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The Newspaper That Cares And Dares To Bring Out The Truth'

No. 310

Sunday, May 27, 2012

Price \$1.00

Kevin Santos - Back In Trouble Ag

SAN IGNACIO TOWN, Cayo, **Tuesday, May 22, 2012:**

The name is **Kevin Santos**. The last time he came to the attention of the media was 6 years ago. He was only 16 years of age at the time, charged for the murder of a San Ignacio Town boy. His identity was protected by the system. Neither his name nor his photograph could be published. Fast forward to today, six years later he is now 22 years of age, the legislative protection he enjoyed six years ago is gone.

He was found guilty of the Christmas Eve 2006 stabbing murder of **Chris Rosales**, a San Ignacio boy. The fatal incident was reportedly sparked by, of all



Kevin Santos, 22

things, the color of the shirt Rosales was wearing.

A twelve member jury unanimously found him guilty and he was sentenced to spend the rest of his life in jail without the possibility of parole.

The sentence was appealed and, after spending five years in jail, Santos was freed of the murder charge and the life imprisonment sentence.

After only a few months of freedom, he has returned to prison, this time on remand stemming from a joint robbery charge.

The incident goes like this: In the early morning hours of Thursday, May 17, acting upon information received of a fight in progress near the market in San



Lionel "Kaika" Canales Ignacio Town, a team of policemen rushed to the location

Please Turn To Page 15

lay Suspected In Murcia's Death No Foul Pl

BENQUE VIEJO TOWN, Cayo, Saturday, May 19, 2012:

The body of a San Ignacio man, reported missing a day earlier, was found shortly before 7 o'clock on Monday, May 21, floating in the Mopan River behind the bus terminal in Benque Viejo Town.

Benque police received the missing person report shortly before 10 o'clock on the morning of Sunday, May 20 when

Rosa Rodriquez, 47, Belizean, businesswoman of a San Ignacio Town address visited the station and filed a missing person report in respect of her 20 year old son, Santos Vicente Murcia who was reportedly last seen drunk in the town at around 7 o'clock on Saturday, May 19.

The investigation revealed that the deceased left home at around 8 o'clock on Saturday morning to take an exam at the Cayo Center for Employment Training where he was enrolled in a tourism class. The class was reportedly dismissed at around 10 that morning when the examination papers did not arrive as scheduled.

The mother informed that, shortly after 10 o'clock that same Saturday morning, her son called and informed her of the cancelled exam while simultaneously informing that he would be

hanging with some friends for a while.

The mother reported received another call from her son at around 4 o'clock that Saturday evening informing her that he would be at home in about two hours time. When he did not return home all of Saturday night she traveled to Benque Viejo Town and eventually to the police station where she lodged the

Please Turn To Page 2

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Is This Just Another Display Of The Slave Master Mentality?

Bolivian president **Evo Morales**, like **Hugo Chavez** of Venezuela, is considered a socialist leader in the Americas, while these two hemispheric leaders remain in the regional spotlight for making sweeping changes in the best interest of the people they serve, we note that it was only recently that **Evo Morales**, realizing that the electricity resource of Bolivia should be government owned and managed, moved swiftly and took control of the previously privately owned national electricity company of Bolivia.

In terms of land mass and population Bolivia is light years ahead of our tiny Belize. Its land mass is almost 48 times bigger than ours and its population, 2010 statistics, is 29 times larger than ours.

Notwithstanding our national size, and, when compared to Morales and Chavez, the not so overt socialist inclination of our Prime Minister **Dean Barrow**, in this comparison Belize comes several months, or almost a whole year, ahead of Bolivia.

June 21, 2012 will mark the first anniversary of the reverting of Belize's national electricity company into the hands of the people through its government where it rightfully belongs.

Despite recent uneasiness by a small section of the unionized workforce of our national electricity company, BEL seems to be progressing ahead quite well.

As recently expressed by the new Belizean management of the company: "Its primary function is to keep the lights on". The board and management of the company will therefore make decisions always with a view of keeping the lights on.

The previous Canadian majority owners of the company only threatened to undertake "*rolling blackouts*" in other words giving the nation moments of darkness. The company was out the door even before it could make good on those threats as the nation could ill afford to be cast into darkness.

The recent uneasiness by that small group of union members is, among other demands, calling for the removal of the Chief Executive Officer. One of the reasons cited is because of management's decision to make redundant some positions at the Gas Turbine Facility on the Western Highway. This move they contend, will affect the restoration of power to the national grid in the event of a disruption in power. Well guess what, if under the watch of the current CEO, this was ever to occur, it will not be that small group who will be calling for the head of the CEO it will instead be a whole lot of angry Belizeans who will be calling for the head of the CEO to roll. Now let's think straight for a moment here- would any right thinking CEO want to be in such a position?

There is also the demand for the CEO to go because of the dismissal of some employees found "under the influence while handling live wire and equipment". The electricity company, like Belize Mills, Sol Belize and many others in this country, take pride in their safety record. If a few linesmen would be fatally injured while handling "live wires and equipment while intoxicated" would this not reflect negatively on the CEO and his management team? Are these union members telling us that it is OK to perform these dangerous duties while drunk? Those terminated employees, obviously with some form of dependence on the beverage, should rather count their blessing as they could have very well been spared of serious, if not fatal injuries. We all remember the law of probability: Every day carry bucket to the well, one day the bottom will drop out.

Then there is the matter of their demand for the payment of bonus for 2008, 2009 and 2010. These were the years when the company was under Canadian ownership. Why did they remain silent all these years? Where were their voices? Why did they not rise up against their Canadian bosses? Is this a typical case of the person who is nice to strangers even in the face of insults and displays violent tendencies at home where the ones who love him reside? Or is this just another display of the slave master mentality?



From Front Page

missing person report.

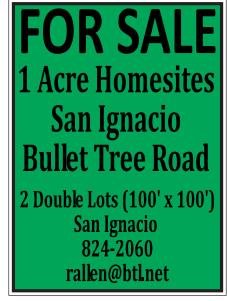
The police investigation led to the questioning of Benque taxi driver, Alberto Gamez, 39, who reportedly told the police that he came in contact with the missing man at around 7 o'clock on Saturday night. He informed that, in a drunken state, the man approached him at the taxi stand in front of the bus terminal, requesting to hire his services for the ride to San Ignacio. Realizing the state in which he was in, Gamez reportedly refused the job. He informed that the man did not take lightly the refusal and in displaying his displeasure, the man reportedly stoned the beer pint from which he was drinking, at Gamez' car resulting in a dent in the trunk area of the car.

