

Gas Goes Up By \$1.49 Effective Today

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Prime Minister Gaston Browne (extreme left) shows his support for team-Antigua and Barbuda as the all-girls members visit Cabinet on Wednesday prior to leaving for South Korea for the World Robotics Championships

Minister Matthew takes girl power to Cabinet, backs bid for global robotics title

Local News

Gas Goes Up By \$1.49 Effective Today

For a second consecutive month, consumers in Antigua and Barbuda are beginning the month paying higher prices for gasoline.

Chief Executive Officer of the West Indies Oil Company, Gregory Georges has confirmed that effective October 1st, the price of gasoline goes up by \$1.49 to the new price of \$17.99. Just one month ago, consumers saw the price for gasoline jump by \$2.00 to \$16.50.

A government source said the increase does not affect diesel prices which remain at \$18.83.

The initial announcement of the latest increase in the price of gasoline was made on Tuesday night by Prime Minister Gaston Browne who blamed the hike on the ongoing war in the Middle East between the United States and Iran.

The prime minister was at the time speaking at an event at the Chinese Embassy on Tuesday when the Chi-



Chief Executive Officer of the West Indies Oil Company, Gregory Georges

nese people were marking the 77th anniversary of the founding of the People's Republic of China.

He described the situation as being 'unfortunate' noting that the govern-

ment had to end its subsidy of fuel prices as it could no longer afford to absorb the increased costs of fuel arising for the ongoing conflict.

"As a small developing country, the government cannot continue its programme of absorbing the increased costs in fuel to shield consumers and it is therefore forced to pass on the increased costs to consumers," he said.

The prime minister explained that these latest increases have nothing to do with any decision made by his government, but Antigua and Barbuda, like countries around the world, have to contend with higher fuel prices.

"This has nothing to do with bad policies by my government; it is directly attributable to the conflict in Iran. So, for us, global stability is in our best interest. That's why we welcomed the signs of cooperation between China and the United States, two countries are critically important to Antigua and Barbuda," he declared.

Midweek Deals

TUESDAYS / WEDNESDAYS

-Burger
-Medium Drink
\$19.99



-Leg and Thigh
-Biscuit
-Medium Drink
\$17.99



China Recommits to Deepening Its Close Ties With Antigua and Barbuda

The people of Antigua and Barbuda have been assured of China's continued support for the country's development into the foreseeable future.

The assurance comes from the Charge d'Affaires, Zhang Peng, who was speaking at a ceremony held at the embassy on Tuesday when China marked the 77th anniversary of the founding of the People's Republic of China.

"Since the establishment of diplomatic relations, China and Antigua and Barbuda have always respected and supported each other, setting an example of equality and win-win cooperation between countries of different sizes. China highly appreciates Antigua and Barbuda's firm adherence to the One-China principle and expresses gratitude for its long-standing and valuable support on issues concerning China's core interests and major concerns," he declared.

According to Charge d'Affaires, Zhang over the past year, China-Antigua and Barbuda cooperation has yielded significant results. The 1,500 sets of solar streetlights and 200 sets of residential energy storage systems donated by China were successfully delivered to Antigua and Barbuda.

He added that the third phase of the China-Aid Agro-Tech Assistance Project smoothly kicked off, while the China-aided 150-unit housing project will be delivered soon.

"In 2025, 367 personnel from Antigua and Barbuda participated in 42 training programs organized by China. From January to September this year, China has trained more than 200 professionals for Antigua and Barbuda, covering fields such as agriculture and fisheries, infrastructure, port construction, climate change, medical and health care, and poverty reduction and disaster prevention," he disclosed.

The Chinese diplomat noted that China has always cherished the brotherly and sisterly bonds with Antigua and Barbuda, and will, as always, contin-



ue to support Antigua and Barbuda in playing its role in areas such as ad-

ressing climate change and promoting sustainable development among small island developing states, deepening South-South cooperation, and in international fora such as the United Nations and continue to jointly uphold international fairness and justice and advance the reform of the global governance system.

"The Chinese Embassy will further enhance communication and exchanges with all sectors of Antigua and Barbuda society, deepen mutually beneficial cooperation across all fields to deliver more tangible outcomes that better benefit our peoples, jointly writing a new chapter of China-Antigua and Barbuda cooperation featuring equality and win-win cooperation," he emphasized.

The Charge d'Affaires addressed the gathering in the absence of Ambassador Zaing Wei who returned to China on a personal matter but who is due back at her post early this month.



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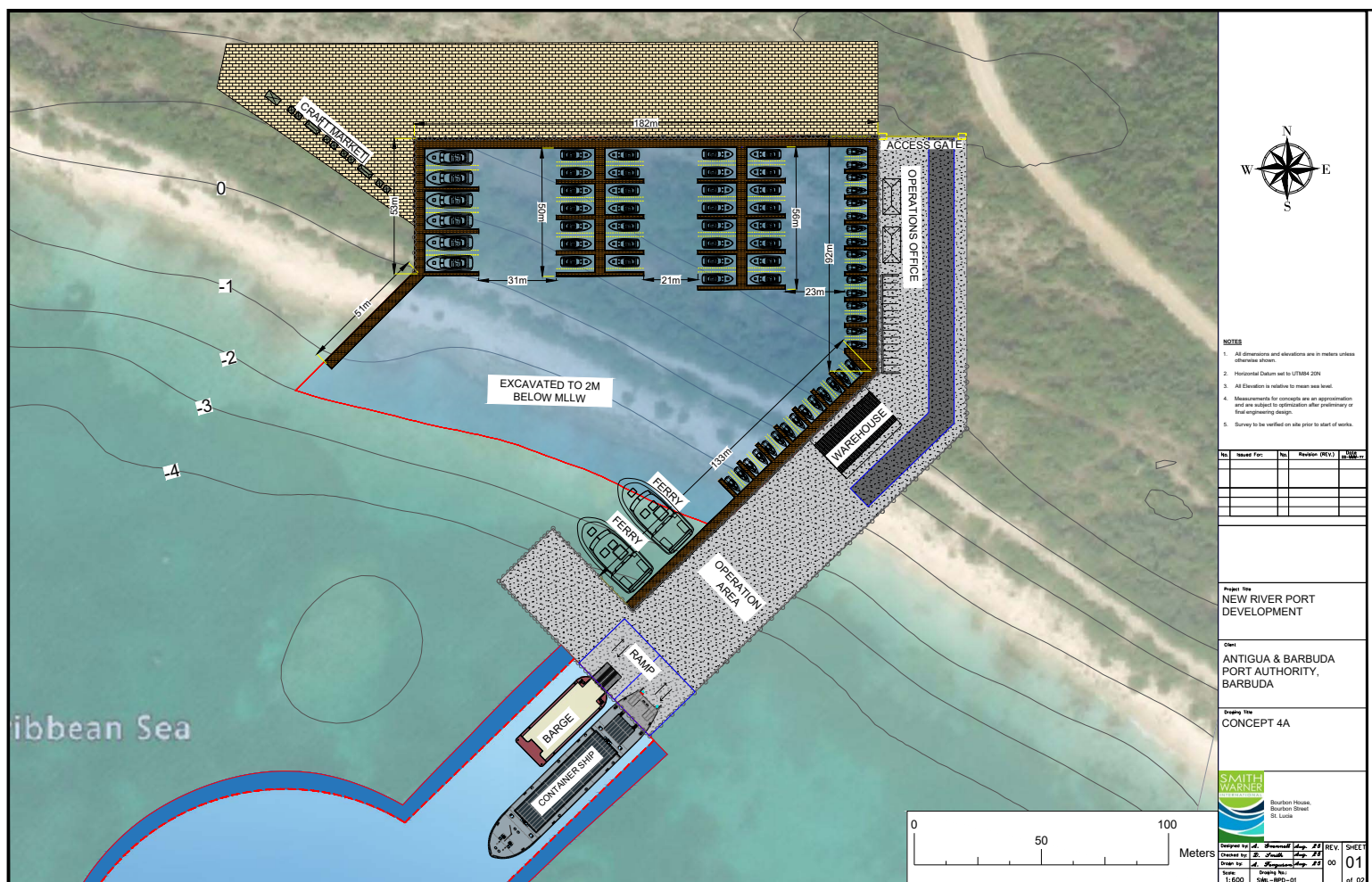
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Port Authority Updates Public on Barbuda River Port Relocation



The Antigua and Barbuda Port Authority has provided an update on studies for the planned relocation of the Barbuda River Port to a six-acre site on Barbuda's South Coast, east of the River Dock Peninsula.

