



**JUDICIARY OF TRINIDAD & TOBAGO
DEPARTMENT OF COURT ADMINISTRATION
COUR PROTOCOL AND INFORMATION UNIT
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Trinidad & Tobago**

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MEDIA RELEASE

Immediate: September 26, 2011

TUNPUNA COURT OPERATIONS SHIFTED TO PORT OF SPAIN

The Judiciary of the Republic of Trinidad and Tobago wishes to advise that operations of the Tunapuna Magistrates' Court are being shifted to the St George West Magistrates Court on St Vincent Street in Port of Spain, effective tomorrow (Tuesday 27th September, 2011) and until further notice.

The Judiciary is instituting these arrangements to ensure that Court services are made available consequent upon the closure of the Tunapuna Regional Complex which accommodates the four Tunapuna Magistrates' Courts. The Court order, issued last Wednesday to the Ministry of Public Administration to close the building for breach of public health regulations, remains in effect, and as a result the Judiciary has no option but to keep the courts closed.

Following a review of the situation today, the Judiciary has decided that all matters under the Tunapuna jurisdiction will be dealt with by Magistrates sitting at designated Port of Spain Courts from noon on each day that these arrangements remain in effect. These include adjourned and charge cases as well as remands hearings.

All services, including cashier services for transactions related to fines, and payments or receipt of maintenance monies, as well as counter services for matters such as license applications and extracts of Court Orders will be available at the St George West Magistrates' Court for both the Tunapuna and the St George West jurisdictions. Staff from the Tunapuna Courts are to report to the St George West Magistrates' Court from 9.00 a.m. tomorrow

The Judiciary has been in discussion with the Police and Prisons services, and it has been agreed that prisoners scheduled to appear in Tunapuna would be brought to Port of Spain where their matters will be heard.

Information regarding new dates for Tunapuna cases that were adjourned last week will be available from the St George West and Arima Magistrates' Courts through respective Court Customer Service Representatives.

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