The man was reportedly detained by Gamez, placed in the car and while transporting him to the police station, the man reportedly jumped out of the car and ran off towards the river and eventually disappearing into the darkness. Gamez was reportedly assisted by some taxi driver friends in the fruitless search of the escapee. The police were reportedly brought into the picture and a search along the banks to the river, behind the bus terminal first led to the discovery of a pair of white tennis shoes suspected to be the property of the escapee.

A fruitless search of the area and in the river, by relatives and

friends was as conducted on Sunday but it was not until around 7 o'clock on Monday morning when the body, identified to be that of Santos Vicente Murcia, was found floating not far from where the tennis shoes was found the day before.

The body was removed from the river, and transported to the community hospital in San Ignacio where it was officially pronounced dead by **Dr. Faustino Pineda**, the medical officer on duty at the time. Police reported no visible signs of injury on the body thereby ruling out foul play in the death of **Santos Vicente Murcia.**





Twelve Months Jail Time For Escaping Lawful Custody

SAN IGNACIO TOWN, Cayo, **Tuesday, 22 May, 2012:**

What could have been a simple slap on the wrist turned into some serious jail time for a man charged for drug trafficking in the courtroom of Magistrate Narda Morgan.

On Tuesday, May 22, as is customary, prisoners were cleaning their cells and themselves before the arrival of the morning relief.

It was at this point that police reportedly heard a noise coming from behind the traffic office adjacent to the cell block.

Upon investigating the matter, a policeman saw detainee Danddy Urbina, 21, of an Orange Walk Town address, held on a drug trafficking charge squeezing himself under the fence that separates the cell block from freedom outside.

Urbina gained freedom and the police, with a hot potato in their hands, immediately set chase



Danddy Urbina, 21

after him.

In his mad rush to freedom Urbina ran down to the bank of the Macal River before he was caught by the police. He was brought back to the station where he was formally arrested and charged for escaping from lawful custody.

Danddy Urbina, appeared before Magistrate Narda Morgan on Tuesday, May 22, 2012, when asked by the court, Prosecutor George Gomez informed that the defendant was shackled and bound in court because of the prior escaping from the police.

Gomez further told the court that this measure was taken for the safety of the public and for the safety of the accused himself. On the new charge of escaping from lawful custody the accused pled guilty with an explanation. Urbina claims that the reason for the attempt to escape stems from being starved and mistreated by the police.

Urbina was awaiting transportaton to central prison on remand for drug trafficking and would have secured bail on his next appearance.

However, on the escape charge was sentenced to one year in jail

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Belmopan Comprehensive High School Classroom Project Belmopan City, **Cayo District**

Project Status: Completed













PROJECT TYPE: Classroom Project

PARTNER: Belmopan Comprehensive High School IMPACT: 826 Students, 59 Teachers, 11 Support Staff

BELIZE NATURAL ENERGY CHARITABLE TRUST INVESTMENT COST: \$101,887.39 PARTNER'S CONTRIBUTION: In-kind Support INAUGURATED: May 14th, 2012



The Trust is a partnership between the Government of Belize and Belize Natural Energy Ltd.





Your Most Loyal Reader

Mr. Editor,

I am writing this letter to congratulate you on taking over your father's business. I applaud you for shouldering such great responsibilities. I want to tell you how proud I am to see our generation rise to the occasion. For a man your age, it is admirable the growth and intellect you have shown over the years.

The work ahead may get laborious and strenuous but I am optimistic you have the tenacity and drive to meet every task with enthusiasm and boundless energy.

This may be exactly what the **STAR** Newspaper needs. Fresh perspective and new insights await your readership.

For many people who have known you since childhood, this accomplishment is just the beginning. A great man once said, "There are three types of people in this world: those who make things happen, those who watch

what happen, and those who wonder what happened."

I am proud to say you are in the minute group who make things happen. Sometimes I forget you are only twenty four years old because you are mature beyond your years. What I never forget is how eager and malleable you are. Those are traits I wish more of our young people have. Some of us are born with greatness and others have to work harder to achieve it. Complacency is the festering sore to an otherwise healthy body.

It has been a pleasure to have known you for as long as I have. I want to formally welcome you into the journalism field and extend my best wishes for great things to come for you. If you can dream it, and believe it, you can do it. Thank you for being a shining example for so many young people who need affirmation that they too can.

My Dear Belizean Friends

Dear My Belizean Friends,

I am a Belizean who is proud of our Belizean American sister Marion Jones. In all that she did Belize her parents country was always in her mind and she was willing to do any and everything for our country. It was unfortunate that she was imprisoned for the use of enhancement drugs which most athletes use.

America is a country where you can reach the highest in life but also take a drastic fall especially when you are not white. Marion Jones received one of Belize's highest honor and had a stadium named after her which she contributed to financially. The stadium is still under construction and will be the most expensive multi-sporting complex in the country of Belize. There is no move to rename the complex and there should be no such move because she is deserving of such accolades.

We as Belizeans who live in America, can learn a lesson from

Marion Jones' experience and try to have something in our motherland Belize in case something of this nature was to happen to us in this country. What happened to her in the United States would have never occured in Belize because our country is always who you know and who know you in most instances. She will not be the first or the last Black woman to experience this unfortunate ordeal in America. We must all continue to love and support her as fellow Belizeans. Marion Jones, despite your difficult experience we still love you and we stand behind you 100% and if you get tired of living in America, Belize will is there waiting for you to welcome you with open arms anytime.

Your Belizean Friend,
Wellington C. Ramos
Public Relations Officer
United Garifuna Association Inc.
New York City Chapter
Telephone: (718) 210-7841
Columnist







Second Annual Hopkins Mango Festival

Belize City, Belize – May 23, 2012 – If you love mangoes, there is a Festival you cannot miss! The Belize Tourism Industry Association (BTIA) Hopkins hosts its 2nd Annual Hopkins Mango Festival this Saturday, May 26th, 2012 in Hopkins Village, Stann Creek District.

Reva Dark of BTIA Hopkins said, "This year, we will have a mango desert and best mango recipe contest. Activities will include a dory race, drumming lessons, mango eating competitions, children's relay race, volley ball, greasy pole, adult and children dance contests, and the crowning of the Mango King and Queen."

