

Jamaican couple on drug charges in Guyana

The Gleaner



A Jamaican couple caught smuggling over 15 pounds of ganja in Guyana was remanded in custody until May 30 when they appeared in a Guyanese resident magistrate court earlier this week.

According to Guyana's Starbroke News, Benjamin Carrington, 29, and Dian Patterson, 22, both of Papine, St Andrew,

pleaded not guilty to possession of narcotics for trafficking.

Reports are that on May 12, at about 4:15 p.m., Guyanese police were conducting searches on passengers who had intended to travel to Suriname via the backtrack route, when Carrington presented his suitcase, a false compartment was discovered.

When searched, six parcels containing what appeared to be ganja were found. It weighed 15.8 pounds. Both Carrington and his girlfriend, Patterson, were informed of the offence and charged. However, Patterson reportedly denied having any knowledge of her boyfriend's business dealings, and said she was worried about her parents finding out about her fate in Guyana.

The two are to reappear before Magistrate Rabindranauth Singh at Guyana's Springlands Magistrate's Court in a little over a week.

Senior cop vows to reduce crime in Westmoreland

BY ANTHONY LEWIS Observer West writer



Motorcycle cops leading participants in a recently held peace march in Savanna-la-Mar.

SAVANNA-LA-MAR, Westmoreland —Buoyed by the strong support from stakeholders in Westmoreland for a recent peace march initiative, commanding officer for the parish, Superintendent David White, has expressed confidence that within

a few months the crime-infested parish will begin to see a noticeable reduction.

“We believe that within another couple of months Westmoreland will start to see some serious reduction in crime. Our communities are well on board, we have been getting a lot of support from all of the stakeholders, and that’s basically where we want to be — a crime-free Westmoreland for 2016,” expressed an optimistic Superintendent White.

White was speaking with reporters recently following a peace march through several communities where the police have had challenges in policing, due to criminal elements or poor infrastructure.

Among the troubled inner-city areas visited by the wide cross section of representatives from the parish — including churches, members of the Ministry of Justice’s Restorative Justice programme led by Louis Brown, councillor Milton Miles, Jamaica Labour Party caretaker for Westmoreland Central George Wright, and students from the Little London High School — were the communities of Russia, Seaton Crescent and Darling Street.

Since then, there has been another peace march in the Withorn Police Area of Westmoreland,

where White said there were roughly 40 murders last year. Plans are afoot to stage other marches throughout the parish.

Superintendent White said that in some of the communities, the police were not able to allow children to play outside of their homes for fear that a dispute might develop.

“What that means, for instance, is that a ball may be thrown a little bit too hard. From that hard hit, there is going to be a knife, machete, then guns, then gangs. So we actually blacklisted such communities, so that we don’t allow events there where we have much grouping,” explained Superintendent White.

In recent years there have been an unprecedented number of serious crimes committed in Westmoreland.

In 2015, for instance, 110 murders were recorded in the parish, and since the start of the year, 31 homicides have been recorded.

During a town hall meeting in Westmoreland’s capital, Savanna-la-Mar, in March — where National Security Minister Robert Montague, Commissioner of Police Dr Carl Williams, Permanent Secretary in the Ministry of National Security Major General Stewart Saunders, Assistant Commissioner of Police Winchroy Budhoo and Superintendent White were in attendance – several residents called for the police to allow them to have social events in their communities.

One woman in particular said an event she wanted to stage was to raise funds for the purpose of undertaking a medical procedure.

However, Superintendent White told the Jamaica Observer West recently that following an assessment of the situation, residents could soon be given the green light to have their social events.

“They have called out over the past couple of weeks to say that their community is looking up and they would like to see the police giving them a chance to keep their events,” said White. “We have met with a couple of stakeholders and in a short while when we do all our intelligence assessments, we will be allowing some areas of those communities to have their parties... because we really want to have that partnership with these communities,” added Superintendent White.

Meanwhile, a female member of the New Market Oval community in Westmoreland told the Observer West that the peace march is “a good look and start” for the inter-city communities. “You know that a lot of young guys are on the streets and they don’t have anything to do, so the least little thing, there is a quarrel or a fight. So it is a good idea to have this peace march,” said the resident as she thanked Superintendent White and the other stakeholders who participated in the march.

Councillor Miles, Wright, Rev Joyce Bernard, and Brown of Restorative Justice all expressed gratitude for the interest shown by members of the communities and encouraged them to keep the peace.

Five Alleged Scammers Charged



The Gleaner

• The police are reporting that five persons from western Jamaica have been charged with breaching the anti-lottery scamming law. Charged with conspiracy to obtain property are 29-year-old Kimberly Williams, 28-year-old Romain Jones, 35-year-old Mark Davy, 33-year-old Sheldon Binns, and 24-year-old

Shericka Brown.

The police say Davy is also charged with possession of ganja and dealing in ganja. They say Brown is booked to appear in the Montego Bay Resident Magistrate's Court on Wednesday, June 1, while the others will appear in the Lucea Resident Magistrate's Court on Tuesday, June 7.

