

Antigua and Barbuda Records Lowest Prices for Gas and Diesel in the ECCU

Story on page 2



The opening of SLBMC Sickle Cell Unit

Antigua and Barbuda Records Lowest Prices for Gas and Diesel in the ECCU



Antigua and Barbuda, according to an analysis published by the Eastern Caribbean Central Bank (ECCB), recorded the lowest prices for both gas and diesel in the Eastern Caribbean Currency Union (ECCU) as of July 2026, while the price of oil continues to increase.

The analysis, which examines the prices of gas, diesel, LPG, and crude oil (per barrel) across the member states of the currency union, demonstrates that Antigua and Barbuda maintained the lowest prices for gas and diesel at EC\$14.50 and EC\$14.25 per gallon, respectively, for the month of July.

The twin-island nation also recorded the second-lowest prices for LPG in the currency union, narrowly trailing St. Kitts and Nevis, which recorded the lowest LPG prices for both the 20- and 100-gallon cylinders at EC\$30 and EC\$140, respectively. Antigua and Barbuda recorded slightly higher prices of EC\$32 and EC\$155.

While the price of crude oil has rapidly increased in 2026 amid recent geopolitical turmoil impacting the market, the report indicates that July, in fact, recorded a minor decline in the price of crude oil across the currency union compared with the previous month, falling by just 3.1 per cent.

Regardless, the report notes that, as of August 11, 2026, a barrel of crude oil (US\$) was 30.1 per cent higher than it was a year ago. In perspective, the price of fuel remains the highest it has been since June 2022, surpassed only by the price of oil recorded in January 2020, at the height of the COVID-19 pandemic.

Antigua and Barbuda's ability to maintain the lowest prices for gas and diesel in the ECCU while global oil prices continue to rise demonstrates the government's commitment to shielding its citizens from the impact of global market fluctuations.



Average Fuel Prices in the ECCU

Disseminated on 17 August 2026

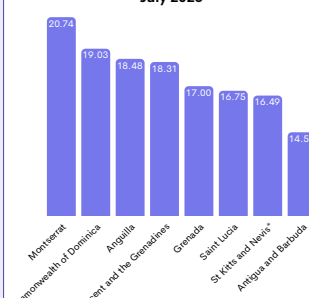
- The Eastern Caribbean Currency Union (ECCU) is an eight-member currency union which shares the Eastern Caribbean (EC) dollar. The Eastern Caribbean Central Bank (ECCB) is the monetary authority for the ECCU.
- In July 2026, four countries were below the average prices of gas, four were below the average prices of diesel, five were below the average price of the 20-pound cylinder of liquefied petroleum gas (LPG) and five were below the average price of the 100-pound cylinder of LPG.
- The price of international crude oil per barrel (US\$) fell by 3.1 per cent in July 2026 compared to June 2026.
- On 11 August 2026, a barrel of crude oil (US\$) was 30.1 per cent higher than a year ago.

Average Fuel Prices in the ECCU in July 2026 (EC\$)

Gas	Diesel	20-pound LPG	100-pound LPG	Barrel of crude oil
17.66	18.16	37.80	204.28	213.90 (US\$ 79.22)
-1.2%	-1.2%	-1.5%	-2.7%	-3.1%

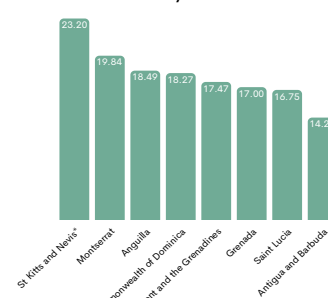
- Percentage changes are in comparison with the previous month.
- Gas and diesel prices are per imperial gallon.
- Liquefied petroleum gas (LPG) is better-known as cooking gas.
- One barrel of crude oil is equal to approximately 35 imperial gallons.

Figure 1. Antigua and Barbuda recorded the lowest price of gas (EC\$ per imperial gallon) in July 2026



*Saint Christopher (St Kitts) and Nevis

Figure 2. Antigua and Barbuda recorded the lowest price of diesel (EC\$ per imperial gallon) in July 2026



*Saint Christopher (St Kitts) and Nevis

Figure 3. Saint Christopher (St Kitts) and Nevis recorded the lowest price for the 20-pound LPG in July 2026

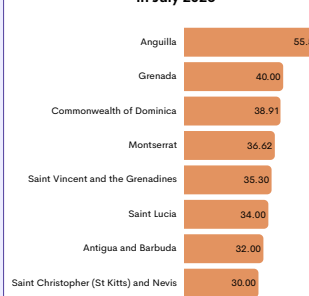


Figure 4. Saint Christopher (St Kitts) and Nevis recorded the lowest price for the 100-pound LPG in July 2026

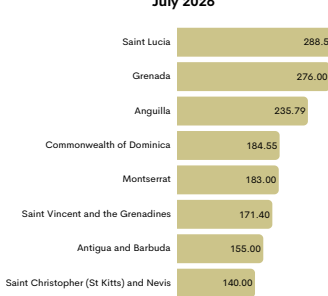


Figure 5. Average Prices of International Crude Oil Per Barrel

On 11 August 2026, a barrel of crude oil was 30.1% higher than a year ago



Compiled by the Research, Statistics and Data Analytics Department of the Eastern Caribbean Central Bank



Average Fuel Prices in the ECCU (EC\$)

Figure 6. The average price of gas in the ECCU fell by 1.2 per cent in July 2026 compared to June 2026

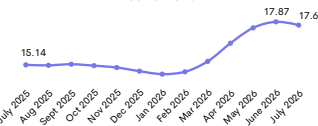


Figure 7. The average price of diesel in the ECCU fell by 1.2 per cent in July 2026 compared to June 2026

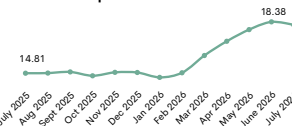


Figure 8. A 1.5 per cent decline was recorded in the average price of the 20-pound cylinder of LPG between July 2026 and June 2026 in the ECCU

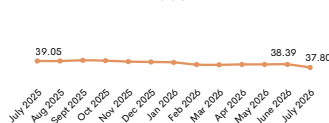
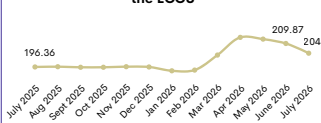


Figure 9. A 2.7 per cent decline was recorded in the average price of the 100-pound cylinder of LPG between July 2026 and June 2026 in the ECCU



- Gas and diesel prices are per imperial gallon.
- Liquefied petroleum gas (LPG) is better-known as cooking gas.

International Crude Oil Prices

Crude oil is used to produce several products including gasoline, diesel and liquefied petroleum gas (LPG). A barrel of crude oil is equivalent to approximately 35 imperial gallons.

Major events can at times have significant impacts on international crude oil prices. These events have included the declaration of the COVID-19 pandemic in March 2020, the Russia-Ukraine war in February 2022, the Iran-Israel War of June 2025 and the US-Israeli conflict on Iran in 2026 as shown in the chart below.

Figure 10. The highest price of international crude oil per barrel was recorded in December 2020 during the COVID-19 pandemic

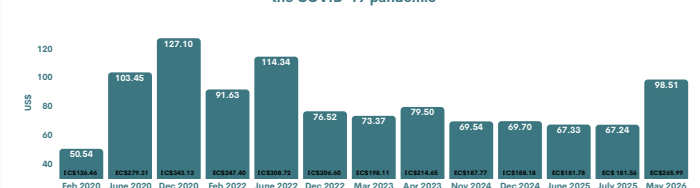


Figure 11. There was a 3.1 per cent fall in the price of international crude oil (per barrel) in July 2026 compared to June 2026

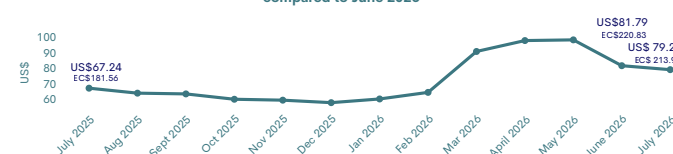


Figure 12. Average gasoline and diesel prices per imperial gallon in the ECCU generally tracked the movement in average international crude oil prices per barrel except for June 2026

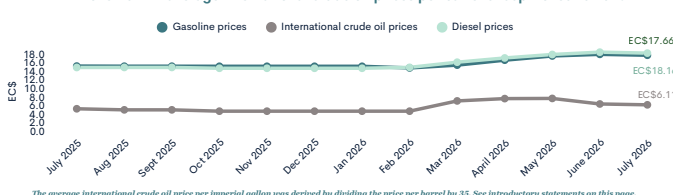
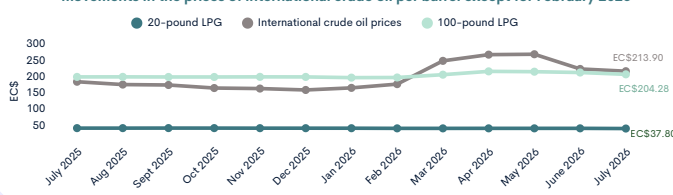


Figure 13. The price movements in LPG (particularly the 100-pound cylinder) generally tracked the movements in the prices of international crude oil per barrel except for February 2026



Compiled by the Research, Statistics and Data Analytics Department of the Eastern Caribbean Central Bank



NOTES TO CHARTS

Please note the following caveats to the fuel data:

Anguilla: the average retail price for regular 87 octane gasoline and the average retail price for ultra-low sulphur diesel are utilised.

Antigua and Barbuda: the retail price for US Waterborne unleaded 87 gasoline and the retail price for ultra-low sulphur diesel are utilised.

Commonwealth of Dominica: the retail price for unleaded gasoline and the retail price for high-sulphur diesel are utilised.

Grenada: the retail price for regular gasoline and the retail price for ultra-low sulphur diesel are utilised.

Montserrat: the retail price for regular gasoline and premium gasoline, and the retail price for regular diesel and ultra-low sulphur diesel are utilised.

Saint Christopher (St Kitts) and Nevis: the retail price for unleaded gasoline and the retail price for diesel are utilised. There are two (2) data sources for diesel – Delta Petroleum St Kitts Ltd and Sol St Kitts & Nevis Ltd. Delta Petroleum St Kitts Ltd provides prices on ultra-low sulphur diesel from which an average is calculated. Sol St Kitts & Nevis Ltd provides the price of ultra-low sulphur diesel as at the end of the month.

Saint Lucia: the retail price for regular unleaded gasoline and the retail price for low-sulphur diesel are utilised.

Saint Vincent and the Grenadines: the retail price for gasoline and the average retail price for high- and low-sulphur diesel are utilised.

General: the retail prices for petroleum products depend on several factors including the imported price of the fuel product; government policies such as taxes, duties and subsidies; the wholesaler's margin; and the retailer's margin.

When there is more than one price change in a month, the average of said prices is utilised.

International Crude Oil Prices: these prices are recorded in United States dollars per barrel, however, the prices stated herein were converted to Eastern Caribbean dollars at the rate of 2.70.

