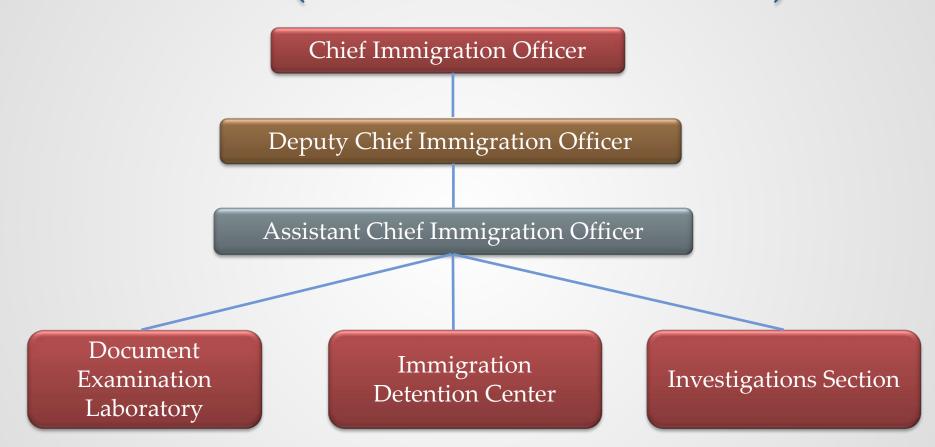


ICAO Ninth Symposium and Exhibition on MRTDs, Biometrics and Border Security 22-24 October 2013

> The Role of the Trinidad and Tobago Document Examination Laboratory in Border Security

Hazel Ann Spooner-Williams & Elston Baird Immigration Officers IV Immigration Division, Ministry of National Security Republic of Trinidad and Tobago

# The Immigration Organisation Chart (Enforcement Arm)



# Introduction

Fraudulent documents facilitate cross-border crime of all types such as:

- Smuggling of migrants.
- Trafficking in persons.
- Terrorist mobility.



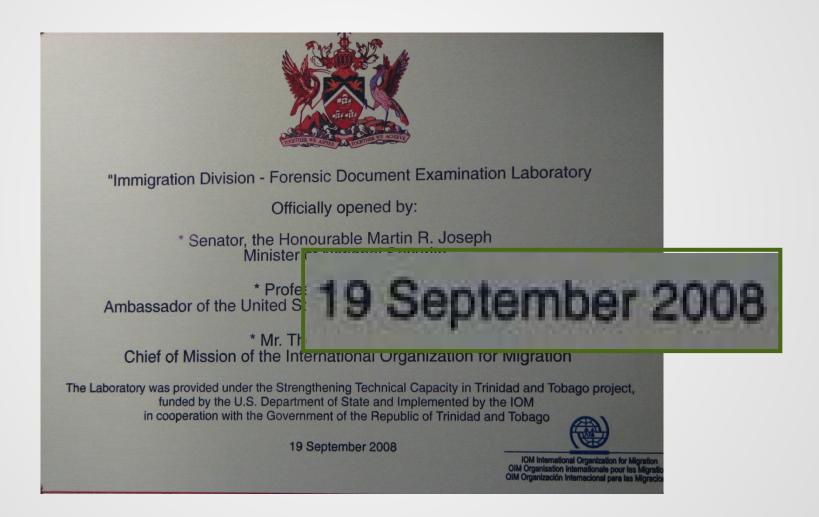
The smuggling of drugs, weapons and other goods to commit fraud.

# Introduction (cont'd)

• Document examination is vital to immigration and border control security.

• Many countries establish <u>specialized structures</u> at portof-entry facilities to respond to fraudulent document detection.

# HISTORY OF THE D.E.L.



# PIONEERS OF THE D.E.L.

Mr. Anthony Le Gendre, Immigration Officer IV.

•Driving force in the establishment of the document examination laboratory.

•First local trainer in fraudulent document examination.

# PIONEERS OF THE D.E.L. (cont'd)

Mr. Keith Sampson, current Chief Immigration Officer.

•Trained as a trainer in fraudulent document examination in Suriname by the Regional Police Amsterdam/Amstelland in March 2009.

•He continued the provision of training in document recognition to Immigration Officers.

# **MISSION STATEMENT**

 To promote national security by effectively monitoring and controlling the movement of persons into, within, and out of the country and to provide an efficient and effective passport service.



# **VISION STATEMENT**

• To be the premier Immigration Division in the Caribbean and to be a leader in public service reform.



### LEGAL FRAMEWORK, INTERNATIONAL STANDARDS & BEST PRACTICES

- The Immigration Act, Chapter 18:01.
- The Forgery Act, Chapter 11:13.
- The Evidence Act, Chapter 7:02.