This festivity appeals to all ages and is a great outing for families in search of a fun, and unique experience. Imagine, from the juiciest mangoes to the most addictive mango dishes all on display. This is the perfect opportunity to taste and enjoy this scrumptious fruit in its splendor – whether you prefer mango juices, mango ice cream or mango jam. All can be found at the Hopkins Mango Festival.

Apart from the numerous activities, this year's Mango Festival highlights dynamic entertainment, comprised of live music, cultural dancers, and live drumming by the Lebeha Family Group. Everyone is invited to be a part of this event, celebrating one of Belize most delectable fruits.

Mark your calendars for Saturday, May 26th, 2012! The festival commences at 10:00 a.m. and ends at 6:00 p.m. The second Hopkins Mango Festival will exceed your expectations!

For more information on the Hopkins Mango Festival contact Reva Dark of BTIA Hopkins via e-mail at btiahopkins@gmail.com or revadark@gmail.com.

About the Belize Tourism Board

The Belize Tourism Board (BTB) is a statutory body within the Belize Ministry of Tourism, and it is governed by a Board of Directors appointed by the Minister of Tourism. The BTB works in conjunction with members of the private sector - including the Belize Hotel Association, Belize Tourism Industry Association and Belize National Tour Operators Association - and is dedicated to building tourism in the most economically and environmentally sustainable manner. As a part of its responsibilities, the BTB promotes Belize as a premier tourism destination to both in-country and international consumers. Among its outreach to the international travel market, the BTB markets the country's unique attractions to travelers, members of the travel trade industry and media outlets in key markets.

The BTB is also dedicated to developing and implementing tourism programs that will help strengthen and grow the Belizean tourism industry; promote good destination stewardship; and instill high quality standards for accommodations and travel experiences. For more information on the BTB and its services, visit www.travelbelize.org.

Contact: Lenny Ayuso

Local Press and Events Coordinator Belize Tourism Board E-mail: layuso@travelbelize.org Contact: 227-2488 /227-2420 Website: www.travelbelize.org



Social Investment Fund



Belize Municipal Development Project

Constitution Drive, P.O. Box 459, Belmopan, Belize C.A.

\$1.4 MILLION MARKET PROJECT LAUNCHED IN DANGRIGA

Press Release No. 9 - 2012

BELMOPAN CITY, Thursday 24 May 2012:

A \$1.4 million dollar project, which will renovate and expand the municipal market in Dangriga, will be officially launched today in that municipality. The project is the largest infrastructure project started to date under the Government's \$30 million



Hon. Santiago Castillo

Belize Municipal Development Project (BMDP), which aims to bring much needed infrastructure development to seven municipalities in Belize.

The project, which is expected to begin in the next two weeks, will rehabilitate the existing



Existing Market Building

Ferro-concrete market building, including the fish section of the market, to improve the working conditions of the vendors, and provide an extension of approximately 2,000 square feet for additional stall space for some of the vendors presently occupying the market's parking-lot. On completion of the project, the facility will have the capacity to accommodate approximately 41 stalls (25 new and 19 refurbished stalls). The nine vendors occupying



Major Gilbert Swaso

parking-lot of the market will be relocated to the enhanced facility.

The end result of this project will be an improved market where vendors will offer a better service and where residents of Dangriga will be able to interact in a more pleasant and safe environment.

The project will be implemented by the Project Implementation Unit of the BMDP under the umbrella of the Social Investment Fund at an estimated cost of \$1.4 M, including counterpart funding from the Dangriga

> Town Council. The BMDP a project that financed by the Government of Belize through a loan from the World Bank. The project aims to improve access to basic municipal

infrastructure and to enhance municipal management in selected Town and City Councils of Belize. These include Belmopan, Benque Viejo del Carmen, San Ignacio and Santa Elena, Dangriga, Punta Gorda, Corozal and Orange Walk.

The project is focusing on three main categories namely:



Members of the Implementation Unit at the ceremony

Municipal Infrastructure Investments, **Technical** Assistance and Capacity **Building for Town and City**

Other speakers at the official launching ceremony included Mr. Daniel Cano, Executive Director of the Social



Lirahunu Satuye Cultural Group

Councils and Central Investment Fund, Retired Government and Project Major Gilbert Swaso, Mayor



(L-R) Major Gilbert Swaso, Hon. Santiago Castillo, Mr. Daniel Cano

The keynote speaker at the launching ceremony was Hon.

Management and Administration.

Santiago Castillo, Minister of State with responsibility for Economic Development.

of Dangriga and Ms. Venancia Flores, Deputy Mayor of Dangriga Town among others. There was also be presentations by the Lirahunu Satuve Cultural Group

*STAR HUMOR

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Who Says Men Don't Remember Anniversaries

Jane awakes during the night to find that her husband was not in their bed.

She puts on her robe and goes downstairs to look for him. She finds him sitting at the kitchen table with a cup of coffee in front him. He appears deep in thought, just staring at the wall. She watches as he wipes a tear from his eye and takes a sip of coffee.

"What's the matter, dear?" she whispers as she steps into the room. "Why are you down here at this time of night?"

John, her husband looks up, "Do you remember 20 years ago when we were dating, and you were only 17?" he asks solemnly.

Jane was touched by the idea of

thinking her husband is so caring and sensitive. "Yes, I do," she replies.

John pauses. The words are not coming easily. "Do you remember when your father caught us in the back seat of my car?"

"Yes, I remember," replied Jane, lowering herself into a chair beside him.

John continues..."Do you remember when he shoved a shotgun in my face and said, either you marry my daughter, or I will send you to jail for 20 years".

"I remember that too", Jane replies softly.

John wipes another tear from his cheek and says... "I would have gotten out today!"

Perfect Fit

Johnny a special guest speaker at this year's town council award ceremony was in such a hurry to get to the venue that when he arrived and sat down at the head table, he suddenly realized that he had forgotten his false teeth.

Turning to the man next to him Johnny said: "I forgot my teeth."

"No problem," the man said. He reached into his pocket and pulled out a pair of false teeth: "Try these."

Johnny tried them: "Too loose," he said.

The kind man then said: "I have another pair - try these."

Johnny tried them and

responded: "Too tight."

The man was not taken back at all. He then said: "I have one more pair. Try them."

Johnny tried them and said: "They fit perfectly!" With that Johnny ate his meal and gave his speech.