A coastal study completed by Smith Warner International identified natural water depths of three to five meters at the proposed location. The findings indicate that the site could accommodate cargo vessels with a reduced need for dredging. Further assessments are underway to determine the project's engineering requirements and environmental impacts.

Smith Warner International is also conducting the feasibility assessment, which is expected to be completed within two weeks of this release.

The topographical and boundary

survey have been completed and has identified the six-acre site. A detailed drone survey using LiDAR technology will follow to provide additional measurements of the land.

Contractor Beston is on site in Barbuda to conduct two weeks of geotechnical fieldwork to assess ground conditions. The results are expected in approximately six weeks and will inform the detailed design of the port.

The hydrological assessment, which will examine water conditions at the site, is scheduled to begin this week and take approximately two weeks.

Environment Tourism Consultancy has completed approximately 70 per cent of the Environmental Impact Assessment. The assessment will be finalized after the hydrological and survey data become available.

Once the Environmental Impact Assessment is complete, the Port Authority will hold a public town hall meeting in Barbuda to present the findings and receive feedback from residents.

Port Manager Darwin Telemaque says the completed coastal study represents progress in assessing the proposed location. He also confirmed that the findings will be presented to the people of Barbuda before construction begins.

Detailed design is expected to begin once the geotechnical results are received. The Port Authority is targeting December 2026 to January 2027 for construction mobilization, including site preparation and equipment delivery, with construction to follow.

Attorney General Sees Merit in Pringle's Push to Raise Age of Consent

Attorney General Sir Steadroy Benjamin has agreed that there is merit in Opposition Leader Jamale Pringle's call for Antigua and Barbuda to seriously consider raising the age of sexual consent to 18.

Speaking in Parliament, Benjamin said "perhaps the time has, in fact, really come" for the country to examine the existing age of consent and consider the wider implications of changing it.

"There is some merit, I must say, in the suggestion made by the member for All Saints East and St Luke," Benjamin said.

He stated the Government would have to examine the issue carefully, including concerns raised by Prime Minister Gaston Browne and the broader ramifications of any legislative change.

Sir Steadroy also pointed to what he described as the need for consistency in determining the age at which young people are considered capable of making significant legal decisions. He noted that at 18, individuals can vote, enter into contractual relationships and take on other adult responsibilities.

"But some persons say you can vote at 18, you can enter into a contractual relationship at 18, you can stand on your own two feet at 18," Benjamin said.

"In other words, voting, contracts, driving at 18. We shall look at it. We have to be consistent."

Opposition Leader Jamale Pringle had earlier urged Parliament to take a serious look at moving the age of consent to 18, arguing that young people should be encouraged to remain in school and make the most of their education.

He questioned the apparent differences in the legal thresholds governing young people's ability to make major decisions.

"I cannot see that you're giving consent for sex but you can't give consent to elect a government to work in your interest," he said.



Attorney General, Sir Steadroy Benjamin

Pringle also pointed to the fact that a young person could legally consent to sex and potentially start a family, while being unable to obtain a driver's licence at the same age.

"As a father, Mr Speaker, we have to

be realistic with these things," he said.

Mr. Pringle also raised concerns about the impact that reaching the current age of consent can have on parental guidance and authority.

He argued that some young people may continue to operate under parental guidance until reaching the age of 16, but that reaching a particular legal threshold can create challenges for parents seeking to exercise responsibility over their children.

"When at 16 you're still not able to make certain decisions as a young person, you're still in need of guidance by the father or the mother," Pringle said.

"But when you lose control because of a number, we are causing a total breakdown in the system, Mr Speaker, where you're able to adequately deal with a child under your jurisdiction, under your responsibility because that person turns 16, The Opposition Leader stated."



Headquarters; Antigua Barbuda Defence Force
Camp Blizard, St. George's

29 September 2026
12:00 pm; Local (Gmt-4)

NOTICE

IMPORTANT BRIEFING FOR ALL ABDF RESERVISTS

The Antigua & Barbuda Defence Force is calling on all Reservists and prospective Reservists to attend an important meeting on Saturday, 10th October 2026, at 1600 hours, at Camp Blizard.

The meeting will address upcoming ABDF activities and commitments in connection with the upcoming Commonwealth Heads of Government Meeting.

The attendance of all Reservists is required.

All reservists are asked to make the necessary arrangements to be present and arrive on time.

-END-

British Airways Extends Daily Antigua Services into April 2027



British Airways is set to increase services between London Gatwick and Antigua's V.C. Bird International Airport, by extending its daily winter schedule throughout April, adding over 3,000 seats as UK visitor numbers to Antigua and Barbuda continue to rise.

The extension of daily flights opens up a valuable opportunity to drive UK visitation during the spring season, giving travellers greater flexibility to experience the destination.

Colin C. James, CEO of the Antigua and Barbuda Tourism Authority, said, "This extension of British Airways capacity is a significant development for Antigua and Barbuda and reflects the strength of the UK market. The additional seats will reinforce our position as an important Caribbean gateway and regional connectivity hub. It is testament to the work of our team and a strong vote of confidence in Antigua and Barbuda. Crucially, it will deliver benefits across our tourism economy

and create further opportunities for the wider sector."

The increased connectivity comes during a strong period for one of Antigua and Barbuda's key source markets. Between January and August 2026, the destination welcomed 53,439 stay-over visitors from the UK, up 11.2% on the same period in 2025.

The announcement follows sustained work in the UK, led by Cherrie Osborne, Director of Tourism UK and Europe for the Antigua and Barbuda Tourism Authority, to drive visitation across the year and showcase the destination's appeal beyond its world-famous beaches.

Osborne, the UK and Europe Director of Tourism, commented, "Our focus in the UK has been on building sustained demand for Antigua and Barbuda and giving travellers compelling reasons to visit throughout the year.

"Extending daily British Airways services into April 2027 is a hugely

positive step and gives us a valuable additional window in which to drive visitation. We look forward to working with British Airways and our travel trade partners to maximise the capacity, convert demand into bookings and showcase the diversity of experiences that make Antigua and Barbuda such a special destination", she said.

The extended schedule will see British Airways operate daily between London Gatwick and Antigua through April 2027, giving travellers more choice when planning a spring escape to Antigua and Barbuda, including Antigua Sailing Week, taking place from 21–25 April 2027.

Antigua and Barbuda's calendar spans sailing and sport, food, culture, heritage, arts and major international events.

In addition to the daily winter service, British Airways flies five times per week from May to the end of October.

Minister Matthew takes girl power to Cabinet, backs bid for global robotics title



Minister of Education, Science and Technology, Daryll Matthew introduced Antigua and Barbuda's first all-girls robotics team and its robot, HAWK, to Prime Minister Gaston Browne and Cabinet on Wednesday.

Minister Matthew proudly presented the girls, giving their work recognition at the highest level of government. His support extends beyond the presentation, with the Board of Education - which falls un-

der his portfolio - backing the team's participation with a contribution of EC\$30,000.

Prime Minister Browne described the five students, selected through the TechByte summer STEM camp, as the "crème de la crème" and urged them to bring home the title.

The team will compete at the 2026 FIRST Global Challenge in Incheon, Republic of Korea, from October 7 to 10. The event, themed

"Igniting Innovation," is expected to draw teams from more than 190 countries. Competitors will work together using robots to complete simulated tasks involving wildfire prevention, mitigation and recovery.

The team comprises Hannah Masson, Audella-Mae James, Gyanna Ryan, Sidea Ambrose and Neola Noronha. They are guided by lead mentor Elijah James and mentor Asanti Bacchus.

Three Interns Complete Maritime Apprenticeship Programme

Three interns have successfully completed a six-week Maritime Apprenticeship Programme organized jointly by the Antigua Port Authority, Tropical Shipping and the Port Management Association of the Caribbean.

The programme concluded with a certificate ceremony held at the Antigua and Barbuda Port Authority Conference Room, where apprentices Dezante Maile, Myah Ward and Shekinah Hector were recognized for successfully completing the program.

The six-week apprenticeship provided participants with practical exposure across three areas. The apprentices spent two weeks with Tropical Shipping gaining insight into the operations of a shipping line, followed by two weeks with the Antigua and Barbuda Port Authority, where they were exposed to port operations and the wider maritime environment. Their final two weeks were spent with private-sector partner companies, allowing them to experience the customer and commercial side of the supply chain.

This year's industry partners were A.S. Bryden & Sons (Antigua) Ltd., Automotive Art and Chase Distributors Ltd., each of which welcomed an apprentice into its organization and contributed to the programme's emphasis on workplace exposure and professional development.

