

"Improving the standards and quality of living of all people of St. Kitts & Nevis"

St Kitts-Nevis Chamber of Industry & Commerce St Kitts & Nevis BAR Association St Kitts Evangelical Association St Kitts Christian Council Nevis Evangelical Association Nevis Christian Council

## PRESS RELEASE

## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

## NGO Coalition Condemns the Recent Surge in Gun Violence and Murders, Urges Government and Joint Security Services to Adopt Aggressive Measures

**Basseterre, St Kitts – June 6, 2023:** The NGO Coalition is deeply concerned about the alarming rise in gun violence and murders in our communities. We are appalled by the devastating impact these senseless acts of violence have on the lives of citizens and residents of this Federation and the overall fabric of our society.

Over the past months, the Federation has witnessed a distressing escalation in gun violence, leaving families shattered and our nation in mourning. These acts of brutality have disrupted the sense of security that is crucial for a progressive society and a tourism-driven economy.

Today, we stand together to condemn this surge in crime and urge the government and joint services to take more aggressive measures to suppress and eliminate this scourge and bring the perpetrators to justice.

The NGO Coalition emphasizes that every life lost to gun violence is an irreparable loss to our society. We extend our heartfelt condolences to the victims' families and friends who are enduring unimaginable pain and suffering. We recognize that their grief should serve as a catalyst for immediate and comprehensive action. While we acknowledge the efforts made by law enforcement agencies, police visibility remains low, we firmly believe that more robust measures are required to curb this wave of violence.

The NGO Coalition is committed to supporting the government and joint security services in their efforts to combat gun violence and murders. We urge all stakeholders, including civil society, and the international community, to join forces in creating a safer and more secure society for all.

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