After the award ceremony was over, Johnny went over to thank the man who had helped him: "I want to thank you for coming to my aid," he said: "Where is your office? I've been looking for a good dentist." asked Johnny.

To which the man replied: "Oh, I'm not a dentist. I'm an undertaker."

Gold Fish Burial

Little eight-year-old Nancy was in the garden filling in a hole when her neighbor peered over the fence. Interested in what the youngster was doing, he asked: "What are you doing there, Nancy?"

"My goldfish died," Nancy sobbed. "And I've just buried him."

The obnoxious neighbor laughed and said condescendingly: "That's a really big hole for a little goldfish, don't you think?"

Nancy patted down the last heap of earth with her shovel and replied: "That's because he's inside your cat."

Predicting The Weather

A film crew was on location deep in the desert. One day an Old Indian went up to the director and said, "Tomorrow rain."

The next day it rained.

A week later, the Indian went up to the director and said, "Tomorrow storm."

The next day there was a hailstorm.

"This Indian is incredible," said the director. He told his secretary to hire the Indian to

predict the weather. However, several successful predictions, the old Indian didn't show up for two weeks.

Finally the director sent for him. "I have to shoot a big scene tomorrow," said the director, "and I'm depending on you. What will the weather be like?"

The Indian shrugged his shoulders. "Don't know," he said. "Radio broken."

I Know I Can Do It

A blonde decides to try horse back riding without any experience or lessons. She mounts the horse with great effort, and the tall, shiny horse springs into motion.

It gallops along at a steady and rhythmic pace, but the blonde begins to slip from the saddle. Out of sheer terror, she grabs for the horse's mane but cannot seem to get a firm grip. She tries to throw her arms around the horse's neck, but slides down the side of the horse anyway.

The horse gallops along, seemingly oblivious to its slipping rider.

Finally, giving up her frail grip, she leaps away from the horse to try and throw herself to safety. Unfortunately, her foot has become entangled in the stirrup. She is now at the mercy of the horse's pounding hooves as her head is struck against the ground again and again.

As her head is battered against the ground, she is moments away from unconsciousness or even death when Todd, the Brodies Manager, runs out to turn the mechanical horse off.

STAR Newspaper

"The Newspaper that cares and dares to bring out the truth"

> **Apt.**#5 **Hoffman Complex** Western Highway, Santa Elena, Cayo, Belize, Central America

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My Thoughts On The ICJ

BY: Rudolph Bowman

Bill Russell, famous basketball center for the Boston Celtics, used to say before his team hit the floor: the game is scheduled, we have to play, we might as well win. Hopefully, the same for our ICJ team. But first, come on, guys, we have over 200 trillion (US trillion) square cm of land; surely we can let them have I sq. cm if they promise to leave us alone (ok, just jesting, we need that cm on principle, plus it would be hard to sought out which one).

I enjoyed reading **Ms. Shoman's** piece on why we should go to the ICJ. As she says essentially, for closure on both sides, and with our side, as she says, having a formidable case. Bottom line, no real need for worry.

I don't know how many negotiations took place since the **Webster Proposal**. It would appear to me that during those times both sides showed their hands and presented what they wanted, what they would not give

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LIQUOR LICENSE NOTICES

Notice is hereby be given that under the Intoxicating Liquor License Ordinance Chapter 150 of the Laws of Belize, Revised Edition 2000, that FRED EATON is applying for a MALT & CIDER LIQUOR LICENSE for the year 2012 to operate SOLPILAR located at Mile 6 near El Pilar, Bullet Tree Falls Village in the Cayo District. up, and what may be negotiable. Wasn't Guatemala at one time given some concessions other than land?

Here are my thoughts on the matter as one with no legal background except from television (Harry's Law, The Good Wife; come on, I submit to you programs those aren't completely irrelevant and *immaterial*). The Court will let us keep our territorial integrity, but will strongly suggest, maybe even mandate, that we do something for Guatemala. This could be concession(s) since we were already willing at one time to do so, or indemnity (some sort of payback; the Americans did give Spain a little cash after they took the Philippines, Samoa, and Puerto Rico). The Court will not let Guatemala go back empty handed to its people. It could be things as simple as already exit but expanded: cultural exchanges, scholarships

to teach them English, hotel and tourism management, free pass through for both as in the EU; they could train our doctors. As Ms. Shoman implied we are now Centroamericanos, aunque no queremos ser Chapines.

I do agree with Ms. Shoman. We need to put this behind us for our children, and our children's children. Our skirmishes at the border make this settlement extremely important (it could really escalate one day, and turn into something both sides didn't want, and didn't anticipate). It may not discontinue if they think they are simply going into their ancestral lands, and harvesting their resources. No politician can tell them otherwise, at least not explicitly.

We have great negotiators but they need to know ahead of time what the people are not willing to part with, and if, God forbid, what they may have to, that's acceptable. While the Guatemalans probably will not, the Belizeans have the opportunity to kick that proverbial can down the road one more time. *To be continued....*

Thank You!!!

The family of the late Marco David Thompson extends sincere appreciation to all who assisted them in the time of their bereavement. Special thanks is extended to Mr. and Mrs. Flemming and family, Andy Bahadur, Father Leo Palma, Father George Clybus and the Sacred Heart College Community.



BELIZE PRESS OFFICE

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Reduction of Fuel Pump Prices

Belmopan, 24th May, 2012. The Ministry of Finance informs the general public of decreased in pump prices of Fuel Products for the tanker that arrived on May 23rd, 2012.

The Belize City Pump Prices per gallon changed as follows (effective May 24, 2012)

Commodity	Present Pump	New Pump Price	Total
	Price in Bze City	in Bze City	(Decrease)
Premium	\$12.24	\$11.43	-\$0.81
Regular	\$11.38	\$10.97	-\$0.41
Diesel	\$10.77	\$10.31	-\$0.46

Prices for fuel products in the districts will also be reduced commensurately.

The Ministry of Finance also informs the public that, in keeping with Government policy, any future price changes in acquisition cost will be passed on fully to the prices at the pump.

Ministry of Finance, Belmopan.

Your Weekly Horoscope & Lucky Numbers

ARIES:

March 22 to April 20

Things will go in your favor this week, although today you might find that it maybe slow to get moving. It could be that there is a bit of stress on your body and that you aren't feeling very motivated to get up and go. Don't worry about it. This feeling will soon pass and you'll feel like your old self in no time. Lucky numbers: 09, 43, 68.

