

LEGAL NOTICE NO. 590

REPUBLIC OF TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO

THE EMERGENCY POWERS REGULATIONS, 2026

ORDER

MADE BY THE MINISTER OF HOMELAND SECURITY IN ACCORDANCE
WITH PARAGRAPH 2 OF THE SCHEDULE TO THE EMERGENCY POWERS
REGULATIONS, 2026

DETENTION ORDER

WHEREAS it is enacted by regulation 14 of the Emergency Powers Regulations, 2026, 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, 2026, that the Minister may, if satisfied with respect to any person that, with a view to preventing her from acting in any manner prejudicial to public safety and that it is necessary to provide for her preventive detention, make an order that she 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, 2026, 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 FRANCIS CAROLINA RENGEL OJEDA of Orange Hill, Spring Garden, Scarborough and also of No. 51 Lambeau Signal Hill Road and also of Burris Street, Parlatuvier, Tobago, that it is necessary to provide for her preventive detention with a view to preventing her from acting in a manner prejudicial to public safety:

Now, therefore, I, the Honourable Roger Alexander, Minister of Homeland Security, in exercise of the powers conferred upon me, do hereby order that the said FRANCIS CAROLINA RENGEL OJEDA

of Orange Hill, Spring Garden, Scarborough and also of No. 51 Lambeau Signal Hill Road and also of Burris Street, Parlatuvier, Tobago, shall be detained at the Women's Prison, Golden Grove, Arouca, or such other place as I may from time to time direct as the place where the said FRANCIS CAROLINA RENGEL OJEDA of Orange Hill, Spring Garden, Scarborough and also of No. 51 Lambeau Signal Hill Road and also of Burris Street, Parlatuvier, Tobago, shall be detained and so kept in lawful custody.

Made this 21st day of July, 2026.

R. ALEXANDER
Minister of Homeland Security

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

The detainee, FRANCIS CAROLINA RENGEL OJEDA has been credibly identified by intelligence sources and ongoing investigations as a senior facilitator within an organised Human Trafficking Network operating between Trinidad and Tobago. The detainee played a central role in recruiting vulnerable Latin American females, receiving them upon arrival in Trinidad, harbouring them, transporting them between Trinidad and Tobago, translating on behalf of the criminal organisation and facilitating their continued sexual exploitation for financial benefit. The detainee remained actively involved in the trafficking enterprise after relocating operations to Tobago and maintained close operational links with other known facilitators and operators. Records further establish that the detainee is unlawfully present in Trinidad and Tobago notwithstanding the existence of a Deportation Order issued against her, continues to remain within the jurisdiction contrary to that Order. The detainee occupies a significant operational role within a transnational organised criminal enterprise and, unless preventively detained, presents a substantial risk of continuing to recruit, transport, harbour and exploit vulnerable victims, interfere with witnesses and frustrate the ongoing police investigation. Having regard to the organised nature of the criminal enterprise, the continuing investigation, the vulnerability of the victims, the existence of

unidentified accomplices and the serious threat posed to public safety by the continuation of human trafficking activities, a Preventive Detention Order pursuant to regulation 14 of the Emergency Powers Regulations, 2026, is necessary to prevent her from acting in a manner prejudicial to public safety.

Made this 21st day of July, 2026.

R. ALEXANDER
Minister of Homeland Security