

LEGAL NOTICE NO. 115

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 her 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 ANTONIA SORZANO also known as “SMILEY” of No. 43 Tarouba Road, Marabella, 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 ANTONIA SORZANO also known as “SMILEY” of No. 43 Tarouba Road, Marabella, shall be detained at the Women’s Prison located at Golden Grove, Arouca, or such other place as I may from time

to time direct as the place where the said ANTONIA SORZANO also known as “SMILEY” of No. 43 Tarouba Road, Marabella, shall be detained and so kept in lawful custody.

Made this 19th day of March, 2026.

R. ALEXANDER
Minister of Homeland Security

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

The detainee, ANTONIA SORZANO, also known as “SMILEY” has been credibly identified as a member of an Organised Crime Group (‘OCG’) within the legal definition of the Anti-Gang Act, 2021. The OCG has confirmed access to a cache of high-powered firearms and ammunition and is involved in murders and kidnapping for ransom including the movement of victims outside of the jurisdiction. She and others plan to imminently increase targeting members of the public to be kidnapped, trafficked and held for ransom and are prepared to use high-powered firearms in public spaces to effect the said kidnappings. Her detention is necessary to disrupt the gang’s operational capacity and prevent acts prejudicial to public safety.

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 19th day of March, 2026.

R. ALEXANDER
Minister of Homeland Security