DATA SOURCES

Anguilla
Anguilla Statistics Department

Antigua and Barbuda
The West Indies Oil Company Ltd

Commonwealth of Dominica
Consumer Affairs Unit, Ministry of Trade

Grenada
Government Information Service

Montserrat
Trade, Investment and Bureau for Standards and Quality Division, Cabinet Secretariat

Saint Christopher (St Kitts) and Nevis
Budget Division, Ministry of Finance
Delta Petroleum St Kitts Ltd
Sol St Kitts & Nevis Ltd

Saint Lucia
Research and Policy Unit, Ministry of Finance

Saint Vincent and the Grenadines
Economic Research and Policy Unit, Ministry of Finance

International Crude Oil Prices
Bloomberg and calculations

Compiled by the Research, Statistics and Data Analytics Department of the Eastern Caribbean Central Bank

Browne Says No CCJ Push Until Regional Judiciary Earns Greater Public Trust

Prime Minister Gaston Browne says judicial institutions in the Caribbean must do more to earn public confidence before Antigua and Barbuda can realistically reconsider replacing the Privy Council with the Caribbean Court of Justice.

Browne said public anxiety surrounding regional judges cannot simply be dismissed, particularly as citizens express frustration about sentences imposed for violent and sexual crimes.

He told listeners to his Browne and Browne show on Pointe FM that the failed 2018 CCJ referendum showed that many people remain hesitant to place final appellate authority entirely within the region.

“The people are not necessarily wrong,” Browne said.

Antigua and Barbuda remains among the Caribbean countries that use the London-based Judicial Committee of the Privy Council as their highest appellate court.

In the November 2018 referendum, the Government failed to obtain the two-thirds majority needed to amend the Constitution and adopt the CCJ’s appellate jurisdiction.

Browne, who campaigned strongly for the transition, said he remains philosophically committed to a Caribbean final court. However, he believes recent events have made another referendum politically unrealistic during the Government’s current term.

He accused regional judicial institutions of damaging their own credibility by failing to address public complaints and by reacting defensively whenever political leaders criticise sentencing.



The Prime Minister argued that judicial independence cannot mean freedom from public scrutiny or accountability.

His statements are likely to reignite debate over whether disagreement with individual sentences should influence the broader question of adopting the CCJ.

Supporters of the regional court have consistently argued that it is independent, accessible and better positioned than the Privy Council to develop Caribbean jurisprudence. Opponents have raised concerns about political influence and regional institutional culture.

Browne said he still supports an eventual transition, but believes more work is required to strengthen public trust.



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Antigua and Barbuda Government Reaffirms Judicial Independence, Calls for Complete Record to be Considered

The Government of Antigua and Barbuda has reaffirmed its commitment to an independent Judiciary while calling on the Commonwealth Magistrates' and Judges' Association (CMJA) to consider what it describes as the complete official record surrounding Prime Minister Gaston Browne's recent comments on sentencing and the administration of justice.

In correspondence to CMJA Secretary General Dr Karen Brewer, Minister for Foreign Affairs, Trade and Immigration, the Hon. E.P. Chet Greene, said the Government recognizes the Association's legitimate role in protecting judicial independence throughout the Commonwealth and remains fully committed to the separation of powers, security of tenure for judicial officers, the Commonwealth Charter and the Latimer House Principles.

The letter responds to a statement issued by the CMJA on 14 August concerning Prime Minister Browne's comments about the Judiciary. The Association's intervention followed criticism of remarks made by the Prime Minister during discussions about crime and sentencing. The Caribbean Heads of Judiciary also issued joint statement expressing concern that the remarks threatened judicial independence and the separation of powers.

Minister Greene, however, said the CMJA statement did not appear to take account of subsequent developments, including the Prime Minister's public clarification, his formal correspondence with the Chief Justice of the Eastern Caribbean Supreme Court, and his response to the Caribbean Heads of Judiciary.

The Government said the original remarks were made during a 10 August meeting of the National Security Council against the backdrop of pub-



Hon. E.P. Chet Greene

lic concern over firearm violence, serious crime and sentencing outcomes considered by the majority of citizens to be unduly lenient.

The Government through Parliament strengthened penalties for specified firearm offences in 2024, including providing for a maximum sentence of 15 years following conviction on indictment for unlawful possession of a firearm.

The Government maintains that the Prime Minister, as head of the elected Government, has a constitutional and political responsibility to respond to public concerns surrounding crime, public safety and the effectiveness of the criminal justice system.

At the same time, the Government drew a clear distinction between criticism of sentencing outcomes and interference with judicial decision-making.

According to Minister Greene, the Prime Minister's remarks did not seek to determine the outcome of any case, reopen a concluded matter or encourage anyone to disregard an order of the court. The Government further stated that it has not defied any judicial decision or court order.

Significantly, the Government point-

ed to Prime Minister Browne's subsequent clarification that no judge would be removed, reassigned, deported or otherwise dealt with by executive action.

Questions concerning the tenure, assignment or conduct of judicial officers, the Government said, will be dealt with strictly in accordance with the Constitution and the law.

Minister Greene stated that no executive measure has been taken or is contemplated to remove, reassign, deport or discipline any judicial officer outside of the legally established procedures.

That clarification comes amid continued regional debate. Prime Minister Browne has maintained his criticism of sentencing practices while rejecting the contention that such criticism, by itself, constitutes an attack on judicial independence.

The Government said the clarification therefore did not amount to abandoning its concerns about sentencing outcomes. Instead, it established the constitutional boundaries within which those concerns would be pursued.

Minister Greene has asked the CMJA to make the Government's letter available alongside the Association's 14 August statement so that its membership and the wider Commonwealth public can have access to what the Government considers the complete record of events.

The Minister concluded by reaffirming Antigua and Barbuda's commitment to judicial independence, constitutional government, public safety and constructive cooperation among the branches of the State.

The Government's position, he said, is that those principles are mutually reinforcing and must all be protected. Minister Greene's letter is attached.



GOVERNMENT OF ANTIGUA AND BARBUDA

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17 August 2026

Dr Karen Brewer

Secretary General

Commonwealth Magistrates' and Judges' Association

Uganda House, 58-59 Trafalgar Square

London WC2N 5DX

United Kingdom

Dear Dr Brewer,

STATEMENT CONCERNING THE JUDICIARY OF ANTIGUA AND BARBUDA

I write concerning the statement issued by the Commonwealth Magistrates' and Judges' Association on 14 August 2026, entitled "The threats against the Judiciary in Antigua and Barbuda".

The Government of Antigua and Barbuda recognises the legitimate interest of the Association in protecting judicial independence throughout the Commonwealth. Antigua and Barbuda is fully committed to an independent and impartial judiciary, the security of tenure of judicial officers, the separation of powers, the Commonwealth Charter and the Commonwealth Latimer House Principles.

However, the Association's statement does not appear to take account of the complete official record, including the subsequent public clarification by Prime Minister Gaston Browne, his formal letter of 12 August to the Chief Justice of the Eastern Caribbean Supreme Court and his official response to the Joint Statement by the Caribbean Heads of Judiciary.

The Prime Minister's remarks of 10 August were made during a meeting of the National Security Council against the background of serious public concern about firearm violence, other violent crime and sentencing outcomes considered by many citizens to be unduly lenient. In 2024, Parliament substantially increased the penalties for specified firearm offences, including a maximum sentence of 15 years on conviction on indictment for unlawful possession of a firearm.

The Prime Minister has a constitutional and political duty to respond to legitimate public concern about crime, public safety and the effectiveness of the criminal justice system. Judicial independence protects judges from political direction, intimidation or retaliation. It does not place judicial decisions, sentencing practices or the administration of justice beyond reasoned public criticism or institutional review.

The Prime Minister's remarks did not direct the outcome of any case, seek to reopen a decided case or invite anyone to disregard an order of the court. No judicial decision or court order has been defied by the Government.

Because the language used gave rise to concern about possible executive action against a judicial officer, the Prime Minister moved promptly to remove any doubt. In his public statement, he declared unequivocally:

“To remove all doubt, no judge will be removed, reassigned, deported or otherwise dealt with by executive fiat. Questions concerning the tenure, assignment or conduct of a judicial officer are governed by the Constitution and the law, and those arrangements will be respected.”

That is the official and unambiguous position of the Government of Antigua and Barbuda. No measure has been taken and no executive measure is contemplated to remove, reassign, deport or discipline any judicial officer outside the procedures prescribed by law.

The clarification did not withdraw the Prime Minister’s concern about sentencing outcomes and institutional performance. It established the constitutional boundary within which those concerns will be pursued.

On 12 August, the Prime Minister wrote formally to Her Ladyship the Honourable Margaret Price Findlay, Chief Justice of the Eastern Caribbean Supreme Court. He proposed the immediate establishment of an independent committee to review sentencing for firearm and other serious violent offences, repeat offending and the wider operation of the criminal justice system in Antigua and Barbuda.

The proposed review would examine a defined body of sentencing data, determine whether there is any material divergence between legislative policy and sentencing outcomes, identify the reasons for any such divergence and recommend practical reforms. It would also consider the applicable sentencing guidelines, guilty pleas, aggravating and mitigating circumstances, repeat offending, delays, rehabilitation and coordination among the police, prosecutors, courts and correctional services.

The proposed review is not directed at any individual judge. It would neither reopen decided cases nor interfere with proceedings before the courts. Its purpose is to replace assertion with evidence and to identify whether legislative, administrative or judicial action may be required.

The Prime Minister suggested that the Honourable Mr Justice Adrian Saunders, former President of the Caribbean Court of Justice, be invited to chair the committee, subject to his availability and willingness. He also consulted the Right Honourable Sir Dennis Byron and the Honourable Mr Justice Godfrey Smith SC, the CARICOM High-Level Representative on Law and Criminal Justice. Both indicated their preparedness to assist, including by making available the considerable body of work already undertaken on criminal justice reform.

The CMJA statement refers to the right of appeal as an appropriate means of addressing dissatisfaction with a judicial decision. The Government agrees that an appeal is the proper means of challenging a sentence in an individual case. Antigua and Barbuda has provided the Director of Public Prosecutions with a statutory right of appeal against sentence since the Criminal Procedure (Amendment) Act 2004. Whether that power should be exercised in any case is a matter for the constitutionally independent Director of Public Prosecutions.

An appeal in an individual case cannot, however, determine whether there is a systemic pattern involving sentencing outcomes, repeat offending, the application of sentencing guidelines, delays, rehabilitation or the wider operation of the criminal justice system. That is why an independent and evidence-led review has been proposed.

On 13 August, the Prime Minister issued a comprehensive public response to the Caribbean Heads of Judiciary. In that response, he reaffirmed without qualification the importance of judicial independence, explained the existing right of appeal, recorded his letter to the Chief Justice and invited constructive engagement with the proposed review.

Having regard to the CMJA's judicial education mandate, the Government would also welcome an indication as to whether the Association could make available, or assist in mobilising, appropriate technical assistance for the Eastern Caribbean Supreme Court. Such assistance could address any institutional or professional-development needs identified by the proposed independent review, including sentencing practice, the application of sentencing guidelines, case management, criminal justice data and judicial education.

Any such engagement would, of course, be undertaken in consultation with, and under the authority of, the Chief Justice and the appropriate judicial institutions, with full respect for the independence of the judiciary. The Government would be prepared to facilitate that dialogue and to support any arrangements agreed between the CMJA and the judicial leadership.

The Government is determined that its conduct should uphold the values expressed in the Commonwealth Charter and the Latimer House Principles. Those principles require respect among all three branches of government. They protect the judiciary from improper influence while permitting Parliament to legislate, the Executive to formulate policy and provide resources, and the public to engage in reasoned criticism of the administration of justice.

It is precisely because the Government respects those principles that the Prime Minister has ruled out executive action against any judicial officer and has instead pursued formal engagement with the Chief Justice and proposed an independent review involving distinguished Caribbean jurists.

In the interest of ensuring that the Association's members and the wider Commonwealth public have access to the complete record, I respectfully request that the CMJA publish or otherwise place this letter alongside its statement of 14 August and circulate them to its membership.

