

Public Relations Unit

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BAHAMAS IMMIGRATION DEPARTMENT PRESS RELEASE

#38/22

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

22 CUBAN MIGRANTS APPREHENDED AT SEA BY ROYAL BAHAMAS DEFENCE FORCE

On Wednesday, 17th August, 2022, twenty-two (**22**) Cuban nationals were apprehended in a joint effort between Royal Bahamas Defence Force (RBDF) and United States Coast Guard (USGC). The first group of Cuban migrants totaled seven (**7**) adult males who were retrieved from Guninchos Cay by HMBS "Bahamas" after an aerial sighting by (USCG); the second group consisted of fifteen (**15**) Cuban migrants: fourteen (**14**) adult males and one (**1**) adult female who were intercepted by (USCG) Cutter "Dauntless" in the area of Cay Sal Bank and subsequently turned over to HMBS "Bahamas".

The twenty-two (22) Cuban migrants were transported to the capital by Royal Bahamas Defence Force and turned over to the Department's Enforcement Unit.

As the Department considers the health and safety of our officers, law enforcement counterparts, and migrants the highest priority, all COVID-19 protocols were adhered to and the group was transported to the Carmichael Road Detention Center for further processing and await timely repatriation to their homeland.

The Department remains committed to executing its mandate by effectively coordinating efforts with other law enforcement agencies and international stakeholders.

For more information, call the Public Relations Unit at **1-242-322-7530**, visit our website at **www.immigration.gov.bs**, or call our Investigation hotline anonymously at **1-242-604-0249**.

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