### LEGAL FRAMEWORK, INTERNATIONAL STANDARDS & BEST PRACTICES (Cont'd)

- Annex 9, International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO) – Facilitation.
- Doc 9303, ICAO Machine Readable Passports.

## The Operations of The Enforcement Arm

The three (3) aforementioned units of the enforcement arm work together to achieve the following:

- Detection.
- Detention.
- Prosecution.
- Repatriation.



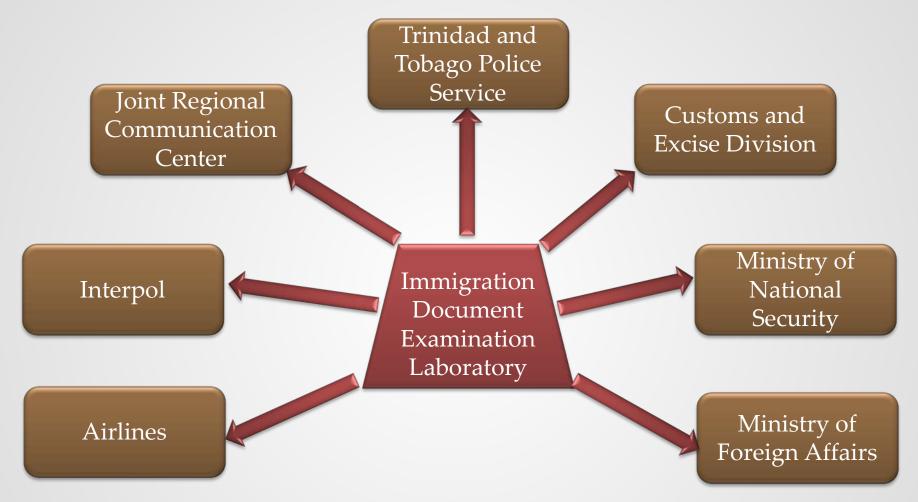




### THE OPERATIONS OF THE ENFORCEMENT ARM



# **STAKEHOLDERS**



## FUNCTIONS OF THE D.E.L.

#### • Determine authenticity of:

- travel documents.
- immigration stamp endorsements.
- visas.
- All other related immigration documents (Work Permits, Student Permits, Residence Certificates, Missionary Permit and Ministers Permit).
- Develop and maintain databases of:
  - specimen documents.
  - fraudulent documents.
  - signature and stamp specimens.

## FUNCTIONS OF THE D.E.L.(cont'd)

#### • Prepare:

- alerts.
- specimen document hand-outs.
- detailed reports for submission to the courts.
- Determine and document trends in document fraud.

### FUNCTIONS OF THE D.E.L.(cont'd)

- Attend court as expert witnesses.
- Formulate and implement both internal and external training programmes.

### **OPERATIONAL STANDARDS**

- Consistency
- Creativity
- Accuracy
- Efficiency
- Confidentiality
- Impartiality
- Teamwork
- Speed of Implementation

### DOCUMENT EXAMINATION STANDARDS

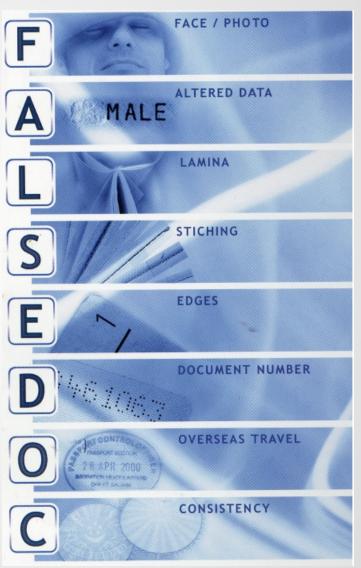
 Genuine documents can be verified within <u>5 to 10</u> minutes.

• Examination of purported fraudulent or counterfeit documents can take up to <u>30 minutes.</u>

### DOCUMENT EXAMINATION METHODOLOGIES

#### FALSE DOC

developed by the International Organization for Migration (IOM)



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### DOCUMENT EXAMINATION METHODOLOGIES (cont'd)

Document Examination Checks developed by United Kingdom Border Agency:

- Impersonation.
- Counterfeiting.
- Page Substitution.
- Photograph substitution.
- Image Substitution.

## STAFFING OF THE D.E.L.

The DEL is currently staffed with ten (10) Immigration Officers in the following ranks:

- 1 Immigration Officer IV
- 1 Immigration Officer III
- 8 Immigration Officers II

# SKILL SETS OF OFFICERS

The Staff in the Document Examination Lab boasts of a wide range of skills:

- International Relations
- Law
- Psychology
- Sociology
- Criminology
- Computer Science
- Management
- Accounting
- Public Administration

# TRAINING

The DEL Officers have received extensive training:

- U.S. Department of Justice, Immigration and Naturalization Service.
- The International Organization for Migration.
- The Canada Border Services Agency.
- The United Kingdom Border Agency.