The success of this year's Maritime Apprenticeship Programme has reinforced for us just how important it is to create meaningful opportunities for young people to experience the maritime industry firsthand," said Tamara Lowe-James, Programme Lead for the Maritime Apprenticeship Programme and Island Manager at Tropical Shipping.

During the certificate ceremony, Darwin Telemaque, Chairman of the Port Management Association of the Caribbean and CEO of the Antigua and Barbuda Port Authority, placed particular



emphasis on the importance of mentorship in developing the next generation of maritime professionals.

He encouraged established professionals within the industry to recognize that preparing young people for meaningful careers requires more than

introducing them to a workplace. Mentorship, guidance and the willingness of experienced professionals to share their knowledge are critical to building confidence, developing competence and helping young people understand the opportunities available to them.

Antiguan and Barbudan Chef Giovanni Meyer Selected for Top Chef Canada Season 13



The Antigua and Barbuda Tourism Authority (ABTA) is congratulating Chef Giovanni Meyer following his selection as one of 12 competitors on season 13 of *Top Chef Canada*.

Chef Giovanni, who operates under his private-chef brand *Pinch of Black Salt*, has worked closely with the ABTA Canada Office to showcase the flavours, ingredients and culinary traditions of Antigua and Barbuda to Canadian audiences.

“We are incredibly proud to cheer Chef Gio on as he takes this next step in his culinary journey,” said Tameka Wharton, Director of Tourism, Canada. “Over the years, we have had the pleasure of working with him to bring the authentic flavours of Antigua and Barbuda, along with his distinctive culinary vision, to our events in Canada. Seeing that talent now recognised on a national platform is a wonderful moment for Chef Gio and for Antigua and Barbuda.”

In March, Chef Giovanni curated a five-course dinner, inspired by the history and flavours of Antigua and Barbuda, for the ABTA’s *A Taste of Antigua and Barbuda* culinary event hosted for media and content cre-

ators in Canada. In June, he mentored 12-year-old junior chef Gigar Campbell, who represented the destination, to a first-place finish in the Grace Junior Chef Challenge at the Island Eats Toronto Food and Travel Festival.

For Chef Giovanni, the experience provided the encouragement he needed to take his talents to the *Top Chef Canada* kitchen.

“It was my participation in the culinary event that really inspired and encouraged me to enter *Top Chef Canada*,” Chef Giovanni said. “The positive reception I received from all of the guests let me know that I have what it takes to put my culinary vision out there in a bigger way.”

Chef Giovanni trained at The Antigua and Barbuda Hospitality Training Institute (ABHTI) and the prestigious Culinary Institute of America (CIA). His resume also includes stints at *Carlisle Bay Resort* and *Sheer Rocks* in Antigua, as well as Michelin-starred *A Voce* in New York City, and Toronto’s *Constantine* and *Byblos* restaurants.

His *Top Chef Canada* appearance comes at a time of growing recognition for Antigua and Barbuda’s chefs and



culinary scene. The destination continues to showcase its culinary chops during its annual [Culinary Month](#) held every May, and has also been voted the Caribbean’s Best Emerging Culinary City Destination 2025 by the World Culinary Awards.

Top Chef Canada returns for a landmark 13th season, celebrating the Canadian culinary dream as 12 of the country’s most talented professional chefs, including three returning alumni, vie for the prestigious title of Canada’s Top Chef. It premieres to Canadian audiences Tuesday, October 20 at 10 p.m. ET/PT on Flavour Network and streaming exclusively on STACK-TV.

To learn more about Chef Giovanni Meyer visit the Pinch of Black Salt [Instagram page](#) and [website](#).

For more information about Antigua and Barbuda, visit www.visitantiguabarbuda.com.

Two Men Who Face Shooting and Robbery Charges Have Been Remanded to Prison

Javia Peters, 25 years old of the Pointe and 22-year-old Saquami Christian of Ottos were remanded to His Majesty's Prison after appearing before Chief Magistrate Ngaio Emanuel in the St. John's Magistrate's Court on Wednesday.

The two men were jointly charged in connection with the recent shooting at Villa and two separate robberies at Ottos.

Peters and Christian were charged with shooting with intent to murder and using a firearm in furtherance of an offence in connection with the shooting of 47-year-old Francis Dennis of Villa.

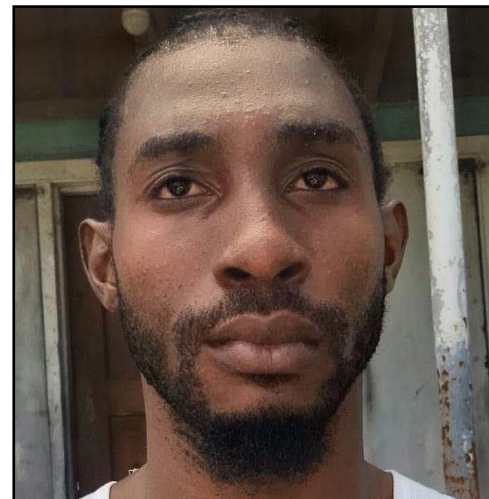
The incident occurred at approximately 3:40 a.m. on Sunday, September 27, on Gordon Street, Villa. Dennis sustained gunshot injuries during the incident and was transported to the Sir Lester Bird Medical Centre for medical treatment.

The accused were also jointly charged in connection with two separate robberies that occurred on Baxter Street, Ottos, on September 27.

In the first matter, they were charged with using a firearm in furtherance of an offence and robbery after allegedly robbing a woman of a cellular phone, SIM cards, a handbag, jewellery, cash, and other personal items with a combined value of approximately EC\$1,285.

They were further jointly charged with robbing another woman of a cellular phone, SIM card, and cash with a combined value of approximately EC\$880.

They were both remanded to His Majesty's Prison until December 2, 2026.



NOTICE

**TO: Your Worship
St. Johns Magistrate Court
High Street
St. Johns
Antigua.**

**TO: The Commissioner of Police
Police Headquarters
American Road
St. Johns
Antigua.**

Dear Sir/Madame,

Re: Notice- Application for Retail License

I, Nurudeen Olorunwa Abibogun of Johnson Village St. John's Antigua, with registered business situated at Johnson Village St. Johns Antigua and Barbuda DO HEREBY GIVE NOTICE that it is my intention to apply at the next sitting of the Liquor Licensing Court to be held at the Magistrate's Court, High Street, St. John's, Antigua on Monday 5th October, 2026 next ensuring for a Liquor Licensing Pursuant to section (11) (5) of the licensing (intoxication Liquor) Act Cap. 249 of the Laws of Antigua and Barbuda 1992 Revised Edition, in respect of premises known as "Abis Mini Mart" situated at Johnson Village in the parish of St. Johns, Antigua and Barbuda.

Dated the 2nd September, 2026.

LETTERS OF ADMINISTRATION FORM P7

Rule 15

CLAIM No. ANUHPB2026/0242

**THE EASTERN CARIBBEAN SUPREME COURT
IN THE HIGH COURT OF JUSTICE
ANTIGUA AND BARBUDA
(Probate)**

**In the Estate of SONIA BERNADETTE VANESSA BENJAMIN late of
Parham, St. Peter, Antigua, Deceased**

**ADVERTISEMENT OF APPLICATION FOR GRANT
SECOND PUBLICATION**

TAKE NOTICE that an application has been filed by **JESSICA JAMES** of Parham, St. Peter, Antigua for a Grant of Letters of Administration to the Applicant who is the daughter of the deceased, the deceased having died intestate on the 16th day of November, 2024.

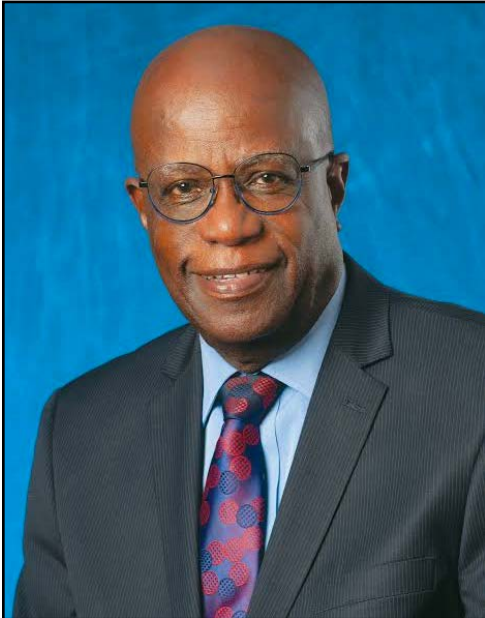
Any person having an objection to the grant of Letters of Administration to the Applicant shall file an objection within fourteen (14) days of the publication of this Notice.

