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PRESS RELEASE

Cabinet Brief

Belmopan, May 22, 2025.

The Cabinet met on 20th May 2025.

- Cabinet was briefed by the Chief Meteorologist and the Coordinator of the National Emergency Management Organization on plans and preparations for the 2025 Hurricane Season. This presentation included a framework for rapid response to emergency/disaster events through the use of local, national, and international resources. This was in line with a paper which Cabinet approved at its meeting of 15th April 2025 on the National Disaster Preparedness and Response Plan.
- Cabinet endorsed the proposal by the National Emergency Management Organization, the National Meteorological Service, and the National Hydrological Service to host a media training session on 28th May 2025. This workshop is being held in preparation for the 2025 Hurricane Season and will ensure that the national emergency system's partnership with the media remains strong. This partnership will allow all Belizeans to receive early warnings for hazards which may impact Belize.
- The National Disaster Preparedness and Response Advisory Committee (NDPRAC) will meet on 29th May 2025 in preparation for the 2025 Hurricane Season. The NDPRAC advises the Prime Minister on all aspects of emergency management, including preparedness, protection, response, recovery, and mitigation of manmade and natural hazards.
- Cabinet reminds all Belizeans that now is the time to prepare for hurricanes. Ensure that your family plans are completed, your family kits are prepared, and you know where to seek shelter should a storm threaten Belize.

- Cabinet approved the creation of a Digital and IT Infrastructure Project Vetting Committee. This committee will be responsible for setting standards, reviewing processes, and mitigating risks to ensure all digital projects align with national strategies and resource needs, ultimately contributing to a cohesive national digital strategy.
- Cabinet approved the extension of the Amnesty 2016 qualifying criteria to 31st December 2019. This will allow for persons who show documentary evidence of residing in Belize up to 2019 to qualify for residency.
- Cabinet gave its full endorsement of the Summer Internship Program to provide short-term employment opportunities to youths enrolled in school from 3rd form through to junior college. The program will be coordinated through the Ministry of the Public Service. Requests for information and applications can be sent to the Ministry of the Public Service by 30th May 2025
- Cabinet sends sincerest condolences to the family and friends of Mr. Raymond Alrick Belgrave, a long-serving public officer attached to the Family Court, who died in a tragic traffic accident on Tuesday, 20th May 2025. Mr. Belgrave died conducting official duties in service to our nation. May his soul rest in peace.
- Finally, Cabinet reminds all Belizeans to drive carefully and buckle up for safety.

Ends