TAURUS: April 21 to May 21

Discipline and a sense of duty have been major themes for you lately. It might seem like someone has put the brakes on a current plan of yours. Try not to see this as negative. Be aware of the passage of time and consider using this period to organize your scattered energy. This is a good time to focus and streamline your life. **Lucky numbers:27,52,75.**

GEMINI: May 22 to June 21

Your ego and physical vitality should experience a boost this week. Try to hone in on the solid, grounding energy that is always encouraging you to come to terms with your emotions. Be careful that you aren't hurting someone just because you know that they'll forgive you. Lucky numbers: 31, 46, 83.

CANCER: June 22 to July 23

It might be hard to find the exact direction you're looking for

this week. It could be that there is a strong force urging you to slow down and be more practical with your energy. This may not be the advice you want to hear, but it probably is the advice you need to follow. Remember that the world does not revolve around you. Lucky numbers: 13, 35, 63.

LEO: July 24 to August 21

Just when you are feeling good and solid in your plan, something or someone may step in to rain on your parade. You could get the feeling this week that you're taking one step forward and two steps back. Perhaps there is a feeling of doubt creeping into the picture. Try not to let these nagging, restrictive energies hold you back. Be confident about your abilities. Lucky numbers: **04**, **56**, **95**.

VIRGO: August 22 to September 21

Restriction might weigh heavily on you this week. Perhaps you are being reminded that there are some important details that you need to take care of. You need to adopt a more disciplined approach in your life. Is it time for some restructuring? Don't be afraid of change, and don't let feelings of responsibility hold you down. This is an important time in which you can hit it big. **Lucky numbers: 17, 49, 65.**

LIBRA: September 22



to October 23

Try not to worry too much this week. Take care of details and tasks to get things accomplished. Check things off your list and you will feel much better about yourself and the direction you are headed. Keep your eyes open and try not to have tunnel vision on every issue. Give people the benefit of the doubt instead of the third degree. Concentrate on what you need to do. Lucky numbers: 20, 32, 93.

SCORPIO: October 24 to November 21

Aspects of your life that you have neglected lately might haunt you this week. Make sure you are keeping up with all your responsibilities. Things may come to a dramatic climax this week, and you could find yourself at an important crossroads. Nervous energy could cause you to run around frantically in search of the right path. Don't let indecision keep you from getting where you need to go. Lucky numbers: 07, 54, 87.

SAGITTARIUS: November 22 to December 21

You might find it easier to connect with others at this time. It would be wise for you to reconnect with friends or family members you may have lost touch with. Their energy can bring an entirely different perspective to your life, which could surprise you with its richness. The aspects are also good for meeting new people. Don't hesitate to get out there and mix and mingle! Lucky numbers: 22, 39, 73.

CAPRICORN: December 22 to January 20

You will find that disciplined actions are the best way to go about this week. Stay focused on your path. You can accomplish many tasks at the same time if you play your cards right. Try not to get tied down with details. People might cause you to worry too much. Don't let their energy get in the way of your progress. Lucky numbers:15, 64, 89.

AQUARIUS: January 21 to February 19

Decisions will be even more difficult to make than usual this week. On one hand, you may feel a need to stabilize, while on the other hand you may find that your energy is raging in a million different directions as you want to seek new experiences and social interactions with others. Try to adopt a plan that combines both of these energies. Nervous energy will keep you moving. Lucky numbers: 18, 58, 71.

PISCES: February 20 to March 21

There is a solid grounding to this week that might have you feeling less than energetic about getting the ball rolling. Don't be surprised if there is a sense of r estriction and duty weighing you down. Times of rest and reflection are very important in the natural cycle. Don't think that you always need to be on the go in order to make progress. Put your warring nature aside today and rest. Lucky numbers: 24, 69, 91.



E-mail: cleanmasterbz@yahoo.com



Every Thursday Night check out the new brand Entertainment inside Cayo's #1 and Elegant Next Lounge Bar Presents "Rockstar" (Karaoke Thursdays) with Belmopan's best Karaoke King Bernard. Dance follows with DJ Benz of World Class Entertainment and DJ Diamond.

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Ministry of Education, Youth & Sports

NOTICE Government of Belize





The Government of Belize (GOB) is offering Professional and Technical Scholarship Awards for 2012. These scholarships are tenable ONLY at the University of the West Indies, the University of Technology in Jamaica, and the University of Guyana.

Limited to the Awards

The scholarship award is limited to **Bachelor Degree Programs** only and is applicable for a maximum of three (3) consecutive academic years of study in so far as student remains in good standing for the duration of the program. Only in exceptional cases will the Ministry of Education, Youth and Sports consider **Post Graduate Programs**.

Coverage of the Awards

The scholarship covers tuition (including Economic Cost), allowances for room and board, books and incidental expenses. Airfare and matriculation cost will **NOT** be covered under the scholarship award

Eligibility

- 1. Applicant must be citizen of Belize.
- 2. Applicant must gain acceptance into the respective Faculty of the University at which he/she proposes to attend.
- 3. Consideration will be given to those courses of study that are among the following national priorities, which are not listed in order of preference.

Agricultural Economics Geology Transport Technology a. Agricultural Marketing/Trade Petroleum Geoscience Labour and Employment Relations b. Chemical/Civil Electrical/Mechanical Engineering c. h. Finance Hospital Management m. d. Human Resource Management Psychiatry Physical Therapy Speech Therapy Economics Nursing

Other Conditions of the Scholarship Award

Each scholarship recipient will be required to return to Belize whenever he/she successfully completes his/her course of study and to serve the Government of Belize (or with the permission of the Government of Belize, serve in the private sector in his profession or calling) for a period of four years commencing from the date of employment in Belize. Applicants will be required to sign a Bond Agreement with the Government of Belize in this respect.

The scholarship is normally for the duration of the program of studies and requires that the scholarship holder maintain a B grade at the University where he/she is enrolled. Application forms can be obtained from the District Education Centers or at the Ministry of Education, Youth and Sports in Belmopan.

