



Public Relations Unit

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BAHAMAS IMMIGRATION DEPARTMENT PRESS RELEASE

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

74 FOREIGN NATIONALS CONVICTED IN THE MAGISTRATE'S COURT

In Magistrate's Court #1 today, seventy-five (75) foreign nationals were arraigned before Magistrate Algernon Allen Jr. for various immigration offenses.

Thirty-two (32) Cuban nationals were convicted of **Illegal Landing**. Two (2) of them were subsequently sentenced to **four months** in the Bahamas Department of Correctional Services (BDOCS). Thirty (30) were conditionally discharged and released to the Department of Immigration to be deported.

A total of forty (40) Haitian nationals were convicted of **Illegal Landing**. Two (2) received custodial sentences of **three months** at BDOCS, and thirty-seven (37) were conditionally discharged and released to the Department to be deported. In addition to the charge of Illegal Landing, one (1) Haitian man was also convicted of **Knowingly Attempting to Misleading an Immigration Officer** and subsequently sentenced to **six months** at BDOCS on each count. The sentences are to run concurrently.

Three (3) Haitian nationals were also charged with **Overstaying**. Two (2) pleaded guilty and were convicted. Respectively they were fined **\$2,000.00** or, in default of payment, served **six months** at BDOCS, conditionally discharged, and deported. One (1) Haitian female pleaded not guilty, and the matter was adjourned to a later date. Upon payment of fines, completion of sentences, and discharge, all persons were ordered to be turned over to the Department of Immigration for deportation.

The Department remains committed to executing our mandate to ensure compliance with the Statue Laws of our country.

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*