### TRAINING (cont'd)

- President of the American Society for Question Document Examiners (ASQDE)
- National Security Training Unit Specialist Crime Academy.
- Certificate in CSI Forensic Science (2012).

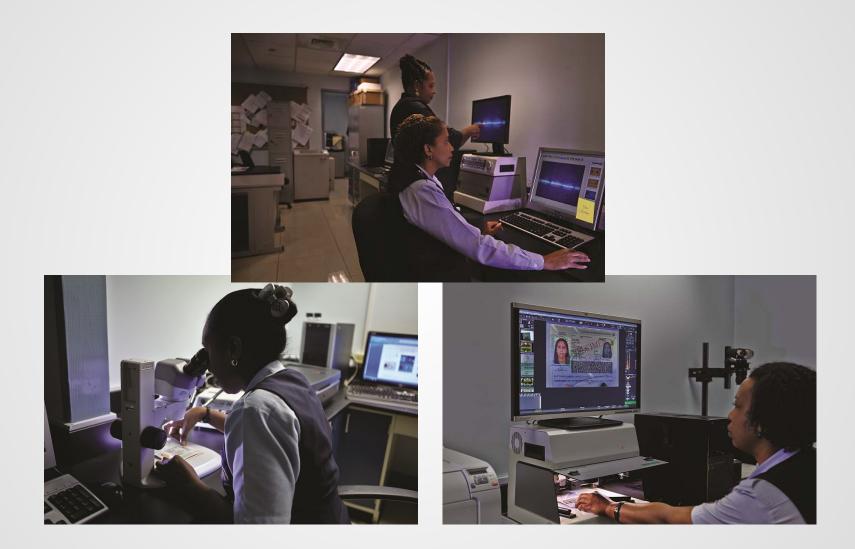
### TRAINING (cont'd)

At present, the members of the DEL are pursuing the following courses, also at the CFFFI:

• a Certified Forensic Counterfeit Examination programme.

•a Certificate in Criminal Justice.

## EQUIPMENT



# EQUIPMENT (cont'd)

Questioned documents are examined using state of the art equipment. These include:

- Video Spectral Comparator (VSC4Plus and VSC 40 HD).
- E-passport Reader (Reads the Radio Frequency Chip on E-passports).
- Electronic Microscope.
- High-powered Digital Scanner.
- Immigration Data Processing System.

## EQUIPMENT (cont'd)

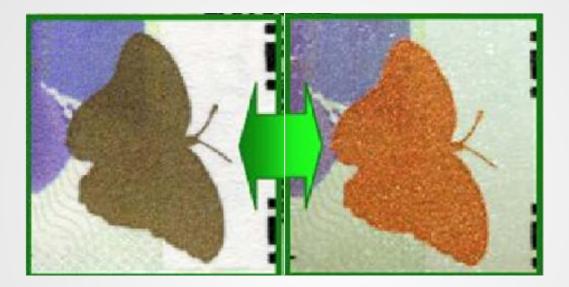
- Integrated Border Management System
- Digital and Film Cameras
- Scrambled Indicia Readers
- Keesing Database
- Edison Database



#### **Displays Ultra Violet features**



#### **Reveals Optically Variable Devices**



Captures colour changing inks

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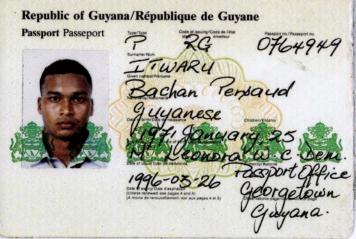


#### **Reveals superimpositions**

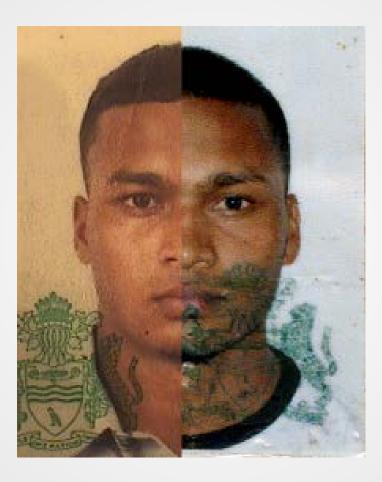




Republic of Guyana/République de Guyane Passport Passeport 1217222 kane 4 ander -01 10sabor 2012-09-30









# D.E.L. ROLE IN PROTECTING FOREIGN BORDERS

Apart from national borders, the D.E.L protects the borders of foreign countries by ensuring the following:

- Examining travel documents of suspicious Individuals transiting through Trinidad and Tobago.
- Examining travel documents of suspicious Individuals departing Trinidad and Tobago.

