



DEPARTMENT OF IMMIGRATION

Public Relations Unit

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

05/24

39 FOREIGN NATIONALS INTERDICTED BY THE USCG ARE NOW IN IMMIGRATION CUSTODY

On Friday, April 19, thirty-nine (39) foreign nationals, ten (10) Ecuadorians, one (1) Dominican, and twenty-eight (28) Haitians, were handed over to Immigration officials from the US Coast Guard (USCG) Cutter, Isaac Mayo. The USCG and US Customs and Border Protection reported the first migrant interdiction in Key Largo, Florida, and a second in Biscayne Bay, Florida. On Wednesday, April 24, these migrants were turned over to the Enforcement and Canine Units.

The two groups were cautioned, arrested, and transported to the Carmichael Road Detention Centre for processing. All migrants tested negative for COVID-19. Among the charges they will face in the coming days are **Illegal Landing, Illegal Embarkation, and Overstaying**.

It is important to remind the public that the Department is committed to effectively coordinating efforts with other law enforcement agencies and international stakeholders to ensure compliance with the Statute Laws of The Bahamas.

For further information, you may visit our website at www.immigration.gov.bs or call our hotline anonymously at **1-242-502-0574**.

End.

Mission Statement: *To regulate the movement of people across the borders of The Bahamas so as to ensure the security, facilitate economic advancement and promote the harmonious social development of The Bahamas through the collaborative efforts of responsible government and non-government agencies both nationally and internationally*