DATED the 21st, day of September, 2026

CUMBERBATCH & ASSOCIATES

Attorneys-at-Law for the Applicant

The Plan Is Signed. Who Pays for It?



By Julian Rogers

A signature in Washington

Last week, in a conference room at PAHO headquarters in Washington, the Health Ministers of the Caribbean Community put their names to the Caribbean Action Plan on Health and Climate Change, 2026 to 2031. It was endorsed at the 53rd meeting of COHSOD Health, on the eve of the 63rd PAHO Directing Council, and it will be reported across the region as a good news story.

It is one. But a plan is a promise, and the Caribbean has a long shelf of promises that were endorsed with warmth and funded with silence.

This one matters more than most. When a hurricane takes the roof off a district hospital, when heat pushes the elderly into overcrowded wards, when dengue arrives earlier and stays longer each year, climate change stops being a negotiating text and becomes a waiting room. The question for the next five years is not whether this plan is right. It is whether anyone will pay for it.

What the region has signed up to

The plan rests on four pillars. The first puts health inside climate deci-



sion making, nationally and through CARICOM. The second builds climate resilient health systems: disease surveillance that reads the weather, early warning systems, hospitals that stay standing and a workforce trained to respond. The third asks the health sector to cut its own carbon through renewable energy, efficient buildings, greener procurement and better waste management. The fourth is money, domestic and international, drawing on the Green Climate Fund, the Adaptation Fund and whatever else can be found.

In fairness, the first plan, which ran from 2019 to 2023, delivered. PAHO reports that countries drew up Health National Adaptation Plans, more than 2,500 health professionals in 15 countries were trained in climate and health, multi hazard early warning reached seven countries, and health facilities in seven countries met PAHO's SMART standard for safe and green hospitals.

Those are real gains. They are also

modest against a region of more than a dozen sovereign health systems, most of them small, most of them one storm away from losing a decade of investment.

Country led, and country funded?

The phrase that should give every Finance Minister pause is this one: implementation will be country led. PAHO will provide technical cooperation and help mobilise resources, and ministries of health are encouraged to work with their colleagues in finance, energy, water, agriculture and disaster management. That is the right design. It is also a transfer of responsibility to the very ministries least equipped to carry it.

A Caribbean health ministry already spends most of its budget keeping the lights on and the nurses paid. Asking it to write Green Climate Fund proposals, retrofit clinics and build surveillance systems, on top of the day job, is asking a lifeguard to rebuild the pier

while the tide comes in.

The climate funds exist, but they are slow, complex and built for institutions with dedicated project teams. Small states lose years in readiness, accreditation and paperwork. By the time the money arrives, the hurricane season it was meant for has come and gone several times over. If the fourth pillar fails, the other three become aspirations.

Making the plan bankable

Four things would move this plan from the shelf to the ward.

First, pool the paperwork. No small island should write its own climate finance applications alone. CARICOM, CARPHA and PAHO could run a single regional project preparation desk that packages clinic retrofits and surveillance upgrades across several countries into proposals large enough for the funds to take seriously.

Second, treat hospitals as energy projects. The low carbon pillar is the one with a revenue story. A clinic on solar with battery storage cuts its power bill, keeps its vaccines cold when the grid fails and becomes an asset a development bank can lend against. Our development banks, the CDB first among them, should be offering health energy retrofits as a standard product.

Third, own the data. Climate informed surveillance means health records, disease signals and weather feeds held somewhere safe, powered reliably and governed by us. A region that stores its health intelligence offshore will be the last to know when the next outbreak begins.

Fourth, tell people. Early warning is useless if the warning does not land. Heat advisories, flood alerts and dengue messaging need to reach the fisherman, the market vendor and the grandmother, in language and on channels they actually use. Public communication is not an afterthought to resilience. It is resilience.

PAHO has said it will work with the private sector and civil society. The private sector should take that at its

word and turn up with proposals, not press releases.

The test in 2031

The ministers did their part in Washington. The plan is sound, the priorities are right and the first plan proved the region can deliver when the support is there.

The test comes in 2031. Not how many workshops were held or how many frameworks were aligned, but how many clinics stayed open through the storm, how many outbreaks were caught early, and how many Caribbean families never noticed the crisis be-

cause the system held.

That is a plan worth paying for. Now someone has to pay.

Julian Rogers is the founder and publisher of Caribbean Bridges.

Caribbean Bridges by Julian Rogers . julian@caribbeanbridges.com

#CaribbeanBridges #ClimateAndHealth #CARICOM #PAHO #ClimateFinance #ResilientHealthSystems #SIDS

Word count: 870

NOTICE

**TO: Your Worship
St. Johns Magistrate Court
High Street
St. Johns
Antigua.**

**TO: The Commissioner of Police
Police Headquarters
American Road
St. Johns
Antigua.**

Dear Sir/Madame,

Re: Notice- Application for Retail License

I, N.S. Salomon Enterprise, Browne ave St. John`s Antigua, with registered business situate at Browne`s Ave St. Johns Antigua and Barbuda DO HEREBY GIVE NOTICE that it is my intention to apply at the next sitting of the Liquor Licensing Court to be held at the Magistrate`s Court, High Street, St. John`s, Antigua on Monday 5th October 2026 next ensuring for a Liquor Licensing Pursuant to section (11) (5) of the Licensing (Intoxication Liquor) Act Cap. 249 of the Laws of Antigua and Barbuda 1992 Revised Edition, in respect of premises known as "N.S. Salomon Enterprise" situated at Browne`s Ave in the parish of St. Johns, Antigua and Barbuda.

Dated the 2nd September, 2026.

Feature

Reclaiming the Lost Art of Thinking: Why Antigua and Barbuda Needs a Revival of Observation and Sound Thought



By Garfield Joseph, MBA

In an age of constant noise, instant reactions, and rapid information flow,

one of the greatest casualties has been the simple, sacred act of thinking. A.W. Tozer once warned that the decline of deep thought leads inevitably to shallow living. Today, as Antigua and Barbuda navigates social change, digital saturation, and cultural pressure, his words feel more relevant than ever.

We are surrounded by information, yet starved for understanding. We read more, scroll more, and react more, but we observe less, weigh less, and rarely take the time to cogitate. The result is a society rich in data but poor in discernment.

The Power of Observation

Observation is the foundation of all sound thought. It is the ability to see

what is actually there, not what we assume, not what we rush past, and not what emotion paints over. Healthy nations, vibrant churches, and resilient families are built on people who observe carefully before they speak, decide, or act.

When we fail to observe, we misdiagnose problems, misread motives, and misinterpret events. But when we observe well, we gather the raw material needed for wisdom.

The Discipline of Cogitation

Cogitation is a word we rarely use, but desperately need. It means slow, deliberate, meditative thinking, turning an idea over until its meaning becomes clear. Antigua and Barbuda's public discourse would be stronger if



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more of us practiced cogitation instead of instant commentary.

Tozer believed that cogitation is how truth settles into the soul. It is how ideas mature. It is how leaders avoid shallow conclusions and cultivate depth.

Reading That Leads to Understanding

We live in a reading culture, but not a thinking culture. Tozer argued that reading without reflection is like eating without digesting; it fills you, but it does not nourish you.

For citizens, policymakers, and church leaders alike, reading must be paired with weighing, considering, evaluating, approving, rejecting, correcting, and refining. These are not academic exercises; they are the tools of national maturity.

To Weigh

To compare the importance or truthfulness of ideas.

To Consider

To think carefully about implications and consequences.

To Evaluate

To judge accuracy, relevance, and value.

To Approve

To accept what is true, useful, and aligned with principle.

To Reject

To dismiss what is false, biased, or

unhelpful.

To Correct

To adjust ideas so they align with truth and clarity.

To Refine

To improve precision, strength, and expression.

To Join Thought to Thought

To connect ideas logically so they build toward a conclusion.

These disciplines are not only intellectual; they are moral. They shape how we speak, how we vote, how we lead, and how we build community.

Why This Matters for Antigua and Barbuda

Our nation is at a crossroads. We face global competition, digital influence, cultural shifts, and economic pressures. In such a moment, shallow thinking is dangerous. It produces reaction instead of strategy, noise instead of clarity, and division instead of unity.

Whether discussing education reform, housing policy, economic diversification, or social challenges, thoughtful solutions emerge only when we first observe reality carefully and resist the temptation of quick conclusions.

A revival of sound thought, rooted in observation, cogitation, and disciplined reading, can strengthen our national character. It can elevate public debate, enrich our churches, schools, and homes, and help us build a society

that is thoughtful, wise, and resilient.