All completed forms must be filled out in **duplicate** and hand delivered to the Director of Tertiary, Post-secondary and Adult & Continuing Education Services at the Ministry of Education, Youth and Sports in Belmopan no later than Friday, **June 15**th, **2012.**

West Block, City of Belmopan Belize

Central America

Tel: (501) 822-2329/2380,0385

Fax: (501) 822-3389

E-mail:moeducation.moes@gmail.com

Notice To The General Public

The San Ignacio Community Hospital Would like to inform the general public that its doors are opened for any one wishing to do cancer screening. We want the public to note that this test is available throughout the year.

EARLY DETECTION IS BETTER PREVENTION, PLEASE
GET TESTED. - Edwin Obando

Cancer, Cayo Association And Support Group

President Mr.Edwin Obando Vice President......Dr. Maria Goncalves Treasurer...... Sister Silvia Alvarez

> Felicia Myvette Perez Emma Gabriel

Secretary.....Marcia Itch Juanita Brown

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PRESS RELEASE

Monday, May 14th, 2012

The Belize Bank Limited, Belize's premier banking institution, this year celebrates its 25th Anniversary and announces a significant rebranding effort for the commercial banking operation.

The Belize Bank Limited is Belize's oldest and largest, continuously operated banking institution. The Bank of British Honduras was first incorporated in December 1902, and opened its doors for business in 1903. The operations were purchased by the Royal Bank of Canada (RBC) in 1912, and the second era of operations lasted until 1987. In April of 1987, the RBC operations were purchased by the Belize Bank Limited – a group of local Belizeans investors, beginning the third era of Belize's longest uninterrupted banking operations with more than 100 years of service to the country.

Beginning today, the Belize Bank Limited introduces a new look, complete wit a redesigned logo and tagline: The Belize Bank Limited - "Our Country. Your Bank". Shades of blue and green replace the Belize Bank's former two-toned brand colour, and the Bank's new look will be reflected in all marketing and branding material and signage in all of its 12 branches.

In line with the Bank's strategic objectives, the Banks goal is "to be the pre-eminent financial service provider in Central America and the Caribbean", and in order to achieve this status of pre-eminence the Bank will "maximize value for individuals and businesses locally and internationally by providing quality and innovative financial services, nurturing long-lasting relationships and delivering superior customer service". The Belize Bank Limited continues to be the leading financial services provider in Belize in both the commercial and personal banking sector, and wanted to create a new image for itself that will support its continued growth and new development strategies. "In an increasing competitive banking environment in Belize, there is no better time than now as the Bank celebrates its remarked Marketing Manager, for the Belize Bank Limited, Misty Michael.

"The Bank's focus is to steadfastly deliver superior customer service and build long lasting relationships with its customers. In a fairly saturated market where banks are vying for a limited pool of customers, it is difficult to compete based on rates and product offering. Banks can only set themselves apart from other providers by 'wowing' customers with the level of service the provide to customers", continued Michael.

The only bank in Belize named after the country, the Belize Bank thought it fit that its tagline highlights this unique perspective. Belize is "Our Country" and the Belize Bank is "Your Bank" - The people's Bank. The Bank's new marketing campaign will see utilisation of local models, locations, culture, history and icons.

The Bank's new look also includes bold new colours which will assist in creating greater visibility for the Bank in a crowded marketplace. The green in the logo ties the Bank to its past whereas the blue ties it to its parent company - BCB Holdings Ltd, and links it to the future. The sleek, clean lines of the new logo also presents the Bank as modern and forward moving, and highlights that the Bank is professional in its approach to doing business.

Customers can expect to receive the best possible customer service available from the Belize Bank. To this end, all Belize Bank staff are currently participating in Customer Service and Sales training with a view to providing extraordinary value for money and service to customers. The Bank believes that its employees are its greatest asset and is doing all that it can to ensure that staff are properly trained and equipped to serve you - our valued customers.

The Belize Bank Limited is Belize's largest commercial banking operation with a countrywide network of 12 branches, and an ATM network that continues to expand. Offering a complete range of domestic and international banking services, the most sophisticated merchant acquiring system, and the Belize Bank's sister companies British Caribbean Bank International Limited (BCBIL) and Belize Corporate Services Limited (BCSL) provides a competitive edge over the competition.

The Belize Bank Limited maintains branch locations in the Corozal Free Zone, Corozal Town, Orange Walk Town, San Pedro, Belize City (Market Square and North Side - Matalon branches), Belmopan, San Ignacio, Dangriga, Placencia, and Punta Gorda with over 24 ATM locations available countrywide. For more information visit us at www.belizebank.com



Middle Management Vacancy

Belize Water Services Limited (BWS) invites dynamic professionals who possess the requisite education, analytical skills, attitude and aptitude to indicate their interest in filling the following Middle Management position.

POSITION:	Assistant Manager – Internal Audit Department	
KEY RESPONSIBILITIES:	 Assist the Manager with conducting of audits, management and reporting. Assist with supervision of internal audits, acting as audit team leader when designated. Maintains security and confidentiality of information, documents, materials and equipment. Provide leadership, coaching and technical support and assistance to Internal Audit staff and to other staff country-wide. Ensure key performance targets are met and that the company maintains compliance with internal policies and procedures and with national and international standards and regulations. 	
QUALIFICATIONS:	 Bachelors degree in Accounting or related discipline. At least three years of audit experience in senior position Experience in Utility accounting or management would be an asset Proficiency in MS-Office, esp. Word and Excel Ability to write reports and communicate well Willing to travel; must possess valid driver's license. 	
SALARY SCALE:	\$28,000 to \$48,000 per annum plus benefits	

Interested individuals should submit their application including a résumé listing references and clearly indicating qualifications and experience by Friday June 15th, 2012 addressed to Human Resources Manager, Belize Water Services Limited, #7 Central American Blvd., PO Box 150, Belize City, Belize or via E-mail to hr@bwsl.com.bz

Belize Water Services - Delivering water and more...

Belize Professional Gardeners' Program

Botanic Belize Botanic Gardens, PO Box 180, San Ignacio, Cayo, Belize info@belizebotanic.org www.belizebotanic.org

Phone No: 834-4800





Phone No: 834-4800 Call for Participants – Horticulture Training Courses

Belize Botanic Gardens (BBG), a not-for-profit organization located just outside of San Ignacio Town, is now accepting applications from interested individuals (male or female) who are unemployed or barely employed but have a deep interest in pursuing a career to become professional gardeners, to implement the Level 1 Introductory Programme of the Professional Gardeners' Training Course. This training will be for two weeks from Monday to Friday, 7 am to 4 pm. Transportation will be provided between San Ignacio Town and BBG.