The Government of Antigua and Barbuda remains committed to judicial independence, constitutional government, public safety and constructive cooperation among all branches of the State. These principles are mutually reinforcing and must all be protected.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "E.P. Chet Greene", written over a circular stamp or seal.

The Honourable E.P. Chet Greene, MP
Minister of Foreign Affairs, Trade and Immigration
Government of Antigua and Barbuda

cc: The Honourable Justice Lynne C. Leitch
President, Commonwealth Magistrates' and Judges' Association

Her Ladyship the Honourable Margaret Price Findlay
Chief Justice, Eastern Caribbean Supreme Court

PM Browne Admits Police Delays Are Contributing to Criminal Cases Being Lost



Prime Minister Gaston Browne

Prime Minister Gaston Browne has acknowledged that delays and poor preparation by police have contributed to difficulties in prosecuting criminal cases.

Browne said senior police officers accepted responsibility during a recent National Security Council meeting and committed themselves to improving the preparation and presentation of case files.

“We all know that the police have

been lethargic in preparing the cases,” he said. “Justice delayed is justice denied.”

The Prime Minister said officers have been told they must complete investigations promptly, prepare the necessary documents and ensure prosecutors are ready when matters are called in court.

Browne’s admission came as he criticised what police reportedly described as a “growing intolerance” by some

judicial officers when law-enforcement representatives seek additional time.

He referred to one case involving an alleged repeat offender in which the prosecution reportedly requested a one-day delay because the prosecutor was unavailable. According to Browne, the court dismissed the matter even though the defence attorney had allegedly been absent on several earlier occasions.

The Prime Minister did not identify the case, judicial officer, accused person or defence attorney.

He said courts are justified in taking firm action where police repeatedly delay minor cases or matters involving first-time offenders. However, he argued that judges and magistrates should consider the potential risk to public safety before dismissing serious cases involving alleged repeat criminals.

Browne said improving the justice system will require accountability from every institution—not only the judiciary.

The Government has promised additional resources for the police, including vehicles and drones, alongside stronger intelligence-led operations and more frequent stop-and-search exercises.



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Jamaican Police Assist Antigua and Barbuda with CHOGM Security Planning

The Royal Police Force of Antigua and Barbuda (RPFAB) has received technical assistance from senior members of the Jamaica Constabulary Force (JCF) as the country strengthens its security preparations for the Commonwealth Heads of Government Meeting (CHOGM) in November.

A four-member JCF delegation spent one week in Antigua working with senior local police officers on security planning, operational readiness and the management of major international events.

The delegation comprised Assistant Commissioner of Police Garry McKenzie, Senior Superintendent Adrian Hamilton, Superintendent Shaunjaye Mitchell and Deputy Superintendent Garnet Stapleton.

During the visit, the Jamaican officers participated in discussions and working sessions covering several critical aspects of the security arrangements for CHOGM.

They also toured the island and helped assess venues expected to host official meetings, activities and other events during the summit.

The collaboration allowed both police forces to exchange expertise, examine potential security challenges and strengthen arrangements for what is expected to be one of the largest and



Senior Members of the Jamaica Constabulary Force and members of the Antigua Police

most significant international gatherings hosted by Antigua and Barbuda.

Commissioner of Police Everton Jeffers, KPM, welcomed the support, describing the visiting officers as highly qualified and experienced in security planning and major-event management.

“I am pleased to have members of the Jamaica Constabulary Force coming on board and sharing their expertise in security planning, knowing that they are highly qualified and possess many years of experience in the field of security and the planning of major events,” Jeffers said.

The Police Commissioner said cooperation with regional and international security partners remains an important part of preparations for the summit.

The expertise shared by the JCF delegation is expected to complement the work already being carried out by the RPFAB and other national security and emergency-response agencies.

The RPFAB thanked the JCF’s leadership and members for their continued partnership and contribution to the country’s CHOGM preparations.

The Jamaican delegation departed Antigua on Saturday, August 15.



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ANUCON Creates a Safe Space for Misfits

In the aftermath of ANUCON 2026, Antigua's premier event for cosplay, gaming, and pop culture enthusiasts, Chairman Dwayne Riley took to social media to express his sincere gratitude to attendees and contributors for the convention's success.

Following this latest iteration, the convention has proven itself to be a mainstay on the country's calendar of events and one capable of attracting international attention. In the spirit of creativity, ANUCON attracted hundreds of patrons to the John E. St. Luce Conference Centre, where attendees expressed themselves through their attire, creating a unique and colourful atmosphere that celebrated a shared love of folk and popular culture.

The event also demonstrated how ANUCON serves as a bridge between fandom and culture, highlighting the commonalities between the art forms of cosplay and masquerading.

Chairman and organizer of ANUCON 2026, Dwayne Riley, following the resounding success of this year's convention, took to social media to express his gratitude to all those who contributed to the event.

"I am so ecstatic with the growth of the con," Riley said. "Last night really showed that the misfits [now] have a safe space to be in. I knew we had the potential, but last night I solidified my vision, hopes and dreams."

Riley continued, explaining that



while he was optimistic about creating such a space when he and his team launched ANUCON in 2019, he was also somewhat concerned about the perceived closed-mindedness of Caribbean audiences and whether the convention would be accepted. To his surprise, however, ANUCON was embraced by the community.

The driving force behind the convention also expressed sincere gratitude to the sponsors who took a chance on the unique undertaking, helping to bring his vision to life and serve a previously underserved community—one that has grown exponentially over the past six years.

RECALL OF THREE PHARMACEUTICAL PRODUCTS

The Department of Pharmaceutical Services within the Ministry of Health, Wellness, the Environment and Civil Service Affairs advises the public, healthcare providers, pharmacies, wholesalers, distributors and other stakeholders of the recall of three pharmaceutical products known to have been distributed within the State of Antigua and Barbuda.

The recalls affect specific batches/lots of Diovan 160 mg tablets, Atorvastatin 10 mg and 20 mg tablets, and Cetirizine Hydrochloride 5 mg tablets.

Members of the public are urged to check their medication packages against the information provided below and to follow the instructions for returning affected products.

1. RECALL OF DIOVAN 160 MG TABLETS

The U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) announced that Novartis voluntarily initiated a recall of a specific lot of Diovan (valsartan) 160 mg tablets on August 4, 2026.

Diovan contains valsartan, an angiotensin II receptor blocker used to treat conditions including high blood pressure and heart failure.

The recall was initiated due to failed dissolution specifications, meaning that testing identified a quality issue concerning how the medicine dissolves and becomes available for absorption in the body.

The FDA classified the recall as a Class II recall, which generally applies where use of or exposure to the affected product may cause temporary or medically reversible adverse health consequences, or where the probability of serious adverse health consequences is considered remote.

Affected Product:

Diovan 160 mg Valsartan 160 mg
Novartis AV5913C 20 June 2027

Persons who have the affected lot of Diovan 160 mg tablets are advised to:

Do not dispose of the medication in



household waste.

Return any unused affected product to the pharmacy where the prescription was filled, or to the wholesaler/distributor from which the product was obtained.

Patients currently taking Diovan should not stop taking their medication without first consulting their doctor or pharmacist, as suddenly stopping medication for blood pressure or heart failure may pose a health risk.

2. RECALL OF ATORVASTATIN 10 MG AND 20 MG TABLETS

The Department of Pharmaceutical Services is also advising of a Category II, Level 2 recall involving specified batches of Atorstan (atorvastatin) 10 mg and 20 mg tablets, manufactured by Remedica.

The affected products remain within their approved shelf life and have been distributed within the jurisdiction.

The recall follows the identification of certain out-of-specification results during ongoing stability testing at the manufacturing facility.

Based on the information currently available, there is no indication of a high risk to patient safety. However, as a precautionary measure and to ensure continued patient safety and compliance with regulatory requirements, a product recall has been initiated.

Affected Products:

Atorstan 10 mg Atorvastatin 10 mg
Remedica 129702 17 April 2028

Atorstan 10 mg Atorvastatin 10 mg
Remedica 125293 23 July 2027

Atorstan 20 mg Atorvastatin 20 mg
Remedica 123164 3 April 2027

Atorstan 20 mg Atorvastatin 20 mg
Remedica 128946 18 December 2027

Atorstan 20 mg Atorvastatin 20 mg
Remedica 129730 17 April 2028

Patients and customers who have any of the affected batches are advised to return the product to the pharmacy or other place from which it was purchased or obtained.

The deadline for returning the affected Atorvastatin products is September 4, 2026.

Patients who are taking atorvastatin should not discontinue their medication without consulting their doctor or pharmacist. An alternative supply or treatment may be provided where necessary.

3. RECALL OF CETIRIZINE HYDROCHLORIDE 5 MG TABLETS

Unique Pharmaceutical Laboratories, a division of J.B. Chemicals & Pharmaceuticals Ltd., has initiated a voluntary recall of four lots of Cetirizine Hydrochloride Tablets USP 5 mg due to potential cross-contamination with ranitidine.

The product is an antihistamine used

Local News

to treat allergic conditions and is packaged in bottles containing 100 tablets.

The issue was identified following a product complaint in which tablets were observed to have red dots and discoloration. The manufacturer subsequently initiated the recall.

Affected Products:

16571-401-10 Cetirizine Hydrochloride 5 mg, 100 tablets Unique Pharmaceutical Laboratories Rising Pharma Holdings Inc. GY825029 10/2028

16571-401-10 Cetirizine Hydrochloride 5 mg, 100 tablets Unique Pharmaceutical Laboratories Rising Pharma Holdings Inc. GY825030 10/2028

16571-401-10 Cetirizine Hydrochloride 5 mg, 100 tablets Unique Pharmaceutical Laboratories Rising Pharma Holdings Inc. GY825031 10/2028

16571-401-10 Cetirizine Hydrochloride 5 mg, 100 tablets Unique Pharmaceutical Laboratories Rising Pharma Holdings Inc. GY825032 10/2028

The manufacturer has advised that, for individuals with a hypersensitivity to ranitidine, exposure to contaminated tablets could potentially result in serious allergic reactions, including anaphylaxis.

To date, the manufacturer has reported no adverse events associated with this recall.

Patients and consumers should:

Check their Cetirizine Hydrochloride 5 mg packaging for the affected lot numbers.

Do not use the product if it belongs to one of the affected lots.

Return the affected product to the pharmacy or place of acquisition.

Contact their physician or healthcare provider if they have experienced any health problems that they believe may be associated with use of the product.

For general or medical inquiries regarding the cetirizine recall, consumers may contact Rising Pharma Holdings Inc. at:

Telephone: 1-844-874-7464

Hours: 8:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m. EST, Monday–Friday

Email: pv@risingpharma.com or

qa@risingpharma.com

The Department of Pharmaceutical Services urges members of the public not to panic but to take the recalls seriously.

Persons who have medication identified in this notice are encouraged to check the product name, strength and lot/batch number carefully and return affected products to the appropriate pharmacy, wholesaler or distributor.

Patients should not stop taking prescribed medication without first speaking with a doctor or pharmacist. Healthcare professionals can advise on whether an alternative supply or

treatment is required.

The Department of Pharmaceutical Services encourages all pharmacies, wholesalers, distributors and health-care providers to immediately review their inventories, identify any affected products and take the necessary steps to remove recalled products from circulation.

The Ministry of Health, Wellness, the Environment and Civil Service Affairs remains committed to safeguarding the health and wellbeing of the people of Antigua and Barbuda and will continue to monitor the situation and provide additional information as necessary.



