

TELEPHONE: 906-4923-31

*Friday, July 22, 2016*MINISTRY OF JUSTICE
 COMMERCE GATE
 61 CONSTANT SPRING ROAD
 KINGSTON 10
 JAMAICA

**PRESS RELEASE**

For Immediate Release

**Governor-General Proclaims Trafficking in Persons Week**

A well needed endorsement came on the heels of the World Day Against Trafficking in Persons (TIP). In a proclamation dated July 19, 2016, Governor-General, His Excellency Sir Patrick Allen, has declared July 24 – 30 as Jamaica’s Trafficking in Persons Week.

The proclamation speaks to the pervasive crime of Trafficking in Persons and the pivotal role of the activities to be carried out over this one-week period.

“… Trafficking in Persons Week seeks to promote awareness of this dehumanizing offence, to decrease vulnerability of the citizenry and reflect the Government’s proactive stance on eradicating this scourge”, proclaimed His Excellency.

The Proclamation compliments and gives greater thrust to the work of the Government of Jamaica’s multi-agency group, the National Taskforce Against Trafficking in Persons (NATFATIP), which was established in June 2005.

Sir Patrick Allen noted some contributing factors to the spread of human trafficking activities as poverty, scarce employment opportunities and vulnerability while rejecting human trafficking as a “violation of the fundamental right to freedom and security of the person”.

Since the enactment of the Trafficking in Persons (Prevention, Suppressions and Punishment) Act 2007 with recent amendments in 2013; and through the collaborative efforts between the Jamaica Constabulary Force and the Office of the Director of Public Prosecutions, four convictions were made.

In his proclamation, Sir Allen is encouraging all Jamaicans to participate in the activities which will take place across the island. Please see attached Week of Activities.

**YOUR COVERAGE WOULD BE APPRECIATED.**

**Contact:
Marie Theresa Henry and Dyhann Buddoo-Fletcher
Public Relations Officer**
Cell: 279-8199/382-7217
E-mail: marie.henry@moj.gov.jm

 **TRAFFICKING IN PERSONS WEEK**

**July 24 – 30, 2016**

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| **DATE** | **EVENT** | **TIME** |
| **July 24** | Church Service Tarrant Baptist Church 51 Molynes Road, Kingston 10 | **10:00 a.m. – 12:00p.m.** |
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| **July 25** | Interview on Smile Jamaica | **Between 6:00 a.m. - 8:30 a.m.**  |
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| **July 26** | TIP Country Tour Awareness Campaign in theMajor Town Centres ofSt. Thomas and PortlandInterview with Nikki ZFame FM | **8:30 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.****Between 2:00 p.m. – 5:00 p.m.** |
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| **July 27** | TIP Country Tour AwarenessCampaign in theMajor Town Centres ofKingston and St. CatherineCVM Live @ 7 | **8:30 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.****7:00 p.m.** |
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| **July 28** | Radio outside broadcastIn Montego Bay with Barry G on Mello FM 88.1 Launch of TIP Study & other Project Documents | **2:00 – 5:00p.m.** |
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| **July 30** | **TIP SENSITIZATION MARCH**Begins at the Ministry of Labour Social Security Division, 14 National Heroes Circle, Kgn. 4Continues on East Street, Queen Street and ends at St.William Grant Park- Downtown, Kingston | **10:00 a.m. - 12 noon.** |