



## 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

#15/23

**\*FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE\***

## 30 FOREIGN NATIONALS CONVICTED IN THE MAGISTRATE'S COURT

On Monday, 20<sup>th</sup> March, 2023 in Magistrate Court #5, thirty (30) foreign nationals were arraigned before Senior Magistrate Darence Rolle Davis, for various immigration offenses.

On the charge of **Overstaying**, eight (8) Haitian nationals pled guilty and were fined **\$300.00** to **\$3,000.00** or, in default of payment, serve prison time at the Bahamas Department of Correctional Services (BDOCS) ranging from **five days** to **six months**. Three (3) Venezuelan nationals pled guilty and were fined **\$500.00** to **\$1,500.00** or, in default of payment, serve prison time at (BDOCS) ranging from **ten days** to **two months**. Also, four (4) Jamaican nationals pled guilty and were fined **\$100.00** to **\$500.00** or, in default of payment, serve prison time at (BDOCS) ranging from **five days** to **one month**. One (1) Colombian national pled guilty, and was fined **\$300.00** or, in default of payment, serve **ten days** at (BDOCS) and one (1) Ecuadorian national pled guilty and was fined **\$1,000.00** or, in default of payment, serve **one month** at (BDOCS). In addition to the charge of Overstaying, one (1) Venezuelan male was also charged with **Harbouring illegal persons** and the case was adjourned to 30<sup>th</sup> March, 2023.

Further, twelve (12) Haitian nationals pled guilty to the charge of **Illegal Landing**. Four (4) were fined **\$300.00** or, in default of payment, serve **five days** at (BDOCS), five (5) had their cases adjourned to 3<sup>rd</sup> April, 2023 and three (3) ordered deportation.

One (1) Haitian resident (Permanent Residence) pled guilty to the charge of **Harbouring illegal persons**, and was granted bail in the amount of **\$3,000.00** with **two sureties** and the matter adjourned to 31<sup>st</sup> May, 2023.

Upon payment of all fines and completion of sentences, all migrants were ordered to be turned over to the Department of Immigration of deportation.

The public is reminded that the Department is committed to executing our mandate to ensure compliance with Statute 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 hotlines (anonymously) at **1-242-604-0249**, **1-242-604-0171-2** or **1-242-604-0196**.

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*