



March 1, 2023

JOINT CHAMBERS TO MEET WITH NEW CoP ON CRIME

The Joint Chambers agree that crime, in particular violent crimes, has been at alarming and unacceptable levels for some time now. This is a major impediment to investment, the ease of doing business and overall has a tremendous negative impact on the well-being of citizens who either are victims or are constantly in fear of falling victim to crime. 2023 began on a terrible note, with the murder figures for January and February, putting this year on course to be the deadliest ever in T&T.

While we commend the TTPS for their work to ensure that there were no major crimes at official Carnival events, several murders and other serious crimes occurred throughout the country during the Carnival period. We also understand that the new Commissioner of Police, having been appointed just a month ago, has had limited time to make an impact on crime reduction in the country.

We are, however, hopeful, and optimistic that the new CoP will implement measures that can bear positive results. Indeed, it is encouraging to hear about the goals that are being set for the TTPS. The Joint Chambers commend her for this. We are of the firm belief that the Police Service Commission should publicly publish targets and have the TTPS report on these on a quarterly basis and the CoP should do the same for her divisional commanders.

We look forward to the unveiling of the methodology that would assist them in achieving these targets. We have already requested and received confirmation of a meeting with the new CoP and, as always, the business community remains willing to assist as crime reduction in the country is of paramount importance to the nation.

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