



ASSOCIATION OF TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO INSURANCE COMPANIES

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STOP THE CARNAGE ON THE NATION'S ROADS

ASSOCIATION OF TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO INSURANCE COMPANIES (ATTIC)

The Association of Trinidad and Tobago Insurance Companies (ATTIC) wishes to extend its deepest condolences to the families who lost loved ones in last weekend's road collisions. ATTIC along with the rest of the nation is heartbroken at the loss of such young and promising lives.

ATTIC is appealing to all citizens to exercise greater responsibility while using the nation's roads. We are also appealing to the necessary authorities for proper enforcement of the law in order to reduce reckless driving and loss of life. While there seems to be much emphasis on parking violations, other violations such as exceeding the speed limit, not wearing seatbelts and using cell phones while driving seem to be less enforced.

With an unacceptable motor collision rate, it is necessary for young people to be better prepared to become licensed drivers. Young novice drivers are a significant risk because they lack both the judgment that comes with maturity and the skill that comes with experience.

ATTIC is therefore reiterating its recommendations for the following:-

- The implementation of a Drivers' Education programme in schools.
- The implementation of a graduated licensing system for new drivers.
- Passage of the legislation required to allow radar speed traps.
- Mandatory blood alcohol level testing for all drivers involved in fatal accidents, or accidents involving bodily injury or accidents where a vehicle is damaged beyond repair.

We are also asking parents and car owners to implement their own rules for vehicle use by young drivers such as:-

- Restricting the number of passengers to two persons
- Limiting driving at night
- Requiring completion of a defensive driving programme

We would like to appeal to all citizens to assume greater responsibility for their own driving practices, as well as those of their friends, family and hired transport. We are also appealing to backseat passengers to wear their seatbelts and to pedestrians to practise more caution.

Baliram Sawh

Vice President – General