

LAWS OF TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO

TREASON ACT

CHAPTER 11:03

Act
16 of 1842
Amended by
45 of 1979

Current Authorised Pages

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Note on Subsidiary Legislation

This Chapter contains no subsidiary legislation.

CHAPTER 11:03

TREASON ACT

ARRANGEMENT OF SECTIONS

SECTION

1. Short title.
 2. Treason.
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CHAPTER 11:03

TREASON ACT

An Act relating to treason and misprision of treason.

1950 Ed.
Ch. 4, No. 5.
16 of 1842.
Commencement.

[22ND JULY 1844]

Short title.

1. This Act may be cited as the Treason Act.

Treason.
[45 of 1979].

2. Any person owing allegiance to the State who, whether in Trinidad or elsewhere—

- (a) forms an intention to levy war against the State or to overthrow the Government or the Constitution of Trinidad and Tobago by force and manifests such intention by any overt act;
- (b) adheres to the enemies of the State by giving them aid or comfort,

is guilty of treason and liable to suffer death by hanging.

Offences akin
to treason.
[45 of 1979].

3. (1) Any person who forms an intention to effect any of the following purposes, that is to say:

- (a) to levy war within Trinidad and Tobago in order by force to depose from his office the President or any member of the Cabinet or in order by force or constraint to compel the Government of Trinidad and Tobago to change its measures or counsels, or in order to put any force or constraint upon, or in order to intimidate or overawe, Parliament;
- (b) to induce any alien with force to invade Trinidad and Tobago,

and manifests such intention by an overt act is liable to imprisonment for life.

(2) Nothing in this section shall lessen the force of or in any manner affect anything enacted in section 2.

4. Any person who knows of any treason, and does not forthwith reveal the same to some Judge or Justice, is guilty of misprision of treason, and being convicted thereof shall suffer such punishment by way of imprisonment and fine as the Court shall award. Misprision of treason.

5. When any person is indicted for treason or misprision of treason, a copy of the indictment and a list of the witnesses that shall be produced on the trial for proving the said indictment, mentioning their names, professions, and places of abode, shall be delivered to the person so indicted ten days before the trial. Procedure.*

6. No person shall be indicted or tried for, or convicted of, treason or misprision of treason, but upon the oath of two lawful witnesses, either both of them to the same overt act, or one of them to one overt act and the other of them to another overt act of the same treason, unless such person willingly and without violence, in open Court, confesses the same. Evidence.

*The Law Revision (Miscellaneous Amendments) (No. 1) Act 1979 (No. 45 of 1979), Third Schedule, paragraph 7 provides as follows:

“In the provisions of the First Schedule [to the Law Revision (Miscellaneous Amendments) (No. 1) Act 1979] references to felony shall not be taken as including treason; but the procedure on trials for treason or misprision of treason shall be the same as the procedure as altered by the relevant amendments on trials for murder.”