



TRINIDAD & TOBAGO POLICE SERVICE Office of the Commissioner of Police

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Our Ref: COP 1/1/11

July 26, 2017

Major General The Honourable (Ret'd) Edmund Dillon
Minister of National Security
Ministry of National Security
Temple Court 1
31 -33 Abercromby Street
Port of Spain

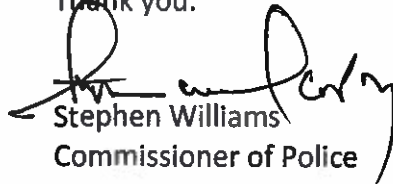
Dear Honourable Minister,

**Re: The Third Report of the Joint Select Committee on National Security
on an Inquiry into the Operations of the Trinidad and Tobago Forensic
Science Centre and the Issue of DNA Sampling in Trinidad and Tobago**

Reference is made to correspondence from the Clerk of the House dated June 9th 2017 with Reference No. Parl: 14/3/43 Vol. IV and in which a request was made for a response to *Recommendation 4 of the Third Report of the Joint Select Committee on National Security on an Inquiry into the Operations of the Trinidad and Tobago Forensic Science Centre and the Issue of DNA Sampling in Trinidad and Tobago.* (Correspondence attached for ease of reference).

The response from the Commissioner of Police is hereby attached for submission to the Joint Selection Committee on National Security.

Thank you.


Stephen Williams
Commissioner of Police



Response to Recommendation #4

The Third Report of the Joint Select Committee on National Security on an Inquiry Into the Operations of the Trinidad and Tobago Forensic Science Centre and the Issue of DNA Sampling in Trinidad and Tobago

Recommendation #4

That the Commissioner of Police ensure that all Officers/Qualified Persons responsible for taking DNA samples be made aware of the provisions of the Administration of Justice (Deoxyribonucleic Acid) Act, 2012 regarding the taking of DNA samples whether non-intimate or otherwise.

Response

The Commissioner of Police published *Departmental Order 104 of 2012 - Trinidad and Tobago Standing Order 58 DNA Recovery Procedure* to ensure that members of the Trinidad and Tobago Police Service are aware of the Deoxyribonucleic Acid Act, 2012 and the related procedures involved in taking DNA samples. Additionally, *Departmental Order 202 of 2007 – Packaging and Handling of Firearm Evidence on Recovery* guides Police Officers in the retrieval of DNA Samples when Firearms and Ammunitions are found and seized. These documents are attached for ease of reference.

These Departmental Orders are posted on the TTPS Portal and are accessible to all police officers through this medium.

Additionally, approximately one thousand (1000) TTPS Officers have been specially trained in the retrieval of non-intimate DNA samples

The Trinidad and Tobago Police Service will continue to train and educate officers on the requirements for taking DNA samples during the course of developmental training programmes.