

CHRISTMAS MESSAGE 2025
FROM THE COMMISSIONER OF POLICE
HON. RICHARD BOYCE, OR

“Christmas is a season not only of rejoicing, but of reflection.”

— Winston Churchill

In recent weeks, as I listened to the stirring performances of The Barbados Police Service Band and watched the way their music brought joy, comfort, and togetherness to people of all ages, I was reminded of the true spirit of Christmas alive in our communities. Their dedication, discipline, and artistry reflect the very ideals of service and unity that we cherish, and they remind us that, even in challenging times, the light of possibility still shines brightly across our nation.

As the season of peace and goodwill draws near, I extend heartfelt greetings not only to every member of The Barbados Police Service, both sworn officers and police staff, but to the people of Barbados at large, whom we are honoured to serve and protect. This sacred time of year offers us the opportunity to pause, reflect, and express our deepest gratitude for the work done in service to our nation and its people.

Each year brings its share of challenges and triumphs, and 2025 has been no exception. Through your resilience, professionalism, and teamwork, we have continued to strengthen the bond between police and community, and I commend all members of the Service for your contribution to the reduction in murders—a clear indicator that our intelligence-led policing, community partnerships, and strategic interventions are making a real difference in saving lives and restoring safety to our communities.

Yet, even as we acknowledge these important gains, we must confront the realities that still weigh heavily on our society. We recognise that gun crime remains a serious and troubling challenge, one that has caused fear, pain, and disruption in too many lives. The Barbados Police Service is making steady progress in this area through targeted enforcement, intelligence gathering, and community collaboration, but there is still work to be done, and I ask for the continued patience, trust, and support of the public as, together, we work to wrestle this problem to the ground and restore a deeper sense of security in every community.

As we reflect more broadly on the year, we must also recognise the challenges that persist in other areas of criminal activity. This year, robberies have seen a notable and troubling increase, reminding us of the ever-changing nature of crime and the need to remain vigilant, adaptive, and proactive. Our response in 2026 must therefore be informed by thoughtful analysis, collaboration, and decisive action, ensuring that our policing strategies remain responsive to both emerging threats and community concerns.

Equally concerning have been the incidents of fatal accidents on our roads, which continue to bring tragedy to too many families. Each life lost is one too many, and these painful reminders strengthen our resolve. The Barbados Police Service remains deeply committed to intensifying road safety education and enforcement, guided by the conviction that public safety extends beyond crime prevention and rests also on fostering a culture of responsibility and care on our roadways.

Ralph Waldo Emerson once said, "The reward of a thing well done is to have done it." As I observe the continued dedication across every Division, Department, and Unit, I am reminded that your daily acts of service—often quiet, unseen, and undertaken with great sacrifice—form the backbone of our success. From the constable on night patrol, to the specialist investigator, from administrative support to technical staff, each of you plays a vital role in advancing our mission of service, integrity, and excellence.

As we celebrate this festive season, it is important that we also look inward and take care of ourselves and our loved ones. I encourage you to take time to rest, reconnect with your families, and reflect on the purpose that unites us. Let us also remember in our prayers those colleagues who are no longer with us, and those who will spend Christmas on duty, ensuring that others can celebrate in peace.

Looking ahead to 2026, we must carry forward both the lessons and the inspiration of the past year. Let us build upon our achievements while confronting our challenges with renewed determination. Guided by the values of discipline, compassion, and fairness, we will continue to modernise our Service, enhance community partnerships, and maintain the highest standards of professionalism.

I extend warm wishes to you, your families, and the wider Barbadian public for a blessed Christmas and a successful New Year. May this season bring you peace, joy, and renewed strength to continue your noble calling in safeguarding our nation and supporting one another as a community.

Together, we will continue to serve with pride and purpose—upholding the motto of The Barbados Police Service: "To serve, protect, and reassure."

Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year to all.