



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

#30/23

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

39 FOREIGN NATIONALS CONVICTED IN THE MAGISTRATE'S COURT

In Magistrate's Court #9 and #2 thirty nine (39) foreign nationals were arraigned before Acting Chief Magistrate Roberto Reckley and Magistrate Kara Turnquest-Deveaux respectively, for various immigration offences.

On Wednesday, 20th September 2023 in Magistrate's Court #9 eleven (11) Ecuadorean nationals pled guilty to the charge of **Overstaying** and were convicted and fined **\$500.00** or, in default of payment, serve **two months** at the Bahamas Department of Correctional Services (BDOCS). On the charge of **Illegal Landing** one (1) Ecuadorean national pled guilty and was convicted and fined **\$300.00** or, in default of payment, serve **one month** at (BDOCS).

On Tuesday, 19th September 2023 in Magistrate's Court #2 seven (7) Haitian nationals pled guilty to the charge of **Illegal Landing** and was convicted and fined **\$300.00** or, in default of payment, serve **one month** at (BDOCS). On the charge of **Overstaying**; twelve (12) Ecuadoreans and one (1) Dominican national pled guilty and were convicted and fined **\$500.00** or, in default of payment, serve **three months** at (BDOCS). One (1) Jamaican, one (1) Russian and four (4) Haitian nationals also pled guilty to the charge and were convicted and fined **\$1,000.00** or, in default of payment, serve **six months** at (BDOCS).

Additionally, one (1) Haitian national pled guilty to charges of **1. Possession of a Forged Document, 2. Unlawful use of a Forged Document** and **3. Knowingly Attempting to Mislead an Immigration Officer**; whom was convicted and fined on counts 1 and 2 **\$2,000.00** or, in default of payment, serve **nine months** at (BDOCS) and count 3 **\$3,000.00** or, in default of payment, serve **twelve months** at (BDOCS).

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

25 FOREIGN NATIONALS REPATRIATED FROM NEW PROVIDENCE

On Thursday, 21st September 2023 the Immigration Department effectively executed two (2) repatriation exercises from the Lynden Pindling Int'l Airport.

At approximately 8:30 a.m., a Flamingo Air chartered flight C6-MMK departed enroute to Cap Haitien, Haiti with eleven (11) Haitian nationals onboard; five (5) males, three (3) females and three (3) minors.

Additionally, at 1:08 p.m., a Copa Airlines flight CM197 departed enroute to Panama City, Panama with fourteen (14) Ecuadorean nationals onboard; seven (7) males and seven (7) females.

The Department's Deportation and Enforcement Units led the escorts. All security and health protocols were observed as the safety and welfare of our officers, law enforcement counterparts and migrants remains the highest priority.

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*