



Government of the Republic of Trinidad and Tobago
Ministry of Justice

Ministry of Justice Presents Presidential Pardons to 21 Recipients

MEDIA RELEASE

September 22, 2026

Twenty-one persons received Warrants of Presidential Pardon from the Honourable Devesh Maharaj, Minister of Justice and Minister in the Office of the Attorney General, at a ceremony held at the Ministry's Head Office in Port of Spain on Tuesday, September 22, 2026. Minister Maharaj made the presentations in his capacity as Chairman of the Advisory Committee on the Power of Pardon (Mercy Committee).

Among the recipients is Dr. Stacey-Ann Beckles, an internationally ordained reverend and chaplain who now serves as the Chief Executive Officer of Women of Transformation, a non-governmental organisation she founded in 2017 to mentor young women and girls toward making better choices. Reflecting on the journey from incarceration to ministry, Dr. Beckles credited a deliberate shift in mindset and a commitment to spirituality: "I stayed focused on spiritual things, and I just continued to flow... There's always a second chance. There is mercy in heaven, and now we're seeing mercy on earth through the Government of Trinidad and Tobago and through the Ministry of Justice with this pardon."

Speaking to others currently incarcerated or in the process of rehabilitation, Dr. Beckles urged them to use their time deliberately: "You don't serve time, let time serve you by taking every opportunity that is afforded to you towards rehabilitation... Focus on fixing the you that brought you there." She encouraged incarcerated persons to seek out positive influences, pursue trade or academic opportunities available to them, and to be patient with their own growth.

Minister Maharaj highlighted the significance of second chances and the opportunity the pardon process affords individuals to move forward following rehabilitation. He noted that the Presidential Pardon process forms part of the broader framework of restorative justice, giving individuals like Dr. Beckles the opportunity to continue their reintegration into society and to give back, as she now does through her own mentorship work.

The Ministry of Justice remains committed to initiatives that promote rehabilitation, restorative justice and the successful reintegration of individuals into society, while ensuring adherence to the rule of law.

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Photo: Dr. Stacey-Ann Beckles receives her Warrant of Presidential Pardon from the Honourable Devesh Maharaj, Minister of Justice and Minister in the Office of the Attorney General, at a ceremony held at the Ministry's Head Office in Port of Spain on Tuesday, September 22, 2026.



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