A Call to Thoughtful Citizenship

Antigua and Barbuda does not need more noise; it needs more thinkers. It needs citizens who observe carefully, leaders who cogitate deeply, communities that read reflectively, and people who refuse to be carried by the currents of shallow culture. Instead, they must anchor themselves in truth, wisdom, and disciplined thought.

Tozer's warning is also an invitation: reclaim the lost art of thinking. Slow down. Observe. Weigh. Consider. Evaluate. Approve. Reject. Correct. Refine. Join thought to thought.

If we do this, individually and collectively, Antigua and Barbuda will not only think better; it will live better.

About the Author

Garfield Joseph is the Executive Director of a public sector organization in Antigua and Barbuda, where he is responsible for translating government policy and national objectives into operational action. His work spans strategic execution, financial oversight, and stakeholder engagement. He has also served as an Adjunct Lecturer at the University of the West Indies Five Islands Campus, teaching Business Strategy and Policy and Business, Government and Society. He writes regularly on investment, entrepreneurship, and long-term decision-making



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The poster features a vibrant background image of three Antigua Carnival dancers in elaborate costumes with large, colorful feathered headdresses. The central dancer is a woman in a gold and blue outfit, flanked by two men in similar attire. They are all smiling and dancing. The background is a mix of bright colors and abstract geometric shapes.

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Rules gazetted for MV Barima Col ahead of public hearings

The Commission of Inquiry into the fatal sinking of the MV Barima has officially published its governing procedural rules in the official gazette, establishing the formal framework for public hearings, witness interviews, and evidence collection as investigative work deepens at the Arthur Chung Conference Centre.

The development comes as the secretariat prepares to host a press conference shortly to update the nation on its preliminary findings and timeline. Javed Shadick, secretary to the commission, confirmed with Kaieteur News that the commissioners will address the media directly regarding the ongoing proceedings in the coming week.

Kaieteur News observed commission member Dr. Andrzej Jasionowski at the Liliendaal Secretariat actively reviewing the MV Barima logbooks. His technical examination forms part of an intensive documentary review into the vessel's operational history and maritime logs.

The tragedy, which occurred when the vessel capsized and sank, claimed the lives of more than one hundred passengers and crew members. Families of the victims and survivors continue to call for accountability and swift closure.

The official publication, cited as the Commission of Inquiry (MV Barima) Rules of 2026, details sixty-six comprehensive provisions enacted under Section 9 of the Commissions of Inquiry Act, Chapter 19:03. The rules were issued by chairman Justice Godfrey Phillip Smith SC of Belize, alongside fellow commissioners Captain Hamada Fouda, Nyree Dawn Alfonso attorney, Rear Admiral (Ret'd) Hayden Pritchard, and Dr. Andrzej Jasionowski.

The mandate empowers the commission to investigate all circumstances leading to the sinking, determine the



definitive causes, assess physical injuries and loss of life, and recommend structural reforms to national maritime safety protocols to prevent future casualties.

Under the gazetted regulations, proceedings will be conducted primarily in public from Monday to Friday between nine in the morning and four in the afternoon at the Arthur Chung Conference Centre in Liliendaal, East Coast Demerara. No date has been communicated as yet. The commission retains the authority to order in-camera sittings only under specific circumstances where necessary to protect confidentiality, legal privilege, the proper administration of justice, or public safety.

The investigative phase focuses on interviewing witnesses, gathering physical evidence, and collecting relevant records. All persons, government agencies, and maritime entities in possession of original documents, electronic files, photographs, or physical evidence touching upon the inquiry are legally mandated to preserve those

materials until further notice.

The regulations outline strict grounds for individuals or entities seeking standing to participate in the hearings. Persons may apply for standing in writing if they played a direct role in the event, maintain a substantial personal or direct interest, such as survivors and family members of victims, or may be subject to criticism during the proceedings. Standing may also be awarded if an applicant's participation is determined to be helpful in fulfilling the overall terms of reference.

Rule sixteen mandates that individuals seeking standing must submit a written application to the secretary detailing their contact information and that of their legal representative. To streamline the process, applicants are required to explain why standing is sought in a concise statement not exceeding three pages, accompanied by copies of relevant supporting documents.

Commission counsel will serve as the principal legal and administrative lead, tasked with managing procedural

Regional News

work, questioning witnesses, advising the commissioners, and ensuring matters affecting the public interest are thoroughly examined. Attorneys representing witnesses may appear during testimony to safeguard their clients' legal rights.

To ensure procedural fairness, the commission is empowered to issue warning letters to any individual who may face explicit or significant criticism in evidence or within the final report, granting them a reasonable opportunity to respond. The commission may also issue formal summonses or subpoenas to compel witness attendance or the production of mandatory records.

All evidence and transcripts from public sittings will be made accessible to the public and the media via a dedicated website, which is being established to serve as the single authoritative public record.

While the commission consolidates its legal framework, decisions surrounding the physical recovery of the submerged vessel remain pending. More than three weeks after the National Procurement and Tender Administration Board opened bids submitted by three companies for the salvaging of the MV Barima, an official selection has not yet taken place.

Public records from the tender board show that two local firms, BK International Incorporated and Industrial Fabrication Incorporated, alongside a Dutch company from the Netherlands, KMS B.V., submitted proposals to salvage the wreck. The submitted bids range from approximately one billion dollars to over two billion dollars.

The commission's preliminary workflow has already encompassed an initial site survey of the accident scene, the establishment of the administrative secretariat, and formal requests for critical technical data from key public entities, including the Maritime Administration Department, the Transport and Harbours Division, the Guyana Coast Guard, and the Air Guard. (Kaieteur News)



US tightens sanctions on Cuba

The United States (US) announced Tuesday a tightening of sanctions against Cuba, clamping down on certain financial transactions and travel by US citizens to the Communist island.

The sanctions, announced by the Treasury Department's Office of Foreign Assets Control (OFAC), prohibit indirect financial transactions with sanctioned Cuban entities, particularly those linked to the security apparatus and to Gaesa, the Cuban military's economic conglomerate.

OFAC has banned so-called U-Turn transactions, which allowed US banks to process dollar payments related to Cuba provided that the origin and destination were outside the United States and did not involve American citizens.

The new regulations remove authorisation for US banks "to open and maintain accounts solely in the name of a Cuban national who is an independent private sector entrepreneur."

Access to the US banking system for private entrepreneurs had been authorised during Democrat Joe Biden's 2021-2025 presidency as part of measures aimed at supporting Cuba's nascent private sector.

The new regulations also limit categories of travel that were permitted for US citizens under President Barack Obama (2009-2017).

Cultural exchange or "people-to-people" trips as well as business conferences and meetings will now require authorisation.

Relations between Washington and Havana have worsened since President Donald Trump returned to power in January 2025.

The Republican leader says Cuba, located just 150 kilometres (93 miles) from Florida, represents an extraordi-



nary threat to the United States.

Since January, Washington has imposed a de facto oil embargo on the

island of 9.4 million people, plunging the country into a deep economic and energy crisis. (AFP)

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CDB strengthens collaboration with Caribbean Export ahead of CIF

The Barbados-based Caribbean Development Bank (CDB) says it is strengthening its collaboration with the Caribbean Export Development Agency (Caribbean Export) to support the development of a more robust pipeline of Caribbean investment opportunities and improve connections between regional projects and prospective investors.

The CDB said that the collaboration reflects the growing importance of partnerships in mobilising capital, strengthening project readiness and advancing sustainable private-sector development across the region.

The region's premier financial institution said that the collaboration also aligns with the spirit of SDG 17 – Partnerships for the Goals, highlighted during the recently concluded Global Goals Week.

“The Caribbean’s development ambitions require greater mobilisation of private capital and stronger connections between credible investment opportunities and the investors seeking them,” said CDB President, Daniel Best.

“Through this partnership with Caribbean Export, we are supporting a more coordinated approach to developing the region’s investment pipeline and creating pathways for Caribbean enterprises and projects to access the capital and partnerships they need to grow,” he added.

Caribbean Export’s Executive Director, Dr Damie Sinanan, said the collaboration reflects the agency’s wider ambition for the Caribbean Investment Forum (CIF) to be held October 5-7, to serve as more than an annual event.

“Our objective has always been to build an investment platform that supports projects before, during and after the forum. CDB’s support strengthens our ability to engage investors in a targeted way, learn from those interactions and maintain momentum with project owners as opportunities prog-



ress,” Sinanan added.

The partnership will be activated at the CIF where investors will engage directly with a curated pipeline of Caribbean opportunities through project showcases, targeted matchmaking and the CIF Deal Room.

