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BAHAMAS IMMIGRATION DEPARTMENT PRESS RELEASE #44/21

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

67 HAITIAN MIGRANTS APPREHENDED IN ANDROS

On Saturday, December 11, the Royal Bahamas Defence Force discovered and apprehended sixty-seven (67) migrants in waters near Green Cay, southeast of Andros. The group which included forty-three (43) males, three (3) females, and twenty-one (21) minors, were subsequently transported to New Providence and turned over to Immigration officials for processing.

Prior to entering the general population of the Carmichael Road Detention Center, all migrants tested negative for COVID-19, determined by Rapid Antigen test performed by a local laboratory.

A search of our database revealed that no applications were submitted in respect of any of the migrants in custody; hence, they were all found to have landed illegally in The Bahamas, an offence punishable under Immigration Act Chapter 191. They are expected to appear before the Magistrate's Court this week.

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*