Belize Botanic Gardens

This training program is funded through a grant from the European Development Fund, under the Belize Rural Development Project II administered by the Ministry of Finance and Economic Development and its partner duPlooys Jungle Lodge.

Requirements

- 1.) Preferably unemployed.
- 2.) Highly motivated and interested in pursuing a career in gardening skills.
- 3.) Friendly, outgoing, and detail-oriented.
- 4.) Committed to the two-weeks of training.
- 5.) Interest to continue Level 2 (Intermediate) and Level 3 (Advance) courses preferred.

Application letter (preferably with 2 letters of reference) must be submitted to the contact information listed above or to mario@belizebotanic.org no later than June 8th 2012.



Cuba Says Prison Population At More Than 57,000

More than 57,000 people are in jail in Cuba, according to a rare report about the prison population published by the Communist Party newspaper, Granma.

Granma said efforts had been made to improve conditions for the 57,337 inmates, and that 23,000 had prison jobs and were being paid.

Dissident groups have put the prison population between 70,00

levels.

It noted that an investment plan running until 2017 aimed to improve prison infrastructure and improve living conditions for inmates.

About half of the inmates were in open jails, Granma said.

And the 23,000 prisoners who were working were being paid the same amount as other workers, the paper added.

Dissidents groups say



Members of the Ladies in White dissident group have been briefly held

and 100,000.

Granma's report came as a UN panel held a hearing on Cuba, including alleged degrading treatment of inmates.

The article in **Granma** said rehabilitation programmes were under way, with education and training being provided at all



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prisoners are used to work for government-owned businesses but receive very little, if any, pay.

According to the official figures, some 10,000 prisoners have been released over the past six months, including 2,900 freed as a goodwill gesture over New Year.

These have included common criminals and political prisoners.

There has been, however, a reported increase in the number of people jailed for corruption, with some reports speaking of 400 officials and managers jailed.

This suggests that the Cuban government now sees white collar crime as its main challenge, says BBC Mundo Havana correspondent Fernando Ravsberg.

The UN Committee Against Torture on Tuesday began a hearing into Cuba.

Issues raised included poor prison conditions, the use of solitary confinement, and "short" detentions where people were held usually for just 24 hours as a possible deterrent.

Cuba's Deputy Attorney General Rafael Pino Becquer told the hearing that Cuba was working to improve its prison system and that there had been no deaths in custody as a result of wrong-doing since 1997.



BELIZE SOCIAL INVESTMENT FUND BELIZE MUNICIPAL DEVELOPMENT PROJECT **VACANCY**



Procurement Officer

Location: Belmopan, Belize

Application Deadline: 1st June, 2012

Language Required: English

Expected Duration of Assignment: Two years renewable

Background

The Government of Belize through financing from the World Bank is currently implementing a Municipal Development Project (BMDP) whose objective is to improve access to basic municipal infrastructure and to enhance the service delively and municipal management in selected towns of Belize. BMDP is a five year project for which implementation commenced January 2011. The proposed project has three components, specifically

Component1: Small Scale Infrastructure Investments,

Component 2: Technical Assistance and Capacity Building for Town and City Councils and Central

Component 3: Project Management A dministration

The first Component of BMDP will benefit seven of the nine Town and City Councils in Belize including the city of Belmopan, and the six towns of Benque Viejo del Carmen, San Ignacio/Santa Elena, Corozal, Dangriga, Orange Walk, and Punta Gorda. The second Component of BMDP will benefit all Town and City Councils and the Central Government Ministries of Labor, Local Government, and Rural Development (MLLGRD) and Natural Resources and Environment (MNRE), respectively.

BMDP is implemented by the Belize Social Investment Fund (BSIF) through a dedicated Project Implementation Unit (PIU) which is staffed by full-time and part-time consultants. Under the direct supervision of the BSIF Executive Director (BSIF ED) the Project Coordinator (PC) heads the PIU and assumes the responsibility for coordinating BMDP implementation

The Procurement Officer is one of two officers who will be supervised by the Project Coordinator (PC) of the

SCOPE OF WORK

The Procurement Officer will be responsible for the management of all project procurement activities undertaken as part of the BMDP implementation

Specific responsibifities include

- Preparing and updating of Procurement Plans for submission to the V/B for approval
- Managing procurement of works, goods and services including
- Preparing bidding documents under the supervision of the PIU PC and in collaboration with other relevant Government entities and issuing them to interested bidders
- Ensuring that all procurement procedures are in strict conformity with the relevant WB Procurement Guidelines; · Submitting draft bidding documents to WB for clearance as needed
- Arranging for advertising inclusive of General Procurement Notice, Specific Procurement Notice, Request for Expression of Interest
- Preparing responses to clarification and issues resulting from bidder's queries of the bidding documents;
- Organizing Public Bid Opening
- Convening and chairing the Bid Evaluation Committee
- · Preparing Bid Evaluation Report and submitting it to the WB for no objection and Contractor General for Concurrence if applicable • Ensuring contracting of consultants in accordance with WB guidelines
- Following up and reporting to the Project Steering Committee and the Contractor General data related to contracts signed under BMDP as required
- · Preparing periodic activity reports for submission to the PC and participate in the preparation of Quarterly Progress reports to the WB • Preparing Grant Agreements for BMDP subproject financing to be signed between the BSIF ED and the Town
- or City Council · Undertaking other related and relevant duties, as may be assigned

Qualifications and Experience

- First degree in Engineering, Management, Business Administration, Public Administration, Finance or equivalent qualification
- Minimum three to five years working experience
- Sound knowledge of Government and international procurement policies and procedures Good command of the English language
- · Advanced computer skills with experience in using MS Office software
- Good interpersonal skills
- Experience working in a project environment
- Experience in conducting procurement under strict guidelines
- Experience conducting procurement services for international funding agencies is an asset

- The ability to demonstrate professional responsibility in fulfilling the requirements of the position.
- The ability to efficiently manage all program procurement processes • The ability to monitor schedules and manage potential risks by identifying serious deviations or variations that
- may compromise program results. • The ability to create a working environment in which co-workers and suppliers are encouraged to maximize their
- efforts and levels of efficiency. • The ability to engender cooperation and maintain close collaboration, understanding and respect between
- The ability to effectively manage one's time in a situation of competing demands so as to meet deadlines. Effective time management and the ability to work on own initiative.

