

MEDIA RELEASE

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The Trinidad and Tobago Chamber Supports State of Emergency as a Step Toward Addressing Crime Crisis

The Trinidad and Tobago Chamber of Industry and Commerce recognizes the declaration of a State of Emergency (SoE) as a necessary measure in the best interest of the public given the current crime crisis. The alarming level of homicides and the proliferation of high-powered weapons highlight the grave reality that crime is out of control, posing a significant threat to the safety and security of our citizens and businesses.

We view the SoE as an opportunity for our national security forces to address the situation head-on, with the hope of restoring some degree of normalcy to our society. However, the TT Chamber emphasizes that while the SoE is an important step, it is not a standalone solution to our country's crime problem. It must be part of a broader, comprehensive, and sustainable plan to combat crime effectively.

The TT Chamber remains ready and willing to support national efforts to tackle this issue. Addressing crime is not only about saving lives but also safeguarding livelihoods and fostering an environment conducive to economic growth and stability. During this period of suspension of rights under the SOE, we also expect that the Trinidad and Tobago Police Service will be sensitive to heightened public sentiments and be careful to not create any perception of abuse. Upholding the rights and dignity of all citizens is crucial to maintaining public trust and ensuring the success of this measure.

We urge all stakeholders, including the government, civil society, and the private sector, to work collaboratively toward a safer and more secure Trinidad and Tobago.

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