



Public Relations Unit

P.O Box N-831

Mount Royal House

Mount Royal Avenue Nassau Bahamas

Tel: 242-225-5337 Fax: 242-326-0977

Email: immigrationpublicrelationsunit@bahamas.gov.bs

BAHAMAS IMMIGRATION DEPARTMENT PRESS RELEASE

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IMMEDIATE RELEASE

11 HAITIAN NATIONALS CHARGED IN MAGISTRATE'S COURT

On Monday, 12th April 2021 (9) nine males and (2) two females were brought before Chief Deputy Magistrate Andrew Forbes in the Magistrate's Court #8 for various immigration offences.

Jack Pierre (m), Claude Calixte (m), Joseph Jean Baptiste (m), Nicla Petithomme (m), Lucien Francis Delia (m), Kasandra Felix (f) and Estafanise Jean (f) pled guilty to **Illegal Landing** and, were subsequently convicted. They were fined **\$300.00** each or in default of payment serve **12 months** at Bahamas Department of Correctional Services (BDOCS).

Richardson Jean (m) was also charged with **Illegal Landing** and pled not guilty. He was remanded to BDOCS until trial.

Livens Marc Ernst-Sy Salomon (m), Ifraide Esteve (m), and Jean Rouzier Louis all pled guilty to **Overstaying** and were subsequently convicted. Respectively, they were fined **\$1,800.00** or in default of payment serve **15 months** at BDOCS, **\$1,300.00** or in default of payment serve **12 months** at BDOCS, and **\$1,200.00** or in default of payment serve **12 months** at BDOCS.

Upon payment of fines or custodial sentences, they were ordered to be turned over to the Bahamas Immigration Department for deportation.

These arrests were a result of an operation conducted in Abaco on Thursday, 8th April by Bahamas Immigration Department, the Royal Bahamas Police Force and Defence Force, and Ministry of Public Works.

The public is reminded that we are committed to carrying out the mandates of our agency to combat illegal migration, by establishing effective border control management to ensure compliance with the Statue Laws of our country. We further wish to reminded members of the public that it is a criminal offence punishable by law to harbor illegal migrants in the Commonwealth of the Bahamas.

For more information please contact the DOI Public Relations Unit or visit our website: www.immigraton.gov.bs or follow us on Facebook @immdept Bahamas Department of Immigration.

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Mission Statement: *To regulate the movement of people across the borders of The Bahamas so as to ensure the security, facilitate economic advancement and promote the harmonious social development of The Bahamas through the collaborative efforts of responsible government and non-government agencies both nationally and internationally*