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SLBMC Sickle Cell Unit Opens



Today represents so much more than the opening of the SLBMC Sickle Cell Unit. It represents HOPE.

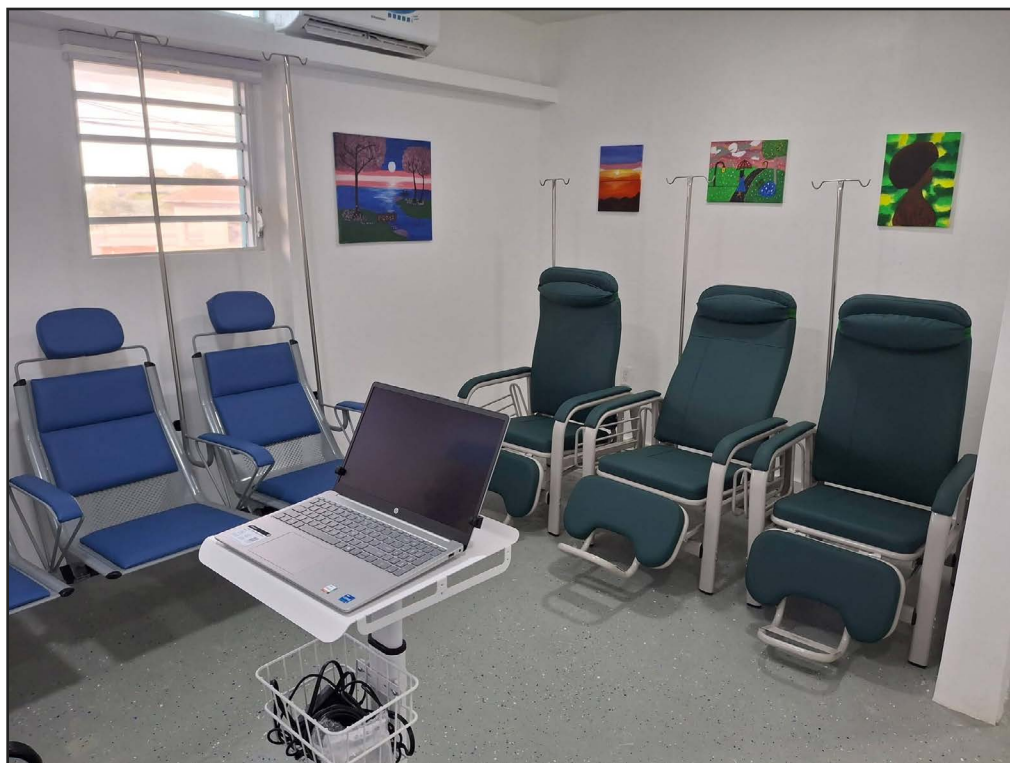
With the official opening of the SLBMC Sickle Cell Unit, Antigua and Barbuda has taken an extraordinary step forward in the care of persons living with sickle cell disease, becoming the first country in the OECS with a dedicated unit focused on the clinical and holistic care of sickle cell patients.

But for me, today is deeply personal.

As the parent of a sickle cell warrior, today represents a hope we have long awaited. Hope that when my warrior princess is in crisis, there is somewhere specifically equipped to give her the care and medical attention she needs. Somewhere her condition is understood... with knowledge, compassion and appreciation, not judgement.

Today, I dare to hope for a future where we no longer lose our warriors to sickle cell-related complications.

I congratulate every person who helped make this unit a reality, but I

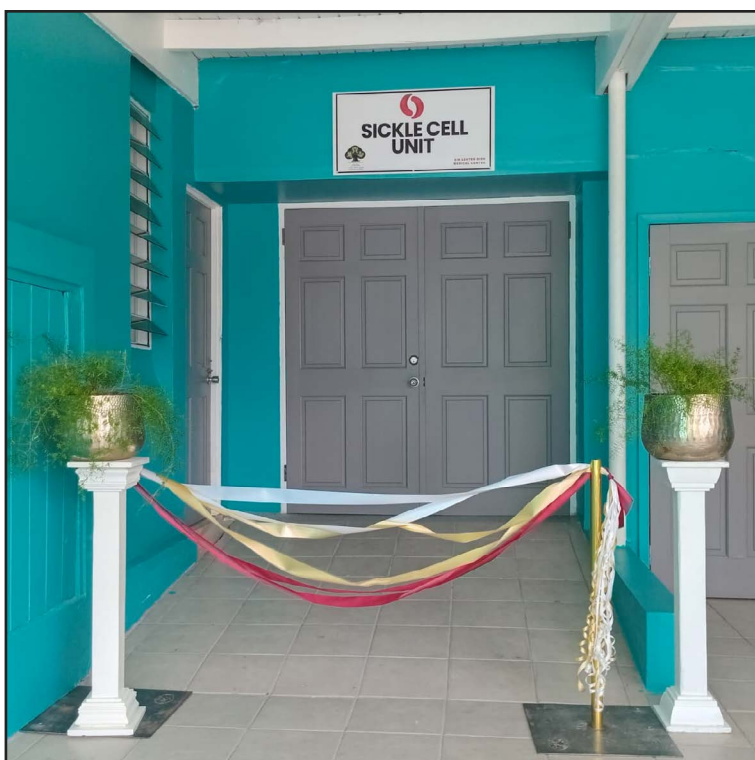


must especially thank Dr. Edda Hadeed. She has truly been God-sent. Her advocacy and commitment have been relentless, and today we see the fruits of that work. Thank you, Dr. Hadeed.

And even as we celebrate, we remember.

Today I send love and strength to the family of Shannon, who lost her fight with sickle cell, and I remember Sha-

Local News



ka, whom our own family lost to this debilitating condition. Their memories remind us why this moment matters so much.

To every sickle cell warrior and every

parent and family walking this journey, Today is for you too.

Today represents care, understanding and progress. But most importantly,

today represents HOPE.

To all our warriors: we see you, we stand with you, and we will beat this together



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SEPTEMBER 2026



SUNDAY

06

SEPTEMBER

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WEDNESDAY

09

SEPTEMBER

SICK AND SHUT IN

📍 Police Head Quarters

🕒 10am



FRIDAY

11

SEPTEMBER

CULTURAL FOOD FAIR

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🕒 10 am Until



SATURDAY

12

SEPTEMBER

COMMUNITY DAY

📍 Most Villages

🕒 10am



*One Force. One Community.
Stronger Together.*

Count the Chairs, Not the Seats! Women and Corporate Leadership In The Caribbean



By Professor C. Justin Robinson

*Pro Vice-Chancellor and Principal,
The UWI Five Islands Campus*

The 2026 academic year is upon us and one the realities of The UWI is that in every 100 students roughly seventy are female. All hail to the sisters who make up approximately 70% of university enrolment but only 50% of the general population. The UWI opened a door and our mothers, sisters, daughters, aunts and cousins waltzed through it and are proudly strutting their stuff in the corporate world.

The corporate numbers. The benchmark comprehensive study on female corporate leadership in our region is the 2017 International Labour Organization (ILO) publication, *Women in Business and Management: Gaining Momentum in the Caribbean*. The ILO reports that on average 25% of board members in the Caribbean are female. Almost half of Caribbean companies, 43%, are past the 30% “critical mass” threshold for female board membership, nearly a quarter are at gender parity on boards and there are only 19% all-male boards against a global average of 31%. Jamaica has ranked at or near the top of the world in the share of female managers. The ILO research states categorically women, are under-represented in cor-

porate leadership in Latin America as in the United States, but much less so in the Caribbean. The historical floor. The historical evolution of gender in the Caribbean is the single best example of the foolishness, laziness and folly of trying to understand and strategize on policy for Caribbean society using imported analytical tools and dressing them in Caribbean costumes.

Esteemed Professor Emeritus Rhoda Reddock (she must have Vincy connections with that last name) long exploded the myth of the male breadwinner. Edith Clarke captured the Caribbean reality aptly in the title of her classic, *my mother who fathered me*. The Victorian housewife never described modern Caribbean reality. Slavery was brutally egalitarian in its labour poli-

cies if in nothing else. Enslaved women cut cane in the same gangs as men. The Caribbean reality is the higgler, the market woman, the female head of household, the corporate leader and the Permanent Secretary. Caribbean women never entered the workforce because they were never out of it. She was in the field. She was in the market. She was at the head of the household before the household had a name for it. If anything, a typically Eurocentric aspect of our post emancipation/ colonial drive for “respectability” is to try to impose domesticity on women who had always worked.

As a result of our historical context, the standard metrics of corporate gender equity suggest that corporate Caribbean has “less of a gender problem




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than the North Atlantic economies.” But do these metrics ask and answer the questions that matter in the Caribbean.

The ILO data says that Caribbean women hold a quarter of board seats and 18% of board chairs. It also shows that in Jamaica, women hold around 22% of directorships in listed companies, but only three boards chaired by women. What is the pattern here? The pattern is that women manage but men preside! The women fill the room but men sit at the head of the table. The questions that matter in the Caribbean are ones around ownership and power.

The unfinished business of emancipation and independence is that we have democratized access to credentials, but the structure of capital remains highly concentrated. The entrenched plantation economy structure means that our daughters will continue to earn the MBA while others inherit the chairmanship. The credentials allow managerial participation but not ownership and leadership.

Education is the meritocratic channel, and she has conquered it, but wealth, capital, ownership, chairmanship, succession, are the inheritance channel, and it still runs to him. The exam can

be studied for, but the shareholding cannot.

There are other residual issues that require a nuanced Caribbean eye if we are to ask the right questions. Please forgive me but I trained to use financial lens and terms. My financial lens tells me that Caribbean women’s labour-force participation was always financed by unbooked transfers. The grandmothers, aunts, the extended yard and the village that minded the children and provided so much more. My mother could never have financed my educational journey without these unbooked transfers. Urbanization and migration are calling in that subsidy and the reduction in these unbooked transfers is haunting our Caribbean societies.

