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BAHAMAS IMMIGRATION DEPARTMENT PRESS RELEASE

#35/21

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

516 HAITIAN NATIONALS REPATRIATED TO CAP-HAITIEN, HAITI

On Friday, October 1, three Bahamasair charter flights departed Matthew Town, Inagua bound for Cap-Haitien, Haiti with a total of three hundred eighty-four (**384**) convicted Haitian nationals onboard.

Additionally, a fourth Bahamasair chartered flight departed New Providence for Inagua with ninety-three (**93**) Haitian nationals onboard. This group included women and children. On its arrival in Matthew Town, an additional thirty-nine (**39**) Haitian nationals boarded this aircraft. This constituted a total of one hundred thirty-two (**132**) Haitian nationals onboard this repatriation flight into Cap-Haitien, Haiti.

These repatriation exercises were conducted by a joint security team, comprising of the Royal Bahamas Defence Force and Bahamas Immigration officers. All Ministry of Health COVID-19 protocols were strictly enforced, as the health, welfare and safety of our officers, law enforcement counterparts, and migrants remain the highest priority in this COVID-19 environment.

The Department of Immigration extends special thanks to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, the Ministry of Health, and the Haitian Embassy for their usual and full cooperation.

The public is reminded that the Department is committed to executing the mandates of our agency by effectively coordinating efforts with other Law Enforcement agencies, and international stakeholders to ensure compliance with the Statute Laws of our country.

For further information, you may visit our website at www.immigration.gov.bs or call our hotline anonymously at 1-242-502-0574.

End.

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*