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PRESS RELEASE FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Twenty-five New Vehicles added to the JCF Fleet

With the addition of 25 new vehicles to the Jamaica Constabulary Force (JCF) fleet, the Force is better mobilized to respond to incidents and patrol Jamaica's streets.

The addition consists of fifteen (15) L200 Mitsubishi pickups and ten (10) Toyota Hilux pickups, which were acquired at a cost of approximately \$176 million.

While speaking at the handing over ceremony on Tuesday, November 29, 2022 at the Police Commissioner's Office, the Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of National Security, the Hon. Dr. Horace Chang reaffirmed the Government's commitment to equipping the police with the tools they need to carry out their duties **"safely and effectively**".

"These vehicles ensure better mobility, reliability, and response of the police," Minister Chang said. "In addition to the 134 police facilities that have been renovated and constructed to date; and the significant improvement in police communication, technology, and training, these are the tangible results of the Government's continued investment in the JCF," he added.

According to the Minister, the investments directly benefit police officers by enabling them to effectively carry out their duties on the frontline of what is a murder epidemic in the country. He noted that both citizens and police officers have grown accustomed to the new

look, professional and efficient Jamaica Constabulary Force.

"They now expect police vehicles to look and function well...as they should. Society has become used to the professionalism, quick and effective response of our police officers," Minister Chang said, adding that the government will continue investing in building out the most robust, well-equipped police force in the region.

He said that police officers across Jamaica have experienced improved conditions of service under this investment and modernization strategy.

Minister Chang noted that for the first time in its history, the JCF Planning Unit is leading the charge in executing a long-term sustainable development plan for the organization.

"This long-term strategic planning, investment in, and modernization of the JCF, is being done in a systematic and structured way and will enable the organization to project and plan for its continued expansion and transformation," he said.

The Ministry of National Security is committed to strengthening security resources for a safer Jamaica, through robust policy development and implementation, and continued solid investment in security infrastructure and technology.

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Video of Minister Chang's remarks at the ceremony: <u>https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/1fZPMkWR2ns5Nfxzo5fF9tCmYzXeFcWBk?usp=</u> <u>sharing</u>