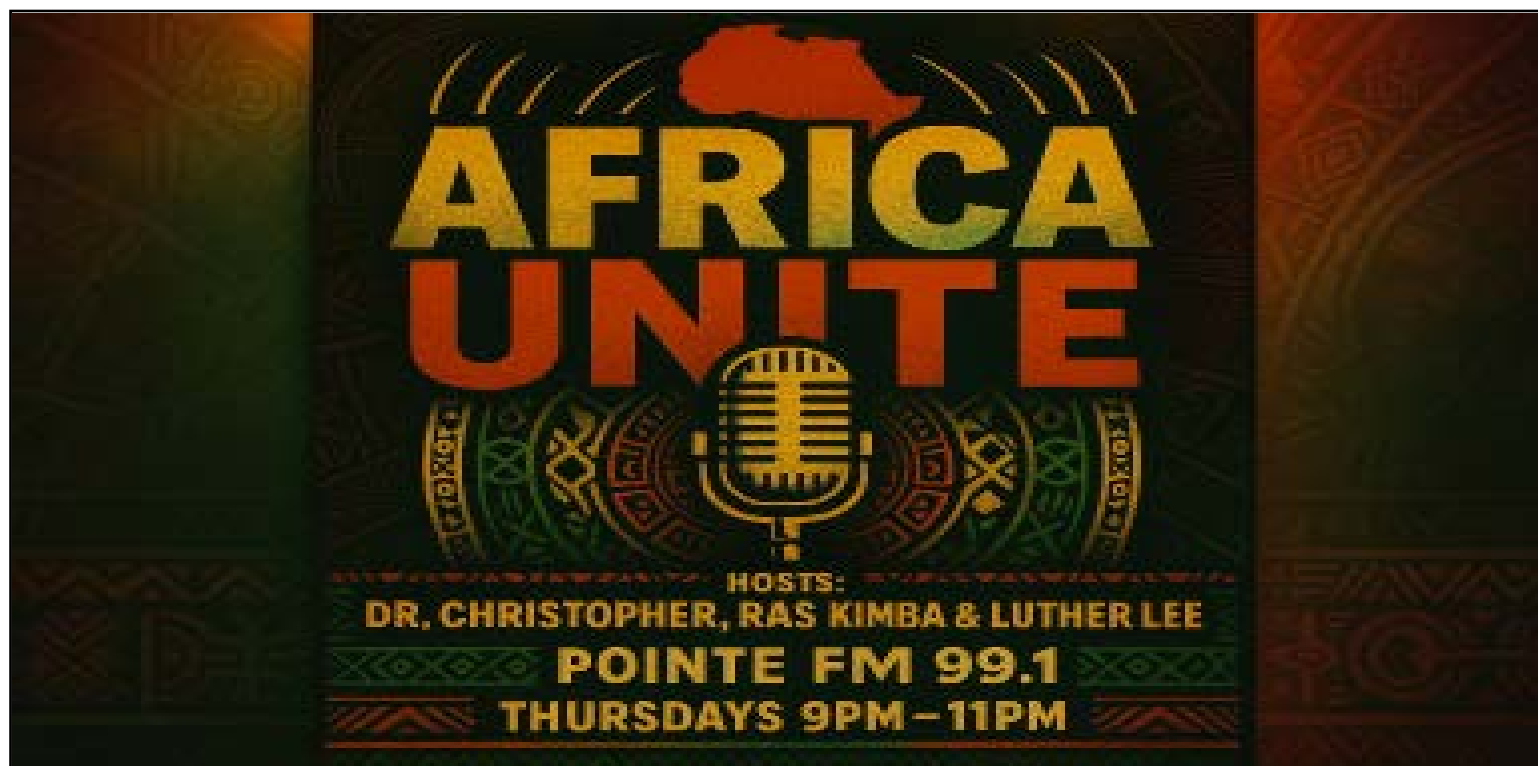
The data answers a quantity question and leaves the quality question open. When she holds the office, is her authority audited on terms his never faces? For example, the warmth audit, where his firmness is leadership and hers is coldness. The legitimacy inquest, his path is a career, hers is a story to be checked. The solidarity tax, he is permitted distance, she is accused of forgetting where she came from. This scrutiny comes from men and women

alike because everyone was

raised inside the same script. Some have suggested to me that the criticism of women is just another version of the crabs in a barrel story in the Caribbean. Women have risen so women will pull her down. The crab barrel tells us nothing about crabs and everything about barrels. No one has ever seen crabs pull each other down on an open beach. If you have, I am very interested in your knowledge, please give me a call or send me an email. When seats at the top are rationed, contest among the rationed is design, not character.

The question of women in Corporate Caribbean is one of power. Not whether she may hold the office but whether the office, held by her, commands the same unexamined deference. Not how many women sit on the board, but who chairs it, who owns it, who inherits it, and who is minding the children of everyone in the room.

The seats are hers. The chairs are not. The difference between a seat and a chair is the difference between being present and presiding. A region that educates its daughters into the majority owes them more than a place in the rooms it still asks them to warm.



Medical technologists sue Gov't over unpaid wages



Five medical technologists have sued the Government over an alleged breach of contract and unpaid wages.

The claimants – Nika Palmer, Damois Barnett, Rachael Adenigbagbe, Naidia Rachel James and Karon McDonald – were employed by the Ministry of Health and Wellness and resigned at varying periods between October 2022 and November 2023.

The five technologists claim that the ministry repeatedly broke promises to

pay the outstanding money, leaving them to cover escalating legal fees and other personal expenses out of pocket.

The claimants are seeking general damages and a formal court order compelling the Ministry of Labour to hand over copies of their employment contracts to them or their lawyer.

The plaintiffs are also asking the court to order the Government to provide a full financial accounting of all unpaid wages and salary adjustments,

issue the final payouts, and cover their legal costs.

The five technologists allege that while the public-sector workers re-classification increased their overall pay, they never received an itemised breakdown of the exact figures and back pay owed to them.

The claimants say they made representations to the Ministry of Health and Wellness regarding the outstanding salaries but did not receive the monies despite several promises.

On January 27, 2026, their attorney wrote to the permanent secretary in the health ministry, making demands for the outstanding salaries.

They received a response on March 2 indicating that the letter had been sent to the relevant branch for intervention. A further letter on March 10 indicated that the principal financial officer would sort out the information relating to the outstanding salaries and wages.

However, citing several unfulfilled commitments, the five technologists have filed their lawsuit. (Jamaica Gleaner)

SVG national arrested in UK after drugs found in candles

UK authorities have confirmed the interception and arrest of a St. Vincent and the Grenadines national following the discovery of a significant quantity of narcotics hidden within the passenger's luggage.

The individual arrived in the United Kingdom on August 8, 2026, traveling aboard flight VS198.

During a routine inspection, security officials discovered approximately 3.86 kg of narcotics.

The illicit substances were found meticulously concealed inside scented candles packed within the subject's baggage.

Official travel records have con-



firmed the individual's flight path, and UK authorities have since verified the details of the interception.

The identity of the national has not been publicly released by UK authorities. (St Vincent Times)

Second cop to be charged with murder of 16-y-o girl in Dominica

Dominican Prime Minister Roosevelt Skerrit has called on his countrymen to allow the legal process to take its course as the police say another of their colleagues is due to appear in court this week, charged with murder following the discovery of the body of a 16-year-old girl who was reported missing last month.

Last Thursday, 23-year-old police officer Jean-Luc Langlais appeared in a magistrate's court charged with the murder of Jerbiah Paul, whose decomposing body was discovered in a precipice in Capuchin, 24 hours earlier.

Her body had been discovered by members of the Barbados-based Regional Security System (RSS).

Langlais has been remanded to the State Prison until October 2, this year. The prosecution is alleging that on July 24, 2026, Langlais murdered 16-year-old Paul. He was not required to enter a plea since the charge of murder is an indictable offence.

The police said that the other officer had been arrested at the Douglas Charles Airport last week on his return to the state. The police gave no further details except to say that he will appear in court where the charge of murder will be read out to him.

Meanwhile, Skerrit, speaking on the state-owned DBS Radio on Monday, said he extended his "heartfelt sympathies to the family and friends of the young girl



who lost her life in an unfortunate and tragic way”.

“Such incident is not something that we would wish on anybody or we welcome in our country, and so I can appreciate the trauma and the heartache which her family has been experiencing over the last several days,” Skerrit said, commending the police for “a very professional and methodical and systematic investi-

gation that was carried out”.

He said that while it is unfortunate that somebody is dead, “it’s also important that we look forward to justice being served and let the process carry itself”.

“The courts are there, the judicial system is there. I will leave it to the police to do the work, and I’ll leave it to the courts to do its work,” he added. (CMC)

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Regional News

SVG among nations to transform weather alerts into action

The Caribbean Meteorological Organization (CMO) and the World Meteorological Organization (WMO) have announced a series of national workshops aimed at revolutionizing how weather warnings are delivered and acted upon across the region.

Starting this August, four Caribbean nations will participate in specialized training focused on the Common Alerting Protocol (CAP) and Impact-Based Forecasting and Warning Services (IB-FWS). The initiative marks a strategic shift from simply predicting “what the weather will be” to identifying “what the weather will do and what it means for us”.

The workshops are designed to bridge the gap between technical meteorological data and real-world emergency response. By utilizing IBFWS, agencies will now consider who and what may be affected by a weather event, allowing for more coordinated decisions across multiple sectors.

The Common Alerting Protocol (CAP) serves as the technological backbone of this effort, providing a standardized format for disseminating alerts across various communication channels simultaneously. The goal is to ensure that when a warning is issued, it triggers a chain of pre-established procedures and responsibilities between meteorological services and disaster management agencies.

The series will roll out across the following countries throughout August 2026:

St. Vincent and the Grenadines: 17–18 August

St. Kitts and Nevis: 20–21 August

Antigua and Barbuda: 24–25 August

Jamaica: 27–28 August

This project is supported by the CREWS Caribbean Project Phase 2 and contributes to the broader “Early Warnings for All” (EW4All) global initiative. By bringing together me-



eteorologists, disaster managers, and representatives from critical sectors, the CMO aims to strengthen the entire “early warning chain”.

Ultimately, these efforts are expect-

ed to lead to earlier decision-making, better inter-agency coordination, and significantly reduced disaster impacts across the Caribbean.

(St Vincent Times)



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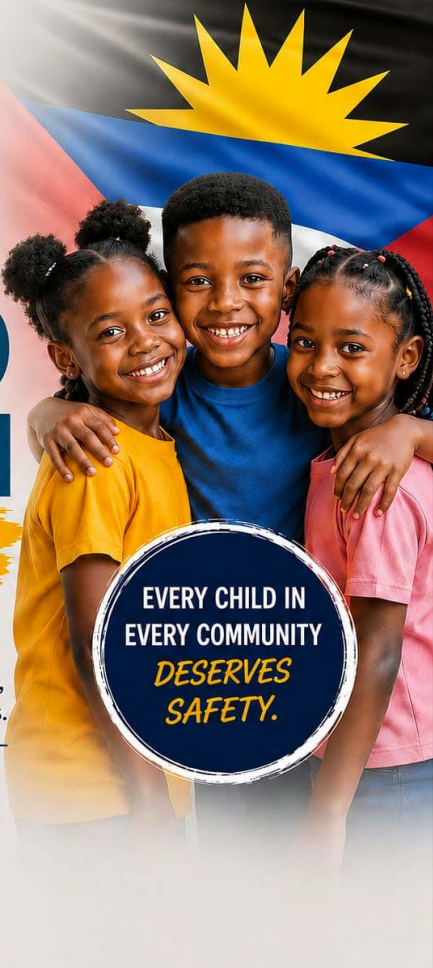
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Hayden Panettiere, known for 'Heroes' and 'Nashville', dies at 36

Actress Hayden Panettiere, best known for her roles in *Heroes* and *Nashville*, has died at the age of 36, according to US media.

Her father, Skip Panettiere, confirmed her death in a statement to ABC News saying, "It is with profound sadness that we share the tragic passing of our beloved Hayden. She was an incredible light and a force of nature who brought immeasurable love and joy to all who knew her — and to the millions who watched her onscreen."

Panettiere began her career as a child actress and went on to become a familiar face in television and film. She gained international recognition as Claire Bennet on the hit NBC series *Heroes* and later starred as Juliette Barnes in the musical drama series *Nashville*.



Panettiere's death comes just days before her 37th birthday, which she would have celebrated on Friday. (Jamaica Observer)


 A vibrant poster for the Antigua Carnival 100th Anniversary. The word "Legendary" is written in large, pink, cursive script. Below it, the number "100" is rendered in large, 3D, diamond-encrusted letters. To the left is the Antigua Carnival logo, which features a stylized bird and the text "ANTIGUA Carnival THE CARIBBEAN'S GREATEST SUMMER FESTIVAL". On the right, a woman in a traditional carnival costume with a large feathered headdress and a yellow and gold outfit is smiling. At the bottom, a red banner reads "SAVE THE DATE JULY 20TH - AUGUST 3RD 2027". Below the banner are social media icons for Facebook and Instagram, followed by the text "ANTIGUA CARNIVAL" and "@ANTIGUAFESTIVALSOFFICIAL".