# D.E.L. ROLE IN PROTECTING FOREIGN BORDERS (cont'd)

- Detaining, prosecuting and repatriating individuals found with fraudulent travel documents, when transiting and departing.
- Removing from circulation fraudulent travel documents found on these individuals, in accordance with Annex 9 (chapter 3:46).

# WORKFLOW

- Document is brought to the D.E.L.
- Basic checks done using handheld equipment.
- Further checks using electronic equipment.
- Images captured and electronically stored in our database.

# WORKFLOW (Cont'd)

- Images compared to those in digital library.
- Inconsistencies highlighted.

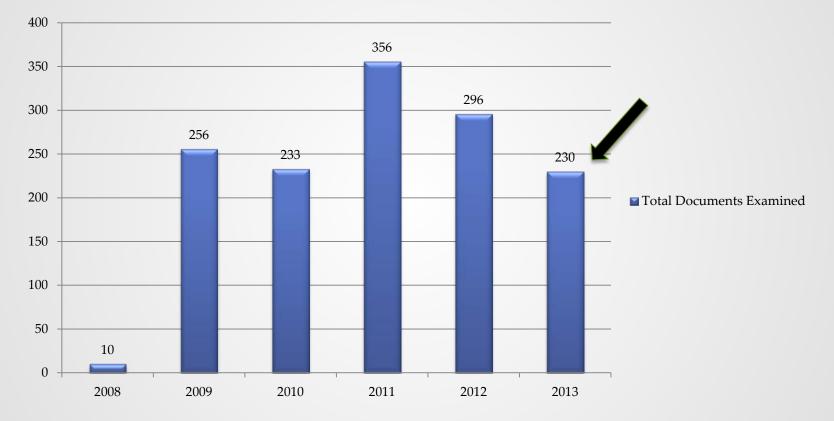
# END PRODUCT OF THE D.E.L.-COURT REPORTS AND ALERTS

Generate:

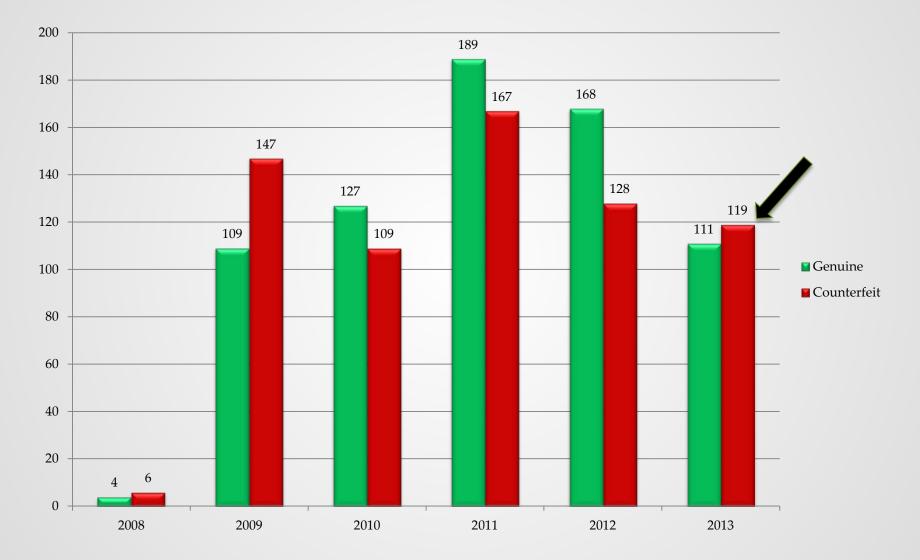
- Court Reports to assist in the prosecution process.
- Alerts to assist Immigration Officers to enhance border security.

# STATISTICS AND TRENDS

#### **Total Documents Examined**



# STATISTICS AND TRENDS



# LIMITATIONS

- Lack of space
- Immobility
- Limited specimen Travel Documents
- Fraudulently Obtained, Genuinely Issued passports

## FUTURE EXPECTATIONS

- Establishment of a subsidiary Document Examination Laboratory at other ports.
- Acquisition of portable technological equipment (e.g. VSC -QC1) to conduct real time document examination at other ports.



# SWOT ANALYSIS

#### Strengths:

- The DEL is a tool for border security.
- No longer a lengthy wait for Forensic services at other Institutions to authenticate documents.
- Assisting in protecting the borders of other countries.

#### Weaknesses:

- The need for the Courts to recognise that the DEL officers are document examiners.
- The lack of storage space to accommodate the expansion of the database and necessary equipment.

# SWOT ANALYSIS (cont'd)

#### **Opportunities:**

- Strengthening relations with stakeholders.
- Sharing of ideas and trends with other immigration divisions.

#### Threats:

• Fraudulent breeder documents.

# Questions?



### THANK YOU

### **Contact Information**

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