As part of the collaboration, CDB has approved support through its PROPEL programme to strengthen investor engagement around projects developed through the CIF. The CDB said that the initiative will help Caribbean Export support project owners with investor readiness, targeted outreach, matchmaking and structured follow-up with prospective investors.

The work builds on a CIF pipeline developed since CIF’s inception in 2022 of approximately 30 projects from 11 CARIFORUM countries, representing more than US\$172 million in investment opportunities, and is intended to help promising projects progress beyond presentation towards sustained engagement with potential sources of capital.

Republic Bank, the Caribbean’s only indigenous commercial bank and a supporter of CIF since its inception, and the Inter-American Development Bank (IDB) are platinum sponsors of the forum.

The IDB partnership builds on a three-year memorandum of understanding signed with Caribbean Export at CIF 2025 to advance sustainable investment and project development through the ONE Caribbean Project Preparation Coordination Mechanism (PPCM), strengthening the pipeline of well-prepared, market-ready projects capable of attracting regional and international financing.

They join CIF’s principal partners, the government of Barbados, as host country, and the European Union under its Global Gateway initiative. Republic Bank and the IDB will also participate in the programme, bringing regional banking and development finance perspectives to discussions on investment and growth across the Caribbean.

At this year’s forum, eight featured projects are seeking more than US\$39 million in combined investment across digital transformation, sustainable agriculture, green economy transition, and logistics and transportation. Each has been vetted and qualified by the United Nations Industrial Development Organization (UNIDO) and will be available for direct investor meetings at CIF 2026. (CMC)

International

AROUND THE WORLD



Man dragged to death by New York City subway train after his bag snags on door



A man was dragged to death by a New York City subway train when a bag he was carrying got stuck in the door during the Monday evening rush hour commute, police said.

Yaw Boahene, 57, was exiting the train at a Brooklyn subway station around 6:00 p.m. when his bag, which police described as a shopping bag, snagged in the closing train doors.

The Brooklyn resident was pulled onto the tracks and run over by the train as it left the station, police said in a statement.

Officers arrived to find Boahene “unconscious and unresponsive” on the train tracks, police said. He was pronounced dead at the scene.

The medical examiner’s office will determine the cause of death. The police investigation is ongoing.

The Metropolitan Transportation Authority, which runs the subway system, said both the train operator and conductor have been re-

moved from service, as is routine while the investigation continues.

The agency said the train was one of the fleet’s newest models. It was inspected after the man’s death and also previously in July, and no mechanical issues were found.

Dragging deaths happen from

time to time on the nation’s largest subway system.

In 2022, a 20-year-old commuter was killed after his backpack or a piece of his clothing got stuck in the door as he was trying to get onto a train at the Columbus Circle station in upper Manhattan. (AP)



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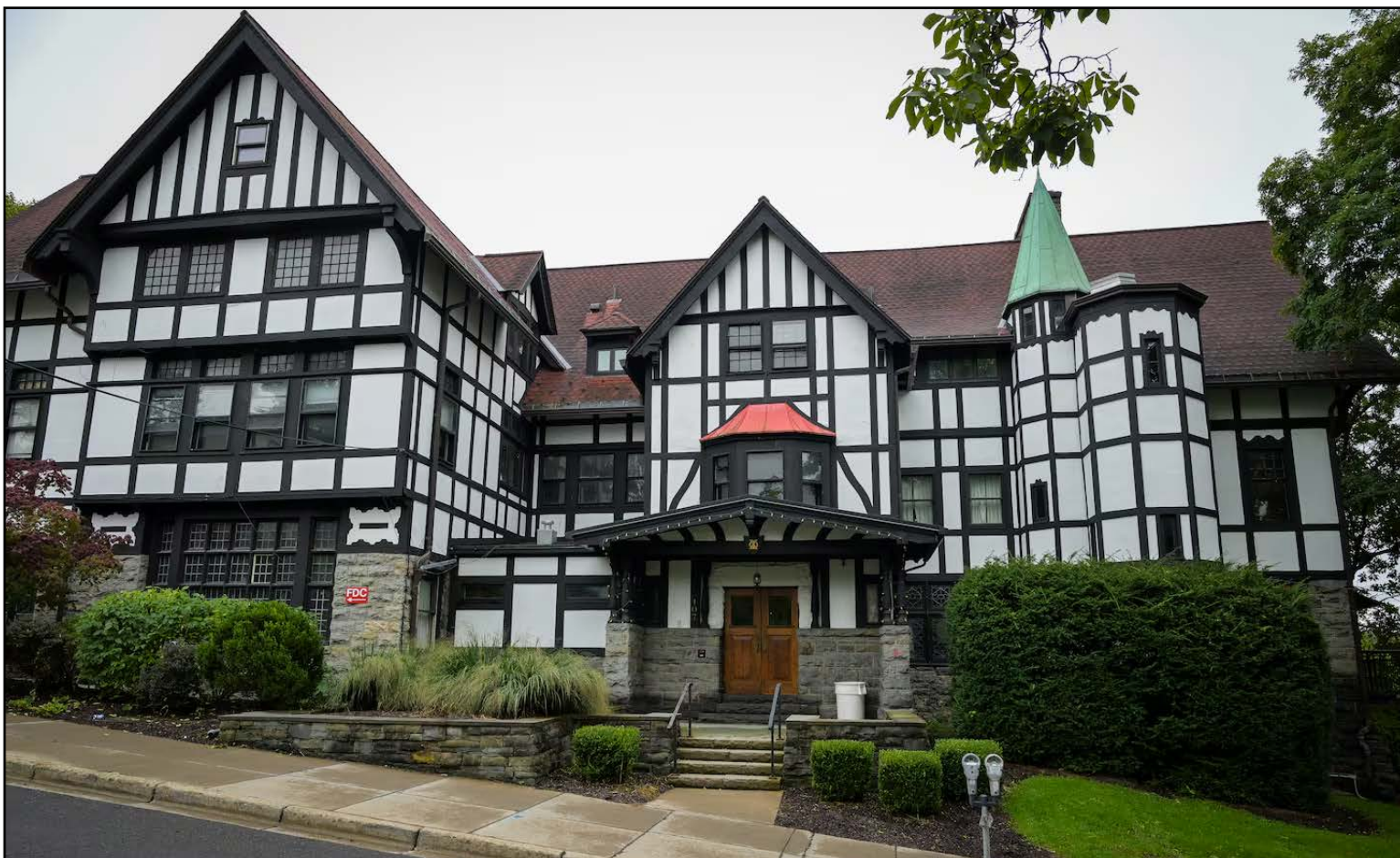
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Cornell rape allegations lead to renewed scrutiny of laws on intoxication and consent



A woman's account of being sexually assaulted at a Cornell University fraternity house has advocates and lawmakers renewing their criticism of a New York law that makes it more difficult to prosecute people who have taken advantage of others too intoxicated to consent to sex.

Under state law, rape charges generally need to involve force or a clear refusal of sex, unless the victim is physically helpless due to being unconscious, or mentally incapacitated due to being drugged without their consent.

Those limitations have led to something nicknamed the "voluntary intoxication loophole." Prosecutors can't easily bring charges against someone who engaged in sex with someone who voluntarily became intoxicated to the point where their ability to say "yes" or "no" to sex was compromised.

Tompkins County District Attorney Matthew Van Houten cited that law as he defended his office's initial decision not to file criminal charges against any of the men sued by a woman who says she was the victim of a gang rape at Cornell in 2024.

Van Houten said that in her sworn statement to campus police in 2024, the woman didn't allege that she became intoxicated against her will, or was physically forced into sex or was

unconscious when it happened.

"That's victim blaming, straight up," in state law, said Stefan Turkheimer, vice president of public policy for RAINN, the largest anti-sexual violence organization in the U.S. "It prevents a lot of cases from coming forward, where prosecutors are reluctant to try to push forward on a case where the person is incapacitated due to voluntary intoxication." (AP)

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Woman accused of shooting at Rihanna's home is mentally fit for trial, judge says



A woman accused of spraying bullets at Rihanna and A\$AP Rocky's home, hitting a trailer the celebrity couple was inside and a nursery their kids were in, was found mentally competent by a judge on Tuesday to stand trial.

Ivanna Lisette Ortiz, 36, of Orlando, Florida, has pleaded not guilty to trying to murder Rihanna and to more than a dozen other felony charges stemming from the shooting in March.

No one was injured, but bullets tore through an Airstream trailer that the singing superstar and A\$AP Rocky were in. Shots also struck the wall of a nursery where their small children were at the time.

