

LEGAL NOTICE NO. 285

REPUBLIC OF TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO

THE EMERGENCY POWERS REGULATIONS, 2025

ORDER

MADE BY THE MINISTER OF HOMELAND SECURITY IN ACCORDANCE
WITH PARAGRAPH 2 OF THE SCHEDULE TO THE EMERGENCY POWERS
REGULATIONS, 2025

DETENTION ORDER

WHEREAS it is enacted by regulation 14 of the Emergency Powers Regulations, 2025, that the provisions of the Schedule shall have effect for the purpose of the preventive detention of persons:

And whereas it is provided in paragraph 2 of the Schedule of the Emergency Powers Regulations, 2025, that the Minister may, if satisfied with respect to any person that, with a view to preventing him from acting in any manner prejudicial to public safety and, it is necessary to provide for his preventive detention, make an order that he be detained and stating concisely the grounds for such detention:

And whereas it is further provided in paragraph 3(1) of the Schedule of the Emergency Powers Regulations, 2025, that any person in respect of whom a detention order is in force may be arrested without warrant by any police officer and may be detained in such place and under such conditions as the Minister may from time to time direct:

And whereas I, the Honourable Roger Alexander, Minister of Homeland Security, am satisfied with respect to MATTHEW BEST also called “HALF A MAN” of Light Pole No. 53, Upper Gonzales Quarry, Belmont, that it is necessary to provide for his preventive detention with a view to preventing him from acting in a manner prejudicial to public safety of Trinidad and Tobago:

Now, therefore, I, the Honourable Roger Alexander, Minister of Homeland Security, in exercise of the powers conferred on me, do hereby order that the said MATTHEW BEST also called “HALF A MAN” of

Light Pole No. 53, Upper Gonzales Quarry, Belmont, shall be detained, and do hereby authorise the Eastern Correctional Rehabilitation Centre located at Santa Rosa, Arima or such other place as I may from time to time direct, as the place where the said MATTHEW BEST also called “HALF A MAN” of Light Pole No. 53, Upper Gonzales Quarry, Belmont, shall be detained and so kept in lawful custody.

Made this 31st day of July, 2025.

R. ALEXANDER
Minister of Homeland Security

TAKE NOTICE that the grounds upon which this detention order is made are as follows:

The detainee, MATTHEW BEST also called “HALF A MAN” has been identified as a close associate of a person known to the police and is a member of an Organised Criminal Group (OCG) hereinafter referred to as the Gonzales Faction of the Rasta City 7 Gang. He has been identified as working closely with the said person known to the police to commit several homicides and public assassinations, most recently on the 13th July, 2025, when a vehicle driven by a person known to the police went to the Gonzales area at or about 11.40 a.m. and opened fire on a group of persons leading to the death of three persons. He is also suspected of being involved in a shooting where a rival gang leader’s young son was killed as well as a second shooting which led to the death of a police officer and a subsequent shooting at the Port-of-Spain General Hospital. The OCG is known to have access to a cache of high-powered rifles which are used in the shootings. These most recent incidents have given rise to imminent public reprisal shootings which endanger the safety of the public.

Made this 31st day of July, 2025.

R. ALEXANDER
Minister of Homeland Security