Performance Criteria: The performance of the Procurement Officer will be reviewed against, but not limited to

- Thoroughness and quality of procurement, adherence to World Bank procurement policies and practices;
- · Ouality and timeliness of documents prepared;
- Accuracy and timeliness of procuring items;
- Effectiveness of any assistance and guidance provided to achieve efficiency and effectiveness in the successful completion of the project.

Terms of Engagement:

The successful applicant shall be engaged on a full time basis under a renewable 2 year contract and shall be stationed at the SIPs offices in Belmopan

Applications:

Application letter, accompanied by Curriculum Vitae and two letters of references should be sent to address below.

Closing date for submission of application is 2:00 p.m. Friday 1st June, 2012. Only candidates shortlisted for interviews will be notified

Address: Procurement Officer

Belize Social Investment Fund

Belize Municipal Development Project

3rd Floor, PAPI's Building

Constitution Drive

Belmopan, Belize, C.A

lemuel.palacio(dsifbelize.org



Atlantic Bank lanches GoMobile

Belize City, Belize, Wednesday, May 23rd, 2012 -

Atlantic Bank launched its enhanced GoMobile services, which is now available with both telephone service providers. The GoMobile service allows customers to add credit to their cellular phones as well as four additional phones using their savings, checking or any credit card. Customers simply dial *46225 or *GOABL and the Interactive Voice recording (IVR)

will guide them through their recharge.

GoMobile also allows you to perform daily banking transactions such as balance inquiries, mini statements, transfer between accounts, third party transfers, stop payments on checks, credit card payments and bill payments. Customers can now pay their Belize Electricity Ltd., Belize Water Services Ltd., Belize Telemedia Ltd and Courts Belize Ltd. bills from the convenience of their phones. Customers simply dial *69225 or *MyABL.

Atlantic Bank once again moving forward with technology, bringing convenience and efficiency to improve the lives of customers.





NOW available with BOTH Telephone Providers

The NEW and enhanced GoMobile service allows you to add credit, pay bills and do daily banking transactions.



Add credit to your phone (Dial *GoABL or *46225)

*GoABL allows you to add credit to your cellular phone as well as four additional phones, including home phones.



Pay your bills (Dial *MyABL or *69225)

- Belize Electricity Ltd. Belize Water Services Ltd. Belize Telemedia Ltd.
- · Courts Belize Ltd.



Make Banking Transactions (Dial *MyABL or *69225)

 Check your account balance • Request mini-statements • Transfer funds between your accounts • Transfer funds to any Atlantic Bank account • Place stop payments on checks • Pay your Credit Card bill

For more information, give us a call, visit a branch, or visit our website at

www.atlabank.com

Kevin Santos - Back In Trouble Again

From Front Page

where they found all in order with those involved already gone their separate ways. About 15 minutes later, around 1:30 that same Thursday morning, May 17, 2012, **Shawn Fernando Thompson**, 20, Belizean labourer of a 14th Street address in San Ignacio Town visited the station and reported that he was robbed.

Thompson told the police that he was heading home with friends after attending the circus. He said that upon reaching the pedestrian ramp directly in front of the market, he was approached by two male persons, one of Hispanic descent and the other of dark complexion both mounted on a beach cruiser bicycle.

The Hispanic male allegedly walked behind him and grabbed him around the neck while the dark one stood in front of him and punched him on the right side of the head.

Thompson alleges that the male of dark complexion searched

his pockets and in the process stole his two cellular telephones with a total value of \$425 after which they hopped on the bicycle and rode across the wooden bridge and into Santa Elena Town.

Police began an instant search for the suspects in town and within the hour, they spotted two suspects identified as **Kevin Santos** and **Lionel** "**Kaika" Canales.** Upon spotting the police vehicle they ran off and disappeared into the darkness of the early morning hours.

Notwithstanding the escape, police continue with the search and it was not long after escaping that police apprehended Santos. He was escorted to the station where he was informed of the report made against him. A few hours later that same morning, police visited Canales' residence where he was apprehended. He was also escorted to the station where he was likewise informed of the report against him and the

intention to slap him with a joint robbery charge along with Kevin Santos.

Canales and Santos remained in custody for a full 24 hours when, at around 4:30 on Friday morning, Santos reportedly told the police that he wanted to hand over the stolen telephone. He reportedly took the police to a coconut tree near the fence in the yard at his parents' house on the Western Highway where he retrieved and handed over only the grey back cover of a cellular telephone which he said was from the telephone he stole from the man near the market in San Ignacio Town. Santos reportedly also told the police that Canales was in possession of the other telephone. When confronted with this new information, Canales agreed to take police to an area behind his house on Peter August Street also in Santa Elena. He reportedly confessed to throwing the telephone through window when the police arrived

at his house that Thursday morning. When he could not find the phone, he reportedly told the police that he was willing to compensate the owner for it.

Just as the police were returning to the station with Santos, they were stopped by a man who identified himself as Santos' father, the man reportedly handed the police a black plastic bag and in the process informing them that it contained a cellular telephone which he said was found on a coconut tree in his yard. The police found inside the bag a grey, flip, rocker cell phone without its back cover which was later positively identified by the victim to be his property.

The sequence of events led to the arrest of Kevin Santos and Lionel "Kaiak" Canales on a joint robbery charge. They were taken before **Magistrate Narda Morgan** on Tuesday, 22 May, 2012.

The stage was set for the planned quashing of the matter as the victim appeared in court informing that despite his request for court action, he wanted to proceed no further with the matter against Santos and Canales. Ordinarily, the accused would have instantly walked free. This has been the norm for umpteen years. It has become the rule rather than the exception. Well!!!, this was NOT to be, certainly not in the courtroom of Magistrate Narda Morgan who, upon hearing the request, looked the victim straight in the eyes said to him "I will not allow you to withdraw this matter. They could have done this to anyone. They could have done this even to me. And if you don't appear in court as ordered, I will send for you and sentence you to jail for seven days."

Magistrate Morgan instructed the prosecutor to proceed immediately with the trial. When the charge was read to the accused they both pled guilty to the charge. Upon hearing of the imposition of an instant five year prison sentence, they begged for consideration to change to a not guilty plea. The request was granted by Magistrate Morgan but not before advising them that a guilty verdict, from a trial, could result in a much harsher penalty. They were remanded to prison for 70 days to be brought back to court on Tuesday, July 31, 2012.



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