"Criminal proceedings are reinstated," Judge Maria Cavalluzzi said at a very brief hearing in Los Angeles County court after months of psychiatric evaluations.

Ortiz appeared behind glass in a custody area of the courtroom, wearing yellow jail clothes and handcuffs.

She didn't speak during the hearing.

She could get life in prison if convicted of all the charges.

There was no direct discussion of the mental evaluations in court, and case documents that include such details have been sealed. Ortiz has been returned to the regular criminal court process, which had been suspended shortly after it began. She was ordered to appear at a hearing Wednesday.

Attorneys for both sides declined comment outside court after the hearing.

Police and prosecutors allege that Ortiz drove a Tesla up to the Beverly Hills-area property of Rihanna

and her rapper partner on March 8, pointed an AR-15 style rifle out the window and fired at least 20 rounds toward the property and a neighboring house.

Investigators found bullet holes in the trailer and on the exterior wall of the home's second-floor nursery, where the three kids were with their nanny.

Investigators said that after her arrest later that day, Ortiz said: "I wasn't attempting murder."

Ortiz is charged with 10 counts of assault with a semiautomatic firearm, one for each of the people on the two properties. She's also charged with three counts of shooting at an occupied vehicle or dwelling.

Ortiz had no prior police record, authorities said. Public records show she had been a licensed speech pathologist for more than a decade.

Authorities have not discussed a motive or described any connection between Ortiz and Rihanna. Her lawyers have not offered comment on her beyond her not guilty plea and procedural issues.

A nine-time Grammy Award winner, Rihanna has had 14 No. 1 hits on the Billboard Hot 100, including "We Found Love," "Work," "Umbrella" and "Disturbia." (AP)

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Flydubai co-pilot attacked pilot in 'suicide attack', passenger says



One of the pilots of the Israel-bound flydubai flight that was diverted on Wednesday attacked his co-pilot and tried to crash the plane to kill everyone, a passenger said.

Passenger Miryam Shira Ohayon said the plane was “pretty much out of control” when the stabbing took place over Jordan on the flight’s path from Dubai to Tel Aviv.

“The co-pilot tried to murder the pilot and basically carry out a suicide attack on the plane,” she told reporters by speakerphone held up by her mother, who was waiting at Ben Gurion Airport near Tel Aviv.

“It was really on the way to crashing, and it was simply the resourcefulness of many people who took control of

the co-pilot and neutralised him,” she said.

“There was also a doctor who gave first aid, and people who treated both of them. Other than the pilot, there were no injuries, but the bigger fear was really a crash, which is exactly what he was trying to do.”

In a video from inside the plane that was reposted by Israeli social media users, one passenger, blood dripping from an open wound on his head, pleaded for assistance and said they were descending into Saudi Arabia, with which Israel has no diplomatic relations.

“We are here during an attack on the plane. We just subdued the terrorists and are preparing to land,” the man

said in Hebrew.

“Anyone who can hear me, we need help. We are about to land in Tabuk, apparently in Saudi Arabia. An unknown area. All the passengers are safe and well, except for the pilot. We need help.”

Ohayon’s mother, Yasmin Abukasis, said her daughter was on the flight to attend a service for her brother killed in the October 7, 2023 Hamas attack.

The daughter “thought they were going to die”, Abukasis told AFP, adding that one woman “went to the (cockpit) and saw a lot of blood”.

She said that two other pilots were on the plane and took charge, diverting it to Saudi Arabia. (AFP)

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Four more teams advance in ABFA pre-season knockout cup



The Jets Football Academy team

Four more teams have advanced to the Round of 16 in the Antigua and Barbuda Football Association (ABFA) pre-season knockout tournament.

Willikies FC, Parham FC, English Harbour FC, and Jets Football Academy booked their spots into the next stage after winning their opening matches in the Round of 32 of the ABFA Pre-Season Knockout Cup.

Willikies FC prevailed 9-8 in a penalty shootout against Empire after both teams battled to a 3-3 draw after extra time in their keenly contested encounter at the Keithley Sheppard Recreational Park.

Andre Martin failed to convert the ninth penalty kick for Empire after eight of his teammates scored their spot kicks. All nine players converted

their penalty kicks for Willikies FC.

During regulation play, Novelle Francis of Willikies FC and Empire's Nick-ado Lindsay each scored twice for their respective teams.

Francis had conversions in the 10th and 89th minutes, and teammate Scian Hastings scored the other goal for Willikies FC with a strike in the 21st minute.

Lindsay got his two goals in the 20th and 28th minutes, while teammate Woosberson Buteau scored the third goal for Empire FC in the 84th minute.

Following a goalless first half, Denie Henry and Andy Daniel each scored twice to propel Parham FC to a 4-0 drubbing of Five Islands FC at the Keithley Sheppard Recreational Park.

Henry had conversions in the 54th and 79th minutes, and Daniel scored in the 56th and 90th minutes.

English Harbour FC snatched a 2-1 victory against SAP FC at the Golden Grove playing field. Clarence Marsh scored in the second minute to give English Harbour a one-nil lead at half-time.

But SAP FC equalized early in the second half via a 51st-minute conversion by Jean Pierre Williams. Shadaeki Fredericks snatched the winner for English Harbour FC with a strike in the 57th minute.

Jets Football Academy recorded a 4-3 victory in a penalty shootout against the Swetes Vipers FC after both teams battled to a 1-1 draw at the end of regulation.

Wins for Ministry of Education and Coaches in ABNA Business League



Players of the Antigua and Barbuda Union of Teachers (ABUT) Ministry of Education netball team.

The Antigua and Barbuda Union of Teachers (ABUT) Ministry of Education and Coaches enjoyed success in the mixed division in the Antigua and Barbuda Netball Association (ABNA) Business League Competition on Monday.

The ABUT Ministry of Education claimed their third win in four matches with a 35-3 drubbing of Galley Bay Resort at the YMCA Sports Complex.

Kareem Edwards sank 24 of his

35 shots, and Karol Carlton scored 11 of her 15 attempts for the ABUT Ministry of Education.

Ken Henry converted two of his four attempts for Galley Bay Resort, who remain winless after losing for the third time in as many encounters.

The Coaches recorded their second win in three matches by pulling off a 29-21 victory over the Sir Lester Bird Medical Center (SLBMC) JOMA IV League Netters.

Rayana Regis converted 22 of her 29 shots, and Akiel Hazelwood scored seven of his 13 attempts for the Coaches.

Daniel Kerr converted 17 of his 19 shots, and Sequoyah Survia sank four of her 10 attempts for the SLBMC JOMA IV League Netters, who slumped to their third loss in as many games in the mixed division.



Wins for APCMOL and Curtain Bluff in Business Basketball League

APCMOL and Curtain Bluff Hotel recorded wins in the 2026 Cool and Smooth Antigua and Barbuda Basketball Association's (ABBA) Business League on Tuesday evening.

APCMOL claimed their sixth win in eight encounters by securing a 54-29 victory over CTM Auto Spa in the second game of a double-header at the JSC Sports Complex.

Takeem Martin and Tyras Grayman each converted 14 points for APCMOL.

Jerome Andrew scored eight points

for CTM Auto Spa, who suffered their fifth straight loss after winning all three previous matches.

The Curtain Bluff Resort recorded their fourth win in eight outings with a 73-38 drubbing of the Antigua and Barbuda Union of Teachers (ABUT) in Tuesday's opening game.

Webster Baptista shot a game-high 21 points, Tyrese White sank 13 points, Orion Seraphine converted 12 points, and Shalom Bloodman scored 10 points for Curtain Bluff Hotel.

Enrico Josiah scored 10 points for the

Antigua and Barbuda Union of Teachers, who lost for the seventh time in eight games.

The Business Basketball League will continue with a triple-header at the JSC Sports Complex on Thursday (today).

Defending champions Board of Education will take the Sir Lester Bird Medical Center at 6:30 pm. CTM Auto Spa will clash with fellow newcomers, the Philippines, at 7:30 pm, and former champions Richie's Shooterz will meet the Antigua and Barbuda Union of Teachers at 8:30 pm.


 A promotional advertisement for 'Pointe On the Streetz'. The background is a vibrant orange with a black jagged line running vertically. On the left, the text 'POINTE ON THE STREETZ' is written in large, 3D block letters, each containing a small photo of people. Below this, it says 'HOSTED BY VERNON A. SPRINGER'. On the right, the 'PBN' logo is at the top, followed by 'TUE - FRI' and '2PM - 3PM' in bold black text. Below that, it says 'CALL: 562-3989 OR 562-2991' and features a Facebook icon next to 'POINT FM99.1'.