The police say the arrests and charges came as a result of the combined efforts of members of the Counter Terrorism and Organized Crime Investigation Branch and their counterparts from the United States of America.

Senior Cop, District Constable Get \$1 Million Bail On Gun Charges



The Gleaner

• Senior Superintendent of Police Anthony Castelle and district constable Rohan McIntosh have each been granted bail in the amount of \$1 million on charges of unlawful wounding, unlawful discharge of firearm, and misconduct in a public office.

The cops were this morning arrested and charged by the Independent Commission of Investigations in connection with the shooting injury of a woman in Mount Salem, St James on January 22.

In granting bail in the St James Parish Court, parish judge Sandria Wong-Small ordered that the men surrender their travel documents and that stop orders be placed against them at all ports.

Castelle is also to report to the Prospect Police Station in St. Mary once a week while McIntosh is to report to the Mount Salem Police Station once a week.

The cops are to return to court on June 7.

According to INDECOM, the police reported that on January 22, a group of police personnel stopped a car in the vicinity of Westgate Shopping Centre but the driver failed to stop. The two officers in an unmarked police vehicle pursued the car.

Upon reaching the vicinity of the Calvary Baptist Church and Jarrett Park the police allegedly discharged their weapons.

INDECOM says the motor car did not stop but proceeded towards Mt. Salem with the cops still in tow.

It is alleged that the cops again discharged their weapons and the car eventually turned into the parking lot of the West Jamaica Conference Centre where the driver got out and ran.

It was then discovered that a female passenger seated in the rear seat of the car had been shot. She was taken to the Cornwall Regional Hospital where she has been admitted.

Senior Cop, District Constable Charged For MoBay Shooting

Adrian Frater

The Gleaner

Western Bureau:

Superintendent of Police Anthony Castelle and District Constable Rohan McIntosh, who are both assigned to the St James Police Division, were arrested and charged by the Independent

Commission of Investigations (INDECOM) yesterday in connection with an incident in which a pregnant woman was shot in Montego Bay on January 22.

The pregnant woman, 21-year-old Janice Hines, was reportedly shot in her back while travelling in a taxi, which was fired on by police personnel who were chasing the vehicle after the driver had failed to respond to their instructions to pull over and stop.

Castelle and McIntosh, who were the subject of an investigation by INDECOM following the incident, were both charged with unlawful wounding, unlawful discharge of firearm, and misconduct in a public office.

The policemen subsequently appeared before Judge Sandria Wong-Small of the St James Parish Court.

Castelle, who was represented in court by attorney-at-law Althea Grant; and McIntosh, who was represented by Stacy Ann Williams, were both granted bail in the sum of \$1 million with sureties.

Conditions Imposed

They were ordered to surrender their travel documents and had stop orders placed on them at all ports of departure.

Based on the conditions imposed by the court, Castelle is to report to the Prospect Police Station in St Mary once each week, while McIntosh is to report to the Mount Salem Police Station once each week.

The men are scheduled to return to court on June 7.

According to reports, shortly after 8:30 a.m. on the day of the shooting, Hines and other passengers were travelling in a taxi towards downtown Montego Bay when the driver of the car

was signalled to stop by officials from the Transport Authority and police personnel who were conducting a spot check along the Westgate main road.

The driver reportedly disobeyed an order to stop and increased his speed as a police vehicle carrying the two policemen gave chase.

After careening in and out of traffic for several minutes, the taxi reportedly crashed into another vehicle and came to an abrupt stop.

At that point, the lawmen allegedly opened fire on the car.

During the shooting, Hines was reportedly hit in the back and was subsequently rushed to the Cornwall Regional Hospital, where she was admitted in serious condition. The driver and the other passengers, including three children, escaped unhurt.

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Cop arrested after policewoman's death remains in custody

The Observer



A brief look at Jamaica's political history provides an interesting background to the concept and creation of the 1962 Constitution and the format of the Senate.

THE policeman who was taken into custody recently in relation to the death of Corporal Judith Williams will have to stay another week in custody following a court order.

Senior Parish Judge Judith Pusey made the order yesterday in the Kingston and St Andrew Parish Court after the policeman's attorney Kemar Robinson made a habeas corpus application. Robinson told the court that his client has been detained and to date had not been charged, and also argued that his client participated in an identification parade and was not pointed out.

The attorney stressed that his client was arrested on a charge of assault and that the complainant had no interest in the matter.

The court heard that another identification parade is to be held.

However, the assault case would not be brought before the court until after the identification parade is held.

Subsequently to setting a May 26 date for the matter to be brought back to court, Pusey said that she was giving the officer enough time to conduct his investigation.

Fifty-four-year-old Williams, who was assigned to the Office of the Commissioner of Police, was shot on April 28 several times in her Franklyn Town, east Kingston community while she was on her way to work.

It was reported that Williams was at a bus stop approximately 6:30 am when two men armed with guns shot her multiple times before escaping on a motorcycle.

Williams succumbed to her injuries the following day after she underwent several surgeries.

The End

