



## Public Relations Unit

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**BAHAMAS IMMIGRATION DEPARTMENT PRESS RELEASE**

**#21/23**

**\*FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE\***

### **28 FOREIGN NATIONALS CONVICTED IN THE MAGISTRATE'S COURT**

On Tuesday, 6<sup>th</sup> June, 2023 in Magistrate's Court #11 twenty-eight (28) foreign nationals were arraigned before Assistant Chief Magistrate Sabusola Swain, for various immigration offenses.

One (1) Dominican national was charged with twenty-one (21) counts of **Assisting Illegal Passenger to depart from The Bahamas**, pled guilty and fined **\$21,000.00; \$1,000.00** for each count or, in default of payment, serve **twelve months** at the Bahamas Department of Correctional Services (BDOCS), sentencing to run concurrently. One (1) Haitian national was charged with **Knowingly Attempting to Mislead an Immigration Officer**, pled guilty and fined **\$1,500.00** or, in default of payment, serve **nine months** at (BDOCS) and four (4) Haitian nationals charged with **Illegal Landing**, pled guilty and fined **\$300.00** or, in default of payment, serve **one month** at (BDOCS).

Additionally, on the charge of **Overstaying**; seven (7) Chinese, four (4) Brazilian and two (2) Haitian nationals pled guilty and fined **\$1,000.00** each or, in default of payment, serve **three months** at (BDOCS). One (1) Venezuelan national pled guilty and fined **\$700.00** or, in default of payment, serve **one month** at (BDOCS). One (1) Italian national pled guilty and fined **\$500.00** or, in default of payment, serve **one month** at (BDOCS). One (1) Ecuadorean national pled guilty and fined **\$2,000.00** or, in default of payment, serve **one month** at (BDOCS). One (1) Dominican national pled guilty and fined **\$750.00** or, in default of payment, serve **one month** at (BDOCS). Two (2) Haitian nationals pled guilty and fined **\$1,500.00** each or, in default of payment, serve **six months** at (BDOCS). Three (3) Haitian nationals pled guilty and fined **\$1,000.00** or, in default of payment, serve **six months** at (BDOCS), **\$1,500.00** or, in default of payment, serve **three months** at (BDOCS) and **\$3,000.00** or, in default of payment, serve **nine months** at (BDOCS), respectively.

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 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 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*