading partners, it said.

"Typically, a Section 301 investigation into even a single economy takes much



longer to complete," it argued.

"President Trump's illegal tariffs are nothing more than a tax on hardworking families," said New York Governor Kathy Hochul.

In a statement, Oregon attorney general Dan Rayfield said: "Despite losing every step of the way, Trump is trying yet again to inflict more chaos on working families and homegrown Oregon businesses.

"We're all paying the price for these unlawful tariffs, not foreign governments," he added.

Several of the affected trading partners have expressed disappointment over the new tariffs, with Brazil and Japan's governments separately calling the measures "unjustified".

China's foreign ministry spokesperson Mao Ning described the tariffs as an "excuse for political manipulation". Washington and Beijing have been locked in a tit-for-tat tariffs war which is currently on hold.

Some analysts have also questioned how countries would be able to show that they had properly addressed the forced labour claims.

The lawsuit will pose a "formidable challenge" to Trump's levies, Alex Capri, a business lecturer at the National University of Singapore told the BBC.

There is also a lack of credible evi-

dence to back claims that countries have harmed US firms by violating forced labour rules, he said.

Capri added that he expects "carve outs and walk-backs to gradually take the bite out of these tariffs".

The legal action marks the latest move surrounding a slew of trade policies unveiled by Trump since he returned to office in January 2025.

Many of the wide-ranging duties Trump imposed on global trading partners in his so-called "Liberation Day" tariffs in April last year were struck down by the US Supreme Court.

"The Supreme Court has made it clear that this administration cannot ignore the law to impose sweeping tariffs," Hochul said.

The court's decision prompted tens of billions of dollars in refunds to companies that had paid the levies.

The president has long argued that tariffs protect American workers and boost the US economy.

The tariffs that were struck down were replaced by a temporary 10% levy on all global imports. Those tariffs expired in July.

More tariffs could also be on the horizon as the US is currently investigating 16 countries over claims of manufacturing overcapacity. (BBC)

Guatemala evacuates villages due to an eruption of the Fuego volcano



Authorities in Guatemala have ordered evacuations in some southern communities around the Fuego volcano, which is erupting.

Claudinne Ogaldes, executive secretary of the Guatemalan disaster managing agency, CONRED, confirmed on Monday evening to The Associated Press that the eruption started on Monday morning and increased during the day, which led to evacuation orders for two villages around the mountain.

Live images of the situation showed big clouds of gas and ash over the volcano as lava and pyroclastic flows rolled down the slopes at great speed.

"The eruption increases its explosiveness level. A fountain of lava of between 200 and 300 meters (650 to 1,000 feet) has developed over the crater," according to a report from the Guatemalan Seismology, Vulcanology, Weather and Water Institute.

CONRED said in a press statement that authorities were evacuating El

Porvenir and the hamlet of Las Lajitas as a preventive measure. That would be around 50 families or 250 people. The agency declared an orange alert and warned of ashes spreading to nearby towns.

A major highway that passes close to the volcano, National Route 14, was closed. The Education Ministry suspended classes in nearby towns.

Hundreds of people were killed and a whole village was destroyed during a previous eruption on the Fuego volcano in June 2018. That episode affected up to 1.7 million people, according to authorities.

The Fuego volcano is one of the most active in Guatemala. Another eruption in June last year spurred preventive evacuations. (AP)

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ANTIGUA AND BARBUDA FALCONS COMPLETE CAMP AHEAD OF CPL 2026 OPENER



ture to move forward together. They get to know each other's game, and it gives the coaches a great insight to the players as people too."

Falcons Head of Operations Sabrina Webster said the camp formed a critical part of the franchise's wider preparations for the new season: "Camp is critical because it ensures that the players are prepared and ready to go. It gives them time to work together, develop an understanding of each other and create the synergy needed as a team. That is what we have been working to achieve," Webster said.

The camp also allowed the Falcons to connect with the Liberta community, a strong cricket loving fraternity whose outstanding players include Falcons

ST. JOHN'S, Antigua, August 4, 2026 - The Antigua and Barbuda Falcons departed Antigua earlier today for St Vincent and the Grenadines, ready to begin their campaign in the 2026 Republic Bank Caribbean Premier League.

The Falcons will face the newly formed Jamaica Kingsmen in the opening encounter of the CPL season on Friday, August 7, at the Arnos Vale Stadium in Kingstown. The match begins at 7:00 p.m. local time and will also mark the first time St Vincent and the Grenadines has hosted CPL matches.

