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**MEDIA RELEASE**

**December 12, 2016**

### **T&T CHAMBER ADVOCATES FOR ZERO TOLERANCE ON CRIME**

Over the past week citizens of Trinidad and Tobago have had to endure the all too painful and sobering reminder that crime continues unabated in our nation.

Sadly, while this phenomenon is not new, from time to time, a particularly heinous act of criminality forces those of us who live and work here to collectively and vociferously voice our outrage as was witnessed this weekend at the Nelson Mandela Park in St. James.

In a release dated September 2, 2016, the Trinidad and Tobago Chamber of Industry and Commerce fully supported the commendable efforts of the Government and the Opposition as they pledged to employ a collaborative approach to fighting crime.

Since that time, however, it appears that little to no meaningful change has occurred - save and except for a sharp escalation in the number of disturbing incidents, compounded by continued low detection rates of less than 25 percent.

We at the T&T Chamber categorically denounce the cowardly acts of injustice against members of the business community, and by extension, everyone who has had their right to safety and security trampled upon by perpetrators bent on disrupting the lives of ordinary citizens.

The Trinidad and Tobago Chamber of Industry and Commerce calls upon the Government of Trinidad and Tobago – through the national security agencies - to use every available human and technical resource to effectively and efficiently stem the already high incidence of homicide and serious crime altogether.

Immediate action is clearly warranted to maintain law and order in our beloved country in the face of a creeping sense of hopelessness.

As articulated repeatedly, the T&T Chamber stands ready to assist as a national stakeholder in all key issues directed at the sustainability of our economy, and the security and well-being of our people.

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