

## **MEDIA RELEASE**

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### **Asset Recovery Legal Framework Judicial Sensitisation Session, July 16<sup>th</sup> 2024**

The Judicial Education Institute of Trinidad and Tobago (JEITT) in collaboration with the Office of the Attorney General and Ministry of Legal Affairs, the British High Commission to Trinidad and Tobago and Gentium UK facilitated a 1-day Asset Recovery Legal Framework Judicial Sensitisation session on July 16, 2024.

Gentium UK's Mr. Alex Ferguson led the Sensitisation session which focused on procedures for the consideration of Civil and Criminal matters in relation to Confiscation and Asset Recovery, key issues in relation to Asset Management, Criminal Forfeiture/Confiscation, and Civil Recovery of the proceeds of crime using case examples of successful frameworks and operational mechanisms to prevent and detect financial crime.

Key note addresses delivered by the Honourable the Chief Justice, Mr. Justice Ivor Archie O.R.T.T., and the Honourable Reginald T. A. Armour S.C., Attorney General and Minister of Legal Affairs sought to increase Judicial Officers' knowledge and awareness of national policies and actions geared to prioritising the tracing, seizure and confiscation of criminal assets and enhancing asset recovery and confiscation cooperation at the national, regional and international levels.

Judicial Officers were made aware of the strategic and operational changes required at national and international levels to ignite asset recovery and take the profit out of crime based on the revisions to the Financial Action Task Force (FATF) International Standards and in preparation for the 5th Round of the Mutual Evaluation Assessment process for Trinidad and Tobago in 2026.

Recovering criminal assets is a key component in Trinidad and Tobago's approach to combating money laundering, terrorist financing and proliferation financing. By successfully confiscating and forfeiting assets and property linked to crime, national authorities can remove the driver for crime and the funding opportunities for future criminal activity.



(From Left to Right)

1. Mrs. Vyana Sharma- Director of Anti-Terrorism Unit
2. Mr. Alex Ferguson- Consultant/Facilitator Gentium UK
3. The Honourable the Chief Justice Mr. Justice Ivor Archie, O.R.T.T. (President of the JEITT)
4. The Senator the Honourable Reginald T.A. Armour, S.C. Attorney General and Minister of Legal Affairs
5. The Hon. Mme. Justice Quinlan-Williams, Board Member, JEITT
6. Mr. Raymond Roberts- Registrar and Marshal of the Supreme Court Ag, Board Member, JEITT
7. Master Sydelle Johnson, Board Member, JEITT

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