Ahead of their departure, the core of the Falcons squad assembled in Antigua for an intensive four-day training camp at the Liberta Sports Club grounds, Ball Beef.

The camp provided the players and coaching staff with an important opportunity to work together, assess preparations and build the cohesion required for the competition.

Head Coach Paul Nixon said the period in Liberta was valuable in bringing



the players together and sharpening the team's focus ahead of its opening assignment. He stated, "The value of a camp is enormous; the players and coaches build relationships and trust with each other. Great conversations happen, confidence building, players adjust to different surfaces. The camp helps build the foundation of our cul-

Rakheem Cornwall and Karima Gore, Assistant Coach Wilden Cornwall, and Bowling Coach Sir Curtly Ambrose.

President of Liberta Sports Club and lead curator said his club was delighted to host the Falcons camp at Ball Beef. "We were very honoured that they thought of us. And I must say



that they were quite satisfied with the pitches, with the whole facility. They were quite impressed. There were even talks about, you know, they should probably have future camps here.

The choice of Liberta as the team's pre-season base also underscored the Falcons' commitment to maintaining a strong connection with communities across Antigua and Barbuda.

Benjamin shared his endorsement of the Antigua and Barbuda for the 2026 season. "I believe the Falcons will have a good season, based on what I'm seeing. You know, they're having some new sign-ins. They have some of

the guys who are still there from last year.

Obviously, T20 is very dynamic, and one over can determine your whole season. But what I saw in the last four days from the Falcons gives me the impression that they're looking forward to the season, and they're in very good spirits leaving Antigua today for St. Vincent."

Following their opening match against the Jamaica Kingsmen, the Falcons will return to the Arnos Vale Stadium on Sunday, August 9, to face the St Lucia Kings.

The team will then turn its attention to

its four home matches at the Sir Vivian Richards Stadium from August 20 to 25, when supporters will be invited to experience the excitement, entertainment and atmosphere of the Home of Party Cricket.

Under the 2026 campaign theme, "Come For The Fete. Stay For The Match," Falcons supporters can expect a blend of competitive cricket and Antiguan and Barbudan culture throughout the season.

The feting begins during the two watch parties at the Party Stand at the Sir Viv Richards Stadium, from 6 pm each night on Friday 7 August and Saturday 9 August.


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Quildan fails to medal on debut for Antigua at Commonwealth Games

United Kingdom-based cyclist Atiba Quildan failed to win a medal at the Commonwealth Games, which concluded in Glasgow, Scotland, on Sunday.

Quildan, who was representing Antigua and Barbuda for the very first time, participated in the men's 1000-meter time trial, sprint, and keirin competitions.

Quildan was eliminated during the first round of the men's sprint cycling competition. He finished in 26th place from a field of 29 cyclists by clocking 11.31 seconds in men's sprint qualifying.

Quildan finished 21st from a field of 24 participants in the men's 1000-meter individual time trial. Quildan produced a time of one minute and 07.01 seconds.

Quildan also did not qualify for the final of the men's Keirin, which is a fast-paced track race where cyclists ride in a group behind a motorized pacer before launching into a high-speed sprint to the finish line.

Quildan failed to advance in the third of four first-round qualifying heats. He finished sixth from a field of seven cyclists with a time that was 4.59 seconds behind the motorized pacer.

Quildan was given another chance to qualify for the final but failed to advance after finishing last in the final of four



Atiba Quildan

heats in the men's keirin first-round repechages.

Born in Britain, representing Antigua and Barbuda through his mother's heritage, Quildan's road to the Commonwealth Games start line in Glasgow wasn't the conventional one.

Self-trained and supported by Twickenham Cycling Club in England, he visited Antigua during the National Cycling Championships in June to meet and bond with local cyclists ahead of representing the twin-island Caribbean nation on the international stage.

Private equity firm acquires CPL franchise Antigua and Barbuda Falcons

The Antigua and Barbuda Falcons are now under new ownership, with the Caribbean Premier League (CPL) franchise acquired by SAMAA, a private equity family office trust, in a deal that represents a significant new vote of confidence in Antigua and Barbuda as a destination for investment.

According to a media release from the Antigua and Barbuda Falcons, the acquisition marks SAMAA's first venture into professional sport and its first investment in the Caribbean sporting industry.

