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**TO: NEWS EDITORS**

**PRESS RELEASE**

**TRAFFIC GRIDLOCK AS A RESULT OF FLUGTAG EVENT**

The painful lesson to be learned from yesterday's traffic gridlock as a result of the *Flugtag* event and St. Peter's Day celebrations is that our North-Western peninsula just cannot accommodate events of this magnitude. The Chamber would have thought that the lesson had already been well-understood from the previous traffic gridlocks experienced with large-scale public events in this area.

Despite incidents of drowning, petty crime, road rage and frustration, the country is fortunate that nothing else occurred which required an immediate response from security agencies employing the Western Main Road.

The Trinidad and Tobago Chamber of Industry and Commerce therefore calls upon the Chaguaramas Development Authority (CDA), event organizers and planners, law enforcement, our magistracy, and all other authorities involved in the approval and coordination of large events, to take a reality check and not simply facilitate a public catastrophe just waiting to happen. This is a wake-up call to be more meticulous and proactive.

We simply cannot depend on God being a Trini to save us from problems of our own making.

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