



# LAW ASSOCIATION OF TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO

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## MEDIA RELEASE

The Law Association notes with some concern aspects of the recent Press Conference held by the Minister of National Security in which he questioned the role played by lawyers in recent court proceedings seeking to prevent the deportation of Venezuelan migrants, his criticism of the Court for not applying the law but "the policy that it wants", and his lament about the "upsurge in Habeas Corpus proceedings" the use of which he described as "very dangerous".

The Law Association wishes to remind the public that the Courts are bound to uphold all of the laws of the Republic of Trinidad and Tobago and to hear and determine all applications brought before the Court. For their part, attorneys-at-law are duty bound to represent their clients fearlessly in order to ensure that the law is followed and the State is held to account. The pandemic poses a danger to all of us, but the fundamental rights and freedoms guaranteed by the Constitution to all who happen to be on our shores, including especially the rights of the child, the Independence of the Judiciary and the rule of law must not be disregarded even in these trying times.

Law Association of Trinidad & Tobago  
30<sup>th</sup> November, 2020