The trust, which has built a track record across real estate development, growth sector investments, and technology, said the Falcons purchase reflects a deliberate decision to put long-term capital behind Antigua and Barbuda specifically, rather than treating the franchise as a stand-alone sports asset.

"SAMAA views this franchise not simply as a sports asset, but as a cultural cornerstone," the trust said in a statement.

"The trust is fully committed to building a world-class sporting brand that the people of Antigua and Barbuda, and the wider Caribbean, can carry with pride."

SAMAA describes itself as a family office trust built on a foundation of resilience, integrity, and purposeful growth, guided since its founding by a commitment to "doing good while doing well."

Having established itself across real estate, growth sectors, and innovative technology projects, the trust said professional sport represents a natural next step and a long-held ambition.



For Antigua and Barbuda, the change of ownership is expected to bring benefits well beyond the boundary. SAMAA has signalled that it intends to use the franchise as a platform for local economic development, including the creation of talent pathways for young Antiguan and Barbudan cricketers, expanded local employment tied to the team's operations, and sustained investment in community programmes.

Corporate social responsibility sits at the centre of SAMAA's plans. The trust has stated that it will prioritise youth empowerment, social upliftment, and local development initiatives through the Falcons, and intends to work directly with the Government of Antigua and Barbuda, the Leeward Islands Cricket Board (LICB), and other regional stakeholders to ensure the franchise's growth translates into tangible opportunity for citizens of the

twin-island nation.

"Through the Antigua CPL franchise, the trust intends to merge its business acumen with its philanthropic drive, creating local talent pathways and supporting long-term economic growth," SAMAA said.

"SAMAA looks forward to working closely with the Government of Antigua and Barbuda, local cricket boards, and regional stakeholders to build a lasting legacy of excellence and shared opportunity."

The CPL welcomed the change of ownership, noting that sustained private investment of this kind strengthens the league's franchises and deepens their roots in the communities they represent.

Further details on SAMAA's plans for the Falcons, including leadership appointments and community programming, are expected to be announced in the coming weeks.

Falcons complete camp, departs for first game of the 2026 CPL season

The Antigua and Barbuda Falcons departed Antigua on Tuesday for St. Vincent and the Grenadines, ready to begin their campaign in the 2026 Republic Bank Caribbean Premier League (CPL).

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Ahead of their departure, the core of the Falcons squad assembled in Antigua for an intensive four-day training camp at Ball Beef in Liberta.

The camp provided the players and coaching staff with an important opportunity to work together, assess preparations, and build the cohesion required for the competition.

Falcons' Head Coach Paul Nixon said the period in Liberta was valuable in bringing the players together and sharpening the team's focus ahead of its opening assignment.

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"The camp helps build the foundation of our culture to move forward together. They get to know each other's game, and it gives the coaches a great insight to the players as people too."

Falcons' Head of Operations Sabrina Webster said the camp formed a critical part of the franchise's wider preparations for the new season.

"Camp is critical because it ensures that the players are prepared and ready to go. It gives them time to work together, develop an understanding of each other, and create the synergy needed as a team. That is what we have been working to achieve," Webster said.

The camp also allowed the Falcons to connect with the Liberta community, a



Players of the Antigua and Barbuda Falcons during their recent training camp at Ball Beef in Liberta. (Photo courtesy of the Antigua and Barbuda Falcons)

strong cricket-loving fraternity whose outstanding players include Falcons' all-rounders Rakheem Cornwall and Karima Gore, assistant coach Wilden "Polo" Cornwall, and bowling coach Sir Curtly Ambrose.

President of Liberta Sports Club and lead curator Kenneth "Flipper" Benjamin said his club was delighted to host the Falcons camp at Ball Beef.

"We were very honoured that they thought of us. And I must say that they were quite satisfied with the pitches, with the whole facility. They were quite impressed. There were even talks about, you know, they should probably have future camps here," Benjamin said.

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one over can determine your whole season. But what I saw in the last four days from the Falcons gives me the impression that they're looking forward to the season, and they're in very good spirits leaving Antigua today for St. Vincent."

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CPL to launch hall of fame to honour icons



From Chris Gayle's unbeaten 47 dragging Jamaica Tallawahs to the very first CPL title in 2013, to Trinbago Knight Riders blazing to 267 for two – still the highest total in tournament history – CPL has spent 13 years producing moments that define Caribbean cricket. Now those moments, and the people behind them, get a permanent home.

