

LEGAL NOTICE NO. 538

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 him from acting in any manner prejudicial to public safety and that 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, 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 HECTOR JULIO SERANO MARTINEZ of Endeavour Road, Chaguanas, 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:

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 HECTOR JULIO SERANO MARTINEZ of Endeavour Road, Chaguanas, shall be detained at 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 HECTOR JULIO SERANO MARTINEZ of Endeavour Road, Chaguanas, shall be detained and so kept in lawful custody.

Made this 5th 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, HECTOR JULIO SERANO MARTINEZ has been credibly identified as a member of an organised transnational criminal group operating between Trinidad and Tobago and the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela. The organised criminal group is engaged in extortion, demanding money with menaces, robbery and related organised criminal activity. Intelligence indicates that the group utilises local and foreign WhatsApp telephone numbers to threaten members of the public with violence to themselves and their families in order to extort substantial sums of money. Further Intelligence indicates that the detainee acts as a local contact and collector of monies obtained through extortion schemes targeting members of the public. The detainee and his associates have been recently identified by confidential intelligence as intending to imminently escalate extortion activities targeting members of the business community and the public at large. The detainee and others intend to continue participation in organised criminal activity through the use of threats, intimidation and demands for money, thereby posing a continuing threat to public safety.

A Preventive Detention Order pursuant to regulation 14 of the Emergency Powers Regulations, 2026, is necessary to disrupt these plans and prevent him from acting in a manner prejudicial to public safety.

Made this 5th day of July, 2026.

R. ALEXANDER