Ferrari's first ever electric car sold for record \$40m



Ferrari's first ever electric car has fetched \$40m (£29.5m) in a charity sale, setting a record for a new vehicle sold at auction.

The sale of the Ferrari Luce - brain-child of the British iPhone designer Sir Jony Ive - raised more than 35 times the usual price of the car at the event at RM Sotheby's in California.

The Luce faced a backlash when it was launched in May. Some commentators said it strayed from the marque's traditional designs and lost part of the brand's identity by being battery-powered and having five seats.

Sotheby's said all proceeds of the sale will be donated to the Ferrari Foundation's educational programmes.

Sotheby's did not name the buyer

of the custom Luce which features a unique finish and bespoke parts.

The BBC has contacted the auction house and Ferrari for comment.

The unveiling of the Luce was seen as one of the biggest launches of a new car in recent years.

It marked the prancing horse's first entry into the electric vehicle (EV) market - a sector dominated by Elon Musk's Tesla and China's carmakers.

Italian President Sergio Mattarella and Pope Leo were invited to view the luxury brand's new vehicle.

Among those criticising the car were Italy's deputy prime minister Matteo Salvini and former Ferrari chairman Luca Cordero di Montezemolo, who

said the car was "risking the destruction of a legend".

Ferrari's chief design officer Flavio Manzoni said in an interview in May that critics are part of the innovation process and that he believed people would come to appreciate the Luce.

The company has not disclosed its target for Luce sales but, according to a Financial Times report, it has hit this year's goal thanks to strong demand from China.

Sotheby's said in a statement that the auctioned vehicle marked an "unbeatable opportunity" to own the first production car of the Luce.

The car has special wheels, customised brakes and a white finish.

The charity sale marks a "tangible expression of innovation, responsibility, and long-term vision for future generations," Sotheby's said.

Ferraris often attract some of the highest prices at car auctions.

A bespoke Ferrari Daytona SP3 supercar raised \$26m for the carmaker's education initiatives at an auction in 2025. At the time it set an auction record for the highest-price paid for a new car.

The current record for the highest price paid at auction was an ultra-rare 1955 Mercedes-Benz 300 SLR Uhlenhaut Coupé, which was sold for \$142m in 2022. (BBC)



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Aid shortages and fears of starvation as Indonesia reels from deadly earthquake

There are hundreds of disaster victims in Dampek village - but only one doctor.

When a 7.7 magnitude earthquake struck the Indonesian island of Flores on Saturday, this area was among the worst-hit. Health facilities were toppled, electricity networks cut, and after two days aftershocks still rattled the makeshift shelters while inside, medical supplies rapidly diminished.

"I am the only doctor here with hundreds of victims. I truly cannot cope," read an urgent appeal from Dr Melinda, the sole physician at the now-decimated Dampek Health Centre, on Sunday.

"I have not had any rest since yesterday because casualties keep arriving around the clock."

It is a problem that is playing out across Flores, as aid disruptions and ongoing tremors fuel fears among thousands of displaced survivors.

Refugees are sleeping outdoors through sweltering days and frigid nights for fear that more buildings may collapse. Tents set up amid the rubble of collapsed hospitals are serving as makeshift emergency rooms for injured patients. And as landslides sever access roads and supplies dwindle in several parts of the island, there are growing concerns about how much longer survivors can hold out.

At least 68 people have been killed and some 5,000 displaced by the earthquake, which struck shortly before 06:00 Saturday (23:00 GMT Friday) at a depth of just 15km.

It is the country's deadliest quake since 2022, when hundreds of people were killed in West Java.

Search-and-rescue teams and volunteers, including medical personnel, are continuing efforts to reach communities that were cut off by Saturday's quake, negotiating access roads that



are scarred by landslides or choked with boulders.

Dr Alhamzah, who works at Lalang Health Centre in East Manggarai, told the BBC on Monday that teams from regional hospitals were finally delivering much-needed assistance to places like Dampek - tending to severely injured patients with whatever resources they could muster.

"If a patient's condition is critical, we will refer them to the hospital in Ruteng instead, which is about four hours away," he said.

But Ruteng's hospital is also desperate for help.

"We heard that medical assistance would be provided, but nothing has arrived yet," Rista Mari, a public relations officer at the Ruteng Regional General Hospital, told the BBC. "We hope that assistance will arrive soon."

Early data from Indonesia's National Disaster Management Agency indicates that more than 1,000 houses were damaged by the earthquake, along with dozens of health facilities, schools and government offices.

Medical teams are still working to determine the number of casualties,

though - and the full scale of the disaster is still being uncovered.

Indonesia is prone to earthquakes and volcanic activity, lying along the meeting point of three major tectonic plates.

In Flores' westernmost town of Labuan Bajo, the gateway to Komodo National Park and one of Indonesia's most popular tourist destinations, many survivors have been sleeping outdoors, fearful that if the tremors continue they might be crushed in their sleep.

"The shaking was very scary. My house almost collapsed," said one farmer named Anastasia Imad, from a green emergency tent erected next to her damaged home. "We were worried that the aftershocks would collapse the house while we were sleeping."

Herry Kabut, editor-in-chief of local publication Flores Media, told the BBC that "each resident has set up their own evacuation post" amid blackouts, landslides and roadblocks.

"So far, many basic necessities such as [basic foodstuffs] and clean water are in great demand," he said. "People have no idea where to evacuate. There's been no government advice. Many have fled to the hills and are

International

AROUND THE WORLD



starving.”

Health services across the island have similarly been forced to move outside and set up emergency tents due to damaged facilities. Ruteng Regional General Hospital’s operating room, delivery room, pharmacy, and laboratory were all rendered defunct after the building’s roof collapsed.

Elsewhere, in Ngada Regency, local resident Charles Abar told the BBC that health facilities and equipment had been severely damaged and that, as of Sunday night, no medical assistance had arrived.

He believes the government’s response hasn’t been swift enough.

“I think facilities like emergency tents need to be provided immediately, but I also see that district and regional governments are struggling due to budget constraints, limited supplies, and so on,” he said.

Meanwhile, he added, villages have been cut off from aid and displaced people whose homes were damaged or destroyed have been forced to seek higher ground, as hundreds of aftershocks continue to rattle the island.

“The community is still traumatised,” he stressed.

Dr Alhamzah has taken to social media to appeal for support, seeking medical volunteers willing to travel to the disaster zone as well as donations of medicines and medical supplies.

He has also warned that stocks of medicines at the disaster sites are running low.

“People learned that doctors had arrived today, so many residents who had been sheltering in the hills came down,” he explained. “As a result, we urgently need more medicines, as well as additional medical volunteers.”

On Sunday night, rescuers successfully reached a village on Palue Island, just north of Flores’s mainland, that had been cut off for nearly two full days after the initial quake.

Rescuers were only able to reach Nitung Village after a two-hour overland journey from the coast.

“Our challenge was the road, which was still prone to landslides,” said Sikka Deputy Police Chief Commissioner Marselus Yugo Amboro, who led the rescue mission. “It was a life-threatening route.”

Yugo said hundreds of homes in Nitung Village were severely damaged by the earthquake, and that residents

had been sheltering in makeshift shelters. Electricity and communication lines were completely cut off following the earthquake, he added.

“They haven’t received aid yet because Nitung Village was isolated for nearly two days after the quake,” he said, noting that efforts were underway to rush aid to the survivors.

“This is likely the village in Sikka Regency that suffered the worst damage from the earthquake.” (BBC)



Russia and Ukraine trade more deadly strikes



Nine people have been killed and 23 injured, including a child, in Ukrainian strikes on Russia, local officials have said.

Eight people were killed in the western Belgorod region bordering Ukraine in the past 24 hours. A woman died overnight in the southern Astrakhan region.

Ukraine said two people were killed in Russian drone attacks on the north-eastern Sumy region, and another two in the eastern Donetsk region.

The strikes come a night after what Russia described as the “largest-scale” attack by Ukraine this year, in which at least seven people were killed. Russian attacks on Ukraine also killed at least seven people and injured more than 39 on Saturday night.

Russia launched its full-scale invasion of Ukraine in February 2022 and currently controls approximately

a fifth of Ukrainian territory.

The latest Ukrainian strikes burned a building and damaged a car in Belgorod’s village of Koloskovo, acting regional Governor Alexandr Shuvaev said.

The injured child was sent to hospital while two others received medical assistance, he added.

Meanwhile, a woman was killed after a drone strike hit a home in the Astrakhan region, the local governor said on Monday.

Igor Babushkin added that the Ukrainian strike targeted an industrial facility but that it had not been damaged.

In Ukraine, two people were killed in Russian strikes on the cities of Kramatorsk and Sloviansk in the Donetsk region, the state emergencies service DSNS said.

It also reported that 54 trading pavilions were set ablaze at a local market in Sloviansk.

In the Sumy region, a man and a woman were killed in an overnight Russian drone attack, regional head Oleh Hryhorov said.

A separate overnight attack on the Black Sea port city of Odesa damaged a civilian vessel and injured four people, local officials said.

Moscow has sought to put off foreign companies from trading with Ukraine by targeting its ports and coastline.

Kyiv has stepped up drone strikes deep inside Russia during the past few weeks.

On Saturday night, Ukraine fired some 822 drones towards Russia, with 600 aiming for Moscow, according to its regional governor, who said the Russian capital suffered “one of the most massive drone attacks in recent memory”.

During the strikes on Saturday night, five people died in Russia’s south-western region of Rostov,

International

AROUND THE WORLD



its governor said. A woman was killed in an attack on a civilian bus in Belgorod, officials said, while an 83-year-old man died in a drone attack in the Moscow region.

A warehouse belonging to Russian online retailer Wildberries was also hit.

Since July, Ukraine has repeatedly targeted the company, known as Russia's version of Amazon. Ukraine's defence ministry said the latest attack meant that seven out of 10 of the largest Wildberries logistics centres had been "disabled".

Speaking to the BBC before the latest attacks, the deputy chief of Ukraine's intelligence service said long-range strikes in Russia would continue.

Maj Gen Vadym Skibitski defended Ukrainian attacks on distribution warehouses such as Wildberries and

accused Russia of using civilian networks to supply its armed forces.

"It's one of the elements of the logistics system of the Russian Federation to wage the war, including through Wildberries - some military equipment, components and other elements," he said.

Skibitski said Ukraine did not deliberately target civilians, adding that some deaths in Russia were the accidental result of air defences shooting down incoming missiles and drones.

He claimed that drone strikes were influencing opinion among Russia's population, with concerns over the country's capability to "prevent" attacks and "to protect some areas".

Russia has also intensified missile attacks across Ukraine in recent weeks.

The Ukrainian energy company

Naftogaz said on Monday that Russia had attacked its facilities 13 times during the past week.

In Russian attacks on Ukraine on Saturday night, a man and woman died after a private house was hit by a guided aerial bomb in the Zaporizhzhia region, officials said. Five others were killed in attacks across the country.

Russia said its attacks on Kyiv on Saturday night targeted a FirePoint facility producing parts for Ukrainian Flamingo missiles and a factory making components for drones.

Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelensky said 13 regions had come under attack last week, with Russia launching more than 1,550 attack drones, nearly 1,560 guided aerial bombs and 62 missiles.