The Republic Bank Caribbean Premier League (CPL) has announced the launch of the CPL Hall of Fame, a new annual honour created to recognize the players and individuals who have defined the tournament's success since its inception in 2013.

The Hall of Fame will induct two honourees each year, one player and one person who has made a monumental impact on the event off the field. The awards will celebrate performances, leadership, and contributions on and

off the field that have helped establish CPL as one of the most popular T20 franchise competitions in world cricket.

Since Gayle powered the Tallawahs past Guyana Amazon Warriors in that first final at Queen's Park Oval, CPL has delivered a run of records and moments that have shaped the modern T20 game.

Dwayne Bravo has taken wickets and won titles throughout the tournament's history; Tim Seifert and Andre Russell shared the tournament's fastest century, both reaching three figures off just 53 balls; Shakib Al Hasan produced the best bowling figures the competition has ever seen, a remarkable six for six; and Trinbago Knight Riders went unbeaten through the 2020 season on their way to becoming the first three-peat – and then five-time – champions.

Since launching in 2013, the Republic Bank Caribbean Premier League has grown into a cornerstone of Caribbean sport, showcasing homegrown and international talent across the region's franchises while drawing fans from across the world. The introduction of the Hall of Fame gives the tournament a permanent way to recognise the players and people who have shaped that legacy.

"CPL has given us thirteen years of moments people still talk about – Gayle in 2013, Pollard's record-break-

ing eighteenth title, Dwayne Bravo's wickets and wins, and nights nobody who was there will forget. The Hall of Fame is how we make sure those moments, and the people who created them, are never lost. As we head into our second decade, it's time to give this tournament's history a permanent home," said Pete Russell, CEO, CPL.

The inaugural Hall of Fame gala dinner will take place in Barbados on Tuesday, September 15, 2026, bringing together the Caribbean cricket family and legends of West Indies cricket to celebrate the tournament's biggest successes.

Proceeds from the evening will support The Sir Clive Lloyd Healthcare Foundation, which is working to raise awareness of prostate cancer – the leading cause of cancer death among men in the Caribbean – and to improve access to testing and early detection across the region, including through its great catch initiative.

The CPL Hall of Fame will now run as an annual celebration, with future inductees announced ahead of each gala. The event will continue to grow as a highlight of the CPL calendar, honouring the tournament's past while supporting causes that matter to the Caribbean community.

The first two inductees into the CPL Hall of Fame will be announced in the coming weeks.



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Antiguan sprinters miss out on medals in 100m finals at CAC Games

Antigua and Barbuda's sprinters, Cejhae Greene and Geolyna Dowdye narrowly missed out on winning medals in their respective 100-meter finals in the track and field competitions at the 2026 Central American and Caribbean (CAC) Games in Santo Domingo, Dominican Republic, on Monday.

The two Antiguan sprinters secured fourth-place finishes in the finals of both competitions.

Greene finished fourth in the men's 100-meter finals in a time of 10.21 seconds. The race was won by Colombia's Ronal Longa in 10.06 seconds.

Bouwahjge Nkrumie of Jamaica took second place in 10.17 seconds, and Melbin Marcelino of the Dominican Republic finished third in 10.19 seconds.

Greene advanced to the finals by clocking 10.34 seconds to finish second in the first of three semi-final heats to start the men's competition.

The first semi-final heat was won by Longo of Colombia in 10.27 seconds,



Antiguan Sprinter Geolyna Dowdye

and Javari Thomas of Jamaica came third in 10.35 seconds.

Dowdye finished fourth in the women's 100-meter finals in 11.33 seconds.

The race was won by Liranyi Alonzo of the Dominican Republic in 11.10 seconds.

Gladymar Torres of Puerto Rico took second place in 11.22 seconds, and Cuba's Yarima Garcia finished third in 11.33 seconds.

Dowdye booked her spot in the finals by winning the second of three semi-final heats in a time of 11.46 seconds. Fiordaliza Cofil of the Dominican Republic came second in 11.47 seconds, and Jamaica's Natasha Morrison finished third in 11.70 seconds.

Meanwhile, Stefano Mitchell and Tivon Benjamin were both eliminated during the first round of qualifying heats in the men's 50-meter butterfly contest at the current CAC Games in the Dominican Republic.

Mitchell finished last during a field of eight swimmers in Heat 3, clocking a time of 25.92 seconds. Benjamin finished fifth in Heat 5 in a time of 25.36 seconds.