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MEDIA RELEASE

Tuesday 15th November, 2022

For Immediate Release

EOC Caravan Starts in Tobago.

Tobago is the first stop in the Equal Opportunity Commission's (EOC) Nationwide Outreach Caravan.

The EOC's team will set up its signature blue tent at two locations: the Roxborough Administrative Complex on Thursday 17th November and in front of the Port Mall, Scarborough on Friday 18th November, 2022. The activities on both days will take place from 10am to 5pm.

Members of the public can expect to learn about the mandate of the EOC and its free services to the public and receive guidance from an EOC attorney about alleged matters of discrimination. Visitors to the booth can also look forward to participating in interactive activities to win prizes.

In lead up to the caravan, EOC Chairman Ian Roach said, "This is a pre-cursor to the EOC resuming its office days in the new year. We were always concerned about maintaining a relationship with the Tobago public when the COVID-19 restrictions impacted our ability to continue our office days in Tobago. We jumped at the opportunity to re-connect with Tobago stakeholders on the ground now that restrictions have been mostly lifted. The first stop in Tobago is meant to pave the way for a smooth transition for a more consistent presence on our sister isle."

EOC Commissioner John Arnold said, "the EOC has signalled that Tobago is a priority by commencing the caravan here. I would like to encourage my fellow Tobagonians to take advantage of this opportunity by visiting us at Roxborough and Scarborough to learn about your rights, which are protected by the Equal Opportunity Act."

One of the consequences of the pandemic was the inability of the EOC to visit various districts and connect with members of the public to inform them of their rights to equality of opportunity and possible redress at the EOC if they have been discriminated against. While these restrictions propelled the EOC to become more innovative and transform digitally, there remained a significant cross section of society, who for a number of reasons beyond the EOC's control, were unable to benefit from the digital transformation.

The Caravan is in keeping with the EOC's mandate to broaden and intensify the Commission's advocacy and outreach activities. The caravan will also visit six (6) locations in Trinidad.

Follow the EOC's social media pages or press for more details about the Nationwide Caravan. Facebook: Equal Opportunity Commission of Trinidad and Tobago LinkedIn: Equal Opportunity Commission of Trinidad and Tobago Instagram: Equal Opportunity Commission TT

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