Both sides accuse each other of targeting civilians. (BBC)




ANTIGUA AND BARBUDA
45TH INDEPENDENCE
CELEBRATIONS
SCHEDULE OF EVENTS



Renaissance

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Day	Event	Location	Time
THURSDAY 22 OCTOBER	National Youth Rally, Special Drills and Cheerleading Competition	Sir Vivian Richards Stadium	8:30 AM
MONDAY 25 OCTOBER	National Food Fair	Sir Vivian Richards Stadium	7:30 AM
	Independence Church Service	Church TBC	4:00 PM
	National Schools' Panorama	Sir Vivian Richards Stadium	6:00 PM
MONDAY 26 OCTOBER	National Heroes Day Wreath Laying Ceremony	Heroes Park - Sir Sydney Walling Highway	10:00 AM
	National Honours Award and Reception	Governor General Gardens	6:00 PM
	National Independence Business Decor Competition	Starts: October 26 Ends: October 29	
TUESDAY 27 OCTOBER	Festival of Choirs	St. Anthony's Secondary School	8:00 PM
WEDNESDAY 28 OCTOBER	Schools' Independence Programs	Schools Across the State	
	Golden Age Gala - Celebrating Life	Various Communities in Antigua and Barbuda	
THURSDAY 29 OCTOBER	Schools' Mural Reveal	Antigua Recreation Grounds - South Wall	9:30 AM
	Barbuda Day Activities		
	Evening of Drama	Multipurpose Cultural Centre	7:00 PM
FRIDAY 30 OCTOBER	Independence Calypso Competition	Green Lounge - Cedar Valley	8:00 PM
	National Dress and Flag Day		
SATURDAY 31 OCTOBER	Distinctly Antiguan and Barbudan Festival	Botanical Gardens	12:00 PM
SUNDAY 1 NOVEMBER	Independence Flag Ceremony	Barbuda	7:00 AM
	Independence Ceremonial Parade	Sir Vivian Richards Stadium	5:45 PM

SCHEDULE IS TENTATIVE AND SUBJECT TO CHANGE

Falcons Remind Fans of Stadium Entry Guidelines Ahead of CPL Home Matches



As excitement builds for the Antigua and Barbuda Falcons' home leg of the 2026 Republic Bank Caribbean Premier League, fans heading to the Sir Vivian Richards Stadium are being reminded of the items that are prohibited or restricted for entry into the venue.

The guidelines are intended to support a safe, secure and enjoyable FeteMatch experience for players, officials and, most importantly, the thousands of fans expected to come out and support the Falcons.

Among the prohibited items are:

- Firearms, weapons, knives and imitation weapons

- Fireworks, explosives and flammable items

- Mace and gas containers
- All Coolers
- Glass bottles or containers
- No Alcohol, beverages, or water
- No Flasks
- No food
- Illegal drugs or narcotics
- Animals, except guide dogs
- Tripods for cameras
- Video cameras or camcorders

Fans should note that some items are permitted subject to restrictions.

Authorised or restricted items include non-branded collapsible personal umbrellas; flasks; and cameras for recreational and personal, non-commercial use.

Banners and flags are also permitted, subject to size and content restrictions. Flag poles must not extend more than a hand's breadth below the flag. Management reserves the right to reject banners, flags or other material considered offensive, discriminatory, unsafe or in conflict with event partners and sponsors.

Small radios and personal music players may be allowed, while glass

containers containing items such as perfume, prescription medication or insect repellent may also be permitted. Aerosol deodorant, medication and insect repellent are among the restricted items.

Spectators are encouraged to check what they are carrying before leaving home to help ensure a smooth and efficient security screening process at the stadium.

Management also reserves the right to refuse entry to anyone carrying or wearing an item or substance considered offensive, disruptive or dangerous, or which may compromise the safety, security or enjoyment of others.

The Falcons return home this week with matches at the Sir Vivian Richards Stadium on August 20, 22, 23 and 25, as the Fete-Match atmosphere moves into full gear. Games being at 7p.m. nightly and gates open 5 p.m.

Fans are encouraged to arrive early, follow the directions of security and stadium personnel and come ready to bring the energy for the home side. Come for the Fete. Stay for the Match.

Come Fete and Win with the Falcons!



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2026 MATCH SCHEDULE

FRI 7 AUG	JKM		v		ABF	7:00 PM	ST VINCENT
SAT 8 AUG	SKNP		v		TKR	7:00 PM	ST VINCENT
SUN 9 AUG	ABF		v		SLK	7:00 PM	ST VINCENT
TUE 11 AUG	JKM		v		BR	7:00 PM	JAMAICA
WED 12 AUG	SLK		v		SKNP	7:00 PM	ST LUCIA
THU 13 AUG	JKM		v		GAW	7:00 PM	JAMAICA
FRI 14 AUG	SLK		v		ABF	7:00 PM	ST LUCIA
SAT 15 AUG	JKM		v		TKR	7:00 PM	JAMAICA
SUN 16 AUG	SLK		v		BR	7:00 PM	ST LUCIA
TUE 18 AUG	JKM		v		SKNP	7:00 PM	JAMAICA
WED 19 AUG	SLK		v		GAW	7:00 PM	ST LUCIA
THU 20 AUG	ABF		v		SKNP	7:00 PM	ANTIGUA
FRI 21 AUG	SLK		v		JKM	7:00 PM	ST LUCIA
SAT 22 AUG	ABF		v		TKR	7:00 PM	ANTIGUA
SUN 23 AUG	ABF		v		GAW	7:00 PM	ANTIGUA
TUE 25 AUG	ABF		v		BR	7:00 PM	ANTIGUA
WED 26 AUG	TKR		v		SLK	7:00 PM	TRINIDAD
THU 27 AUG	SKNP		v		JKM	7:00 PM	ST KITTS
FRI 28 AUG	TKR		v		BR	8:00 PM	TRINIDAD
SAT 29 AUG	TKR		v		GAW	7:00 PM	TRINIDAD
SUN 30 AUG	SKNP		v		ABF	7:00 PM	ST KITTS
MON 31 AUG	TKR		v		JKM	5:00 PM	TRINIDAD
TUE 1 SEP	SKNP		v		BR	7:00 PM	ST KITTS
WED 2 SEP	TKR		v		ABF	7:00 PM	TRINIDAD
THU 3 SEP	SKNP		v		SLK	7:00 PM	ST KITTS
FRI 4 SEP	GAW		v		JKM	7:00 PM	GUYANA
SAT 5 SEP	BR		v		TKR	8:00 PM	BARBADOS
SUN 6 SEP	GAW		v		SKNP	10:00 AM	GUYANA
SUN 6 SEP	BR		v		SLK	7:00 PM	BARBADOS
TUE 8 SEP	GAW		v		ABF	7:00 PM	GUYANA
WED 9 SEP	GAW		v		SLK	7:00 PM	GUYANA
THU 10 SEP	BR		v		SKNP	7:00 PM	BARBADOS
FRI 11 SEP	GAW		v		TKR	7:00 PM	GUYANA
SAT 12 SEP	BR		v		JKM	8:00 PM	BARBADOS
SUN 13 SEP	BR		v		GAW	7:00 PM	BARBADOS
WED 16 SEP	ELIMINATOR - 3 RD v 4 TH					7:00 PM	BARBADOS
THU 17 SEP	QUALIFIER - 1 ST v 2 ND					8:00 PM	BARBADOS
FRI 18 SEP	QUALIFIER 2 - WINNER ELIMINATOR v LOSER QUALIFIER 1					7:00 PM	BARBADOS
SUN 20 SEP	FINAL					7:00 PM	BARBADOS

CPLT20.COM » #CPL26 » CRICKET PLAYED LOUDER

Please note that all CPL games will be broadcast live on Platinum Radio 79.9 FM

WCPL FIXTURES

BARBADOS 2026

SAT 5 SEP **BT**  **V**  **TKR** **3:00 PM**

SUN 6 SEP **JE**  **V**  **GAW** **2:00 PM**

THU 10 SEP **TKR**  **V**  **JE** **10:00 AM**

SAT 12 SEP **TKR**  **V**  **GAW** **10:00 AM**

SAT 12 SEP **BT**  **V**  **JE** **3:00 PM**

SUN 13 SEP **GAW**  **V**  **BT** **2:00 PM**

WED 16 SEP **PLAYOFF** **2ND V 3RD** **10:00 AM**

THU 17 SEP **FINAL** **2:00 PM**



WCPL



Titles for Dynasty and Invaders in invitational tournament

Dynasty and Invaders captured titles during the inaugural invitational tournament, which was recently hosted by the Antigua and Barbuda Amateur Volleyball Association (ABAVA) in conjunction with the visiting Starling Volleyball Club of Trinidad and Tobago in Antigua.

Dynasty claimed the mixed division title by snatching a 2-1 (19-25, 25-16, 18-16) victory over Starlings in the final at the indoor volleyball stadium at the YMCA Sports Complex.

Invaders captured the men's division title after pulling off a 3-2 victory over Starlings in the final.

After losing the first two sets 20-25 and 20-25, the Invaders rebounded to take the next two sets 25-21 and 25-19 to level the match at 2-2 and forced a deciding fifth set.

Invaders prevailed 15-10 in the deciding set to win the keenly contested final and the title.

The University of the West Indies (UWI) claimed their only win of the tournament by pulling off a 2-1 (21-25, 25-21, 15-10) victory over Mixed Club on the final day of the four-day tournament.

On the penultimate day of the tournament, Dynasty prevailed 2-1 (25-19, 23-25, 16-14) against Starz.

Starlings coasted to a 2-0 (25-20, 25-11) victory over UWI, Chargers Velocity claimed a 2-1 (21-25, 25-13, 15-11) win against Mixed Clubs, and Invaders snatched a 2-1 (15-25, 25-20, 15-9) victory over Chargers Velocity.

Starling dominated the second day of the invitational tournament.

After launching their campaign with a win and a loss on the open-



Dynasty Volleyball Team

ing day, Starling won all of their three matches on Day 2 of the tournament.

The Starlings' mixed team coasted to a 2-0 (25-11, 25-15) victory against Starz.

After dropping the opening set 18-25, Starlings Volleyball Club rebounded to pull off a 2-1 victory against Mixed Clubs, prevailing 25-19 and 15-12.

Starlings also snatched a 2-1 victory against Invaders in their third and final match of the night.

Once again, the Trinidadian volleyballers rebounded to win the match 25-20 and 15-8 after dropping the opening set 16-25 against the Invaders.

There was success for Chargers Velocity in their fourth match on the second day of the four-day tour-

nament.

After suffering a 2-0 loss to Starlings in their opening-day match, the Chargers Velocity recorded their first win of the tournament by snatching a 2-1 victory against the University of the West Indies (UWI).

The Chargers Velocity prevailed 25-18, 16-25, and 15-11 against UWI, who lost for the second time in as many matches.

ABAVA club teams, the University of West Indies, Dynasty, Starz, Mixed Stars, Invaders, and Velocity, engaged Starlings in the friendly volleyball tournament.

The tournament, which started on Wednesday, August 12, culminated with the two championship finals and a presentation ceremony on Saturday, August 15.

Antiguan Ballers retain title in MDBA youth basketball tournament



The Antiguan Ballers celebrate with their trophies after winning the 3rd Annual Mahijah Davis Basketball Academy Youth Summer Splash Tournament at the JSC Sports Complex on Saturday, August 15, 2026. (Photo courtesy of the MDBA)

The Antiguan Ballers have made a successful defense of their title in the 3rd Annual Mahijah Davis Basketball Academy (MDBA) Youth Summer Splash Tournament.

The Antigua Ballers retained the title by playing unbeaten in the five-team round-robin contest, completing their championship run by coasting to a 92-67 victory over the Wadadli Elites in the final at the JSC Sports Complex on Saturday.