Aruba beat Anguilla in CONCACAF Nations League



Midfielder Justin Figaroa, right, celebrates with teammate Alljereau Mercera after scoring the second goal for Aruba in their second match in Group B of League C in the CONCACAF Nations League at Sir Vivian Richards Stadium in Antigua on Tuesday, September 29, 2026. (Photo courtesy of CONCACAF)

Aruba moved to the top of Group B in League C in the 2026/27 Confederation of North, Central America, and Caribbean Association of Football (CONCACAF) Nations League with their second win in Antigua on Tuesday night.

After scoring a late goal to snatch a 1-0 victory over host Antigua and Barbuda in their first match of three-team group, Aruba made it two wins in as many games by prevailing 2-0 over Anguilla at the Sir Vivian Richards Stadium in North Sound.

Following a goalless first half, striker Rovien Ostiana broke the deadlock and gave Aruba the lead with a strike in the 53rd minute.

Midfielder Justin Figaroa sealed the win for Aruba, scoring the team's second goal in the 88th minute with a finish from the top of the box.

The result allowed Aruba to finish their first stage of two round-robin matches with six points, three ahead of Antigua and Barbuda. Anguilla remains in the cellar without any points after two losses.

The three teams will resume their battle for supremacy in Group B of League C in the second set of round-robin matches at the Sir Vivian Richards Stadium in early October. All matches will start at 7 pm.

Antigua and Barbuda will face Anguilla on Thursday (today); Aruba will meet Anguilla on Sunday, October 4; and Antigua and Barbuda will clash with Aruba in the final match of the group on Tuesday, October 6.

Meanwhile, the Turks and Caicos Islands and the United States Virgin Islands (USVI) recorded wins in the other League C group stage compe-

titions.

Hosts Turks and Caicos Islands rebounded from a 2-0 loss to Montserrat to pull off a 3-0 victory over the British Virgin Islands (BVI) in Group A of League C at the TCI-FA National Stadium in Providenciales, Turks and Caicos Islands.

Their second loss in as many matches allows the British Virgin Islands to remain in the cellar without any points after suffering a 3-0 loss to unbeaten Group A of League C leaders Montserrat in their opening encounter.

The USVI moved to the top of Group C of League C, claiming their second win in as many matches with a 3-1 victory over the Bahamas at Bethlehem Soccer Stadium in St. Croix, United States Virgin Islands.

The USVI advanced to six points after launching their campaign in Group C of League C with a 2-0 victory over St. Martin.

It was the second loss for the Bahamas, who remain in the cellar without any points, after suffering an 8-0 drubbing against St. Martin in their opening encounter.

The three group winners of League C will gain promotion to compete in League B in the next edition of the CONCACAF Nations League.

All group winners will also be in contention to secure a berth into the CONCACAF Gold Cup, which will be held in June and July next year.

Gill hits 223 on day of records as India beat Windies in second ODI



India's captain Shubman Gill celebrates after scoring a double century during the second one-day international cricket match between India and West Indies in Guwahati, India, Wednesday, Sept. 30, 2026. (AP)

GUWAHATI, India (AP) — A capacity crowd witnessed a host of batting records on Wednesday, Shubman Gill leading the way with 223 not out off 133 balls as India beat West Indies by eight wickets in the second One-Day International (ODI).

Gill notched his best ODI score and a record highest individual tally in an ODI run-chase. It was his 11th hundred in the format, one of five on the day, as India achieved victory at 406 for two in 43.3 overs to take a winning 2-0 lead in the three-match series.

Opening partner Rohit Sharma made 101 as the duo put on 255 off 158 balls — the second highest opening stand for India in ODIs.

It was the second successful 400-plus run-chase in ODI history, after South Africa's record 438 for nine against Australia in 2006.

Earlier, three West Indies batters struck centuries in an ODI innings for the first time. Amir Jangoo top-scored with 114, skipper Shai Hope made 104, and opener John Campbell set the day's tempo with 101 off 68 balls.

Put into bat, West Indies made 405 for seven off their 50 overs and crossed the 400-mark for the first time in an ODI.

Gill, though, helped his team win with 6.3 overs to spare. It was India's highest run-chase in ODIs — their previous best was 362 for one against Australia in Jaipur in 2013.

Gill's second 50 came off only 24 balls, getting to his century in 62 deliveries overall. Sharma chalked up his 35th century off 72 balls before he was trapped lbw by Jayden Seales in the 27th over.

India's opening partnership is second only to the 258-run stand by

Sachin Tendulkar and Sourav Ganguly against Kenya in Paarl in 2001.

Gill continued his onslaught after Sharma went, celebrating a second ODI double hundred, off 117 balls. It is the fastest double century in ODIs. Gill also surpassed Glenn Maxwell's 201 against Afghanistan in Mumbai in 2023 to claim the highest score in a run-chase. It is also the third-highest individual score in an ODI.

"It was a hot and humid day," Gill said. "With 400 on the board, there was pressure at the start and then at the halfway mark. I am very pleased I could stay till the end and finish this innings. I try to break my innings into smaller parts. Once we scored 200-odd before 25 overs, the pressure was on them."

Earlier, Campbell smashed five sixes and nine fours as West Indies had another quickfire start despite the injured Justin Greaves missing out.

Campbell scored his second ODI hundred off only 65 balls as the visitors made 96 for one in the power-play. He put on 110 off 79 balls with Hope, who also used the batting conditions to good effect to record his 20th ODI hundred.

Jangoo followed up his half-century in the first game with a second ODI hundred off 70 balls. He hit three sixes and 13 fours as West Indies took 76 runs off the last 10 overs.

It was the first instance of five centuries in a single ODI game. Overall, it was the 11th instance of a side having three centuries in ODIs, but the first to end in defeat.

Chandigarh will host the final ODI on Saturday. India won the first game by seven wickets in Thiruvananthapuram on Sunday.

Windies women beat Zimbabwe in third match to win ODI series

Captain Hayley Matthews scored her second century in three matches, while Shemaine Campbelle missed what would've been her second One-Day International (ODI) hundred by a whisker as West Indies crushed Zimbabwe by 91 runs in the third ODI to win the three-match series 2-1 in Harare on Wednesday.

Matthew slammed 118 and Campbell struck 96 as the West Indies women posted 271 for five of their 50 overs after being asked to bat, before bowling out the Zimbabwe women for 180 in 47.3 overs, with captain Josephine Nkomo getting 74 not out.

The West Indies began cautiously in the series decider, but Matthews scored 34 of the 38 they made in the first 10 overs.

Her opening partner Realeanna Grimmond's struggles soon came to an end when left-arm seamer Nomvelo Sibanda bowled her for three off 27 balls. That was the only bit of cheer for Zimbabwe before Matthews and Campbelle added 160 for the second wicket off 168 balls.

Matthews scored at a brisk rate right from the start. She got to fifty off 55 balls before galloping to a century off just 98 deliveries. That allowed Campbelle to pace her innings. Matthews, who had missed out on a double century in the first ODI, miscued Sibanda to fall for 118 off 113 balls in the 39th over.

Campbelle, meanwhile, patiently got to 50 in 70 balls, but quickened up to score her next 46 runs in 49 deliveries before her dismissal. She looked to whip leg-spinner Beloved Biza



The West Indies women celebrate with the trophy after winning their three-match ODI series against Zimbabwe at the end of the third match at the Harare Sports Club in Harare, Zimbabwe, on Wednesday, September 30, 2026. (Photo courtesy of CWI Media)

through midwicket, but Kelis Ndhlovu took a diving catch to dismiss her.

Jannillea Glasgow and Jahzara Claxton found some boundaries towards the end to propel West Indies to their eventual total. Sibanda finished with two for 42.

In response, Zimbabwe were never in the chase. They lost their openers in the first 14 balls, with Modester Mupachikwa falling to an athletic effort from Grimmond at deep midwicket.

She ran in diagonally from the rope and then dived to pouch an aerial flick, much to left-arm spinner Zaida James' surprise. Only captain Josephine Nkomo offered some resistance for Zimbabwe.

She scored her sixth ODI fifty, and

finished 74 not out - that was just two shy of her highest ODI score - as she ran out of partners.

Off-spinner Ashmini Munisar bagged two for 32, pacer Jannillea Glasgow claimed two for 38, and fast bowler Aaliyah Alleyne captured two for 39.

But what would leave West Indies a little concerned despite the comfortable 91-run win is Campbelle's fitness.

In the eighth over of the chase, she held her chest and went down, and had to be stretchered off the field and taken to hospital.

With Matthews missing the T20I leg of the tour for personal reasons, Campbelle would have been a candidate to lead West Indies in the three-match series.