



Public Relations Unit

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BAHAMAS IMMIGRATION DEPARTMENT PRESS RELEASE

#22/23

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

26 FOREIGN NATIONALS CONVICTED IN THE MAGISTRATE'S COURT

On Tuesday, 13th June 2023 in Magistrate's Court #10 twenty-six (26) foreign nationals were arraigned before Magistrate Kendra Kelly, for various immigration offences.

Two (2) Chinese nationals pled guilty to charges of **Possession of an Irregular Bahamas Immigration Stamp, Unlawful use of an Irregular Bahamas Immigration Stamp, Knowingly Attempting to Mislead an Immigration Officer and Overstaying**; they were convicted and fined **\$1,000.00** on each count or, in default of payment, serve **eight months** at the Bahamas Department of Correctional Services (BDOCS), sentencing to run concurrently. On the charge of **Illegal Embarkation**; five (5) Chinese, three (3) Jamaicans, one (1) Brazilian and one (1) Haitian national all pled guilty, they were convicted and fined **\$300.00** or, in default of payment, serve **one month** at (BDOCS).

On the charge of **Overstaying**; three (3) Jamaican nationals pled guilty, they were convicted and fined **\$200.00** or, in default of payment, serve **two weeks** at (BDOCS), **\$1,500.00** or, in default of payment, serve **six months** at (BDOCS), and **\$500.00** or, in default of payment, serve **one month** at (BDOCS), respectively. Five (5) Dominican nationals pled guilty, they were convicted and fined **\$500.00** or, in default of payment, serve **one month** at (BDOCS) and one (1) Haitian national pled guilty, was convicted and fined **\$2,000.00** or, in default of payment, serve **six months** at (BDOCS).

Additionally, on the charge of **Illegal Landing** six (6) Haitian nationals pled guilty, **five** were convicted and fined **\$300.00** or, in default of payment, serve **three months** at (BDOCS) and **\$300.00** or, in default of payment, serve **nine months** at (BDOCS), respectively. In addition to the Illegal landing charge, one (1) Haitian national was also charged with **Knowingly Attempting to Mislead an Immigration Officer** pled guilty, was convicted and fined **\$1,500.00** or, in default of payment, serve **five months** at (BDOCS), sentencing to run concurrently.

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

The public is reminded that the Department is 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 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*