



**PRESS STATEMENT
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

Saturday, July 18, 2026

**Minister Chang Mourns Victims of Fatal Trelawny Crash, Calls for Stronger Action
against Reckless Drivers**

The Minister of National Security and Peace, the Hon. Dr. Horace Chang, extends his deepest condolences to the families and loved ones of those who lost their lives in Friday's tragic motor vehicle collision along the North Coast Highway in Trelawny.

"This is a heart-breaking tragedy that has claimed far too many lives and serves as another painful reminder of the devastating consequences of serious road crashes. My thoughts and prayers are with every family grieving this unimaginable loss," the Minister said.

Dr. Chang noted that the Jamaica Constabulary Force (JCF) continues to intensify road policing operations and to enforce the provisions of the Road Traffic Act through increased patrols, targeted enforcement and the use of technology to deter dangerous driving behaviours. The Minister added that the Public Safety and Traffic Enforcement Branch of the JCF will be asked to increase their presence as road usage increases during the summer season of increased entertainment and social gatherings.

However, he stressed that enforcement alone cannot eliminate the problem.

"We must find the appropriate, legal framework to identify and intercept reckless and incompetent drivers before they cause irreparable harm. Those who repeatedly demonstrate that they are unwilling or unable to operate a motor vehicle responsibly should not be allowed to continue endangering the lives of law-abiding road users. We owe it to every Jamaican to make our roadways safer," he continued.

The Minister urged all motorists to exercise patience, obey the Road Traffic Act, avoid excessive speed and dangerous overtaking, and remember that every decision made behind the wheel has the potential to save or cost a life.

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