Kevin Cox Basketball Academy (KCBA) Knights of Grenada captured the bronze by prevailing 64-42 over the Dadli Ballers in the playoff for third place.

The Antiguan Ballers claimed their fourth win in the round-robin stage with a commanding 101-45 victory over KCBA Knights of Grenada.

Yohan Nicholas shot a game-high 30 points, Tristan Thibou sank 13 points, Nathan Matthew converted 12 points, and Iczjarie Sebastian and Zende Dorsett each chipped in 10 points.

Thaj Marshall sank 18 points, and Aiden Francis scored 16 points for KCBA Knights of Grenada.

The Wadadli Elites wrapped up their campaign in the round-robin phase with a 70-49 victory over the Dadli Ballers.

Eli Harris produced 16 points, Josua Joseph contributed 14 points, and Nkosie James scored 10 points for the Wadadli Elites.

Derrek Perez converted 14 points, and Elliott Samuel Jr. sank 12 points for the Dadli Ballers, who finished

in fourth place in the tournament.

The young Jr. Spanish Lava, who failed to win any of their matches, was the fifth team in the tournament.

The MDBA has offered congratulations to all the players that took part in the tournament. Several awards were presented to the outstanding performers in the tournament.

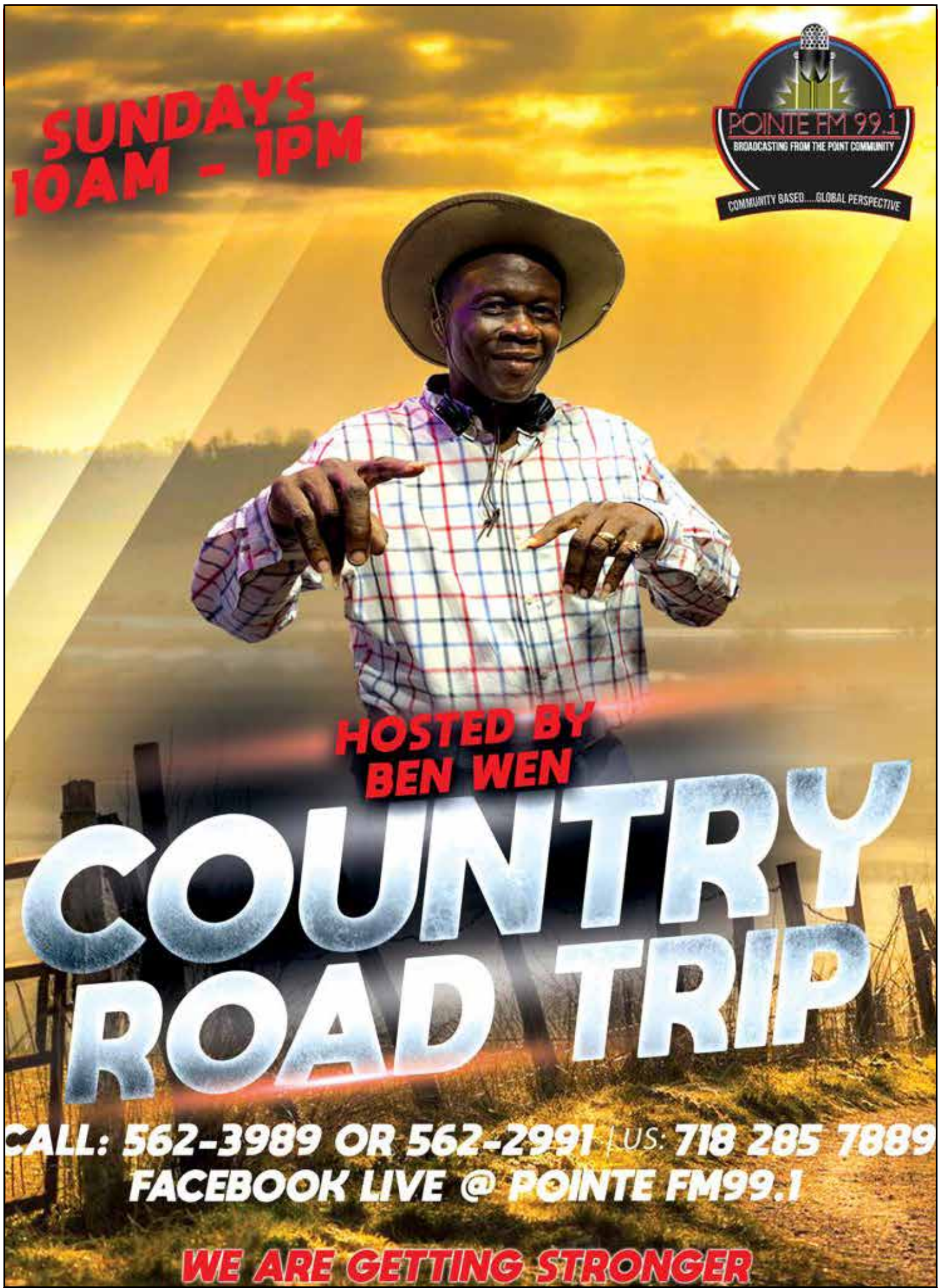
Thaj Marshall of KCBA Knight claimed the award for the most blocks. Josue Rosa of Jr. Spanish Lava received the Most Disciplined Award.

Elliot Samuel of Dadli Ballers captured the most steals award for the third time in a row. Nathan Matthew of the Antiguan Ballers grabbed the most assists accolade, and teammate Yohhan Nicholas claimed the awards for the most points and rebounds.

Several players were also presented with special top performance tokens, courtesy of VCNG Clothing and Shoes High Performance Store, which has been one of the MDBA's top-flight sponsors over the years.

The players are Thaj Marshall, Josue Rose, Derrick Lopez, Elijah Charles, Nathan Matthew, Yohhan Nicholas, and Justin Bridge.

The MDBA has also expressed its gratitude to everyone who played a part in the tournament's success, including the JSC Sports Complex caretakers, the match officials, Ole-na Knight and her staff of table officials, coaches, food and drinks providers, student-athletes, fans, and its sponsors.



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T&T win CWI Rising Starts Under-19 Women's title



Trinidad and Tobago win the CWI Rising Stars Under-19 Women's title at the Coolidge Cricket Grounds in Antigua on Saturday, August 15, 2026. (CWI Media)

Trinidad & Tobago were crowned champions of the Cricket West Indies (CWI) Rising Stars Women's Under-19 Championship after defeating defending champions Barbados by six wickets in the final at the Coolidge Cricket Ground in Antigua on Saturday.

Batting first, Barbados posted 104 for five from their allotted overs, led by an unbeaten 30 from Zaniyah Bruce and 27 from Eboni Brathwaite.

Right-arm medium pacer Sameera Naidoo was the pick of the Trinidad & Tobago bowlers, claiming three for 18, while Amrita Ramtahal and Brianna Harricharan took one wicket apiece.

Chasing 105 for victory, Trinidad & Tobago needed just over five runs per over to dethrone the defending champions. Despite losing inspirational captain Samara Ramnath for one in the third over, with the score on eight for one, the twin-island republic quickly regained control, reaching 65 for 1 inside the 13th over.

Two quick wickets from Bruce briefly put Trinidad & Tobago under pressure at 79 for three, but they remained composed and completed the chase at 105 for 4 with an over to spare.

Ramtahal top-scored with 29, while

Seraiah Kawalsingh added 27. The pair shared a crucial 57-run second-wicket partnership that laid the foundation for the successful chase.

The victory completed an unbeaten championship campaign for Trinidad & Tobago, who recorded six consecutive wins.

Captain Samara Ramnath was named the Most Valuable Player of the tournament as well as the tournament's most outstanding bowler after claiming 16 wickets, while teammate Harricharan took 13.

Brathwaite, meanwhile, capped a sparkling tournament with a chart topping 217 runs, including a tournament-best 135-run aggregate performance for Barbados to claim the most outstanding batter award.

Jannah Mohammed of champions Trinidad & Tobago was the tournament's most outstanding wicketkeeper while Aaliyah Weekes of Leeward Islands was adjudged the tournament's most outstanding fielder.

Meanwhile Jamaica captured third place following a five wicket win over Leeward Islands at the Coolidge Cricket Ground in the precursor to the tournament's finale.

After reducing the Leeward Islands to 69 for eight from their quota of overs, the Jamaicans eased to victory at 70 for five with 21 balls to spare.

And Guyana proved too strong for the Windward Islands to finish fifth after their convincing 64 run win over the Windward Islands at Ball Beef in Liberta.

The Guyanese posted 100 for seven from their allotted overs with 23 apiece for Jada Fraser and Briana Samaroo.

That proved to be enough as Sowanna Booker 3 for 1 in two overs and Shenesa Thomas 3 for 9 from three overs helped to dismiss the Windwards for 36.

As part of preparation for the 2027 ICC Under-19 Women's World Cup, twenty (20) players will be selected to stay on in Antigua for the camp which runs from August 16 to 30 at the CWI Headquarters at the Coolidge Cricket Ground.

Selection will be based on on-field performance and technical assessment; age eligibility for the 2027 World Cup; tactical awareness, temperament and competitiveness; fitness; and squad balance.

Antiguan women claim silver at ECVA senior championships



Players of the Antigua and Barbuda team converse during the final against Bermuda at the Eastern Caribbean Volleyball Association Senior Women's Championship in Tortola, British Virgin Islands, on Sunday, August 16, 2026. (Photo courtesy of the ECVA)

The Antigua and Barbuda women's national team captured the silver medal at the 2026 Eastern Caribbean Volleyball Association (ECVA) Senior Championships in Tortola, British Virgin Islands (BVI), on Sunday.

Antigua and Barbuda claimed the runners-up position after suffering a 3-1 loss to new champions Bermuda in the finals at the Multipurpose Complex in Road Town, Tortola.

The Bermuda women's team defeated Antigua and Barbuda 25-23, 27-25, 21-25, and 25-20 in the gold medal match to claim the championship title on the final day of the tournament.

Point for point, both sides dug in and continued to push toward their goal, with Bermuda holding firm through the tight finishes to close out the title.

St. Lucia, who won last year's title,

swept host nation the British Virgin Islands 3-0 (25-19, 25-15, 25-22) in the playoff for third place to claim the bronze medal at the ECVA Senior Women's Championship.

In a five-set thriller, Dominica edged Anguilla 3-2 (25-21, 27-29, 25-19, 23-25, 15-11) in the playoff for fifth place in the women's competition, which was contested by seven teams.

Meanwhile, Antigua and Barbuda, who won the two previous titles, finished sixth among a field of eight teams at the ECVA Senior Men's Championship, which was played simultaneously with the women's competition in Tortola, BVI.

The Antigua and Barbuda senior men's team ended a disappointing campaign by crashing to a 3-1 defeat to Grenada in the playoff for fifth place.

The Grenadian men's team took down defending champions Antigua and Barbuda 25-23, 25-17, 21-25, and 25-15, delivering one of the tournament's biggest upsets.

St. Vincent and the Grenadines were crowned as the new champions after defeating St. Lucia 3-1 (17-25, 25-17, 25-13, 25-22) in the final to win the gold medal in the ECVA Men Volleyball Championship.

The St. Lucians take home the silver medal after a spirited run in the men's competition.

Dominica edged Bermuda 3-2 (25-17, 25-22, 20-25, 21-25, 19-21) in a five-set battle in the playoff for third place to claim the bronze medal at the ECVA Senior Men's Championship.