



St. Mary Division Wins Big at the 2024 TOPS Awards

POLICE CIVILIAN OVERSIGHT AUTHORITY QUARTERLY NEWSLETTER

THE PCOA MONITOR

Castleton Station in the St. Mary Division emerged as the Top Station in the Area 2 Transforming Our Police Service (TOPS) Competition. The station was among several winners announced at an awards ceremony held at the Cardiff Resort and Spa in Runaway Bay, St. Ann during Police Week.

Castleton bested some 31 stations in the three divisions – St. Ann, St. Mary and Portland – that comprise Area 2, and supplanted Bamboo Station in St. Ann Division as Top Station in Area 2.

The station was also given \$200,000, to be directed to a



Inspectorate and Professional Standard Oversight Bureau (IPROB), Inspector General, Deputy Commissioner of Police, Clifford Blake (right) handing over trophy to Castleton Station representative, Corporal Osbin Wilson. The Castleton Station won Top Station in the Area 2 Transforming Our Police Service (TOPS) Competition.

station project of choice and Couples Resorts sponsored a weekend pass for 2 to the winning commander.

For an elated Station Commander Sgt. Dave McLean, who has been at the helm for under two years, the win has made staff morale very high. “When you know you put in the work and you see the rewards, it is a great feeling. I know that we were competing against 30 plus stations with more than 1000 police officers, indeed I was elated,” he said, adding that serving their internal and external customers well was integral in them winning. The station was not the only

station in the St. Mary Division to cop a top award as the Oracabessa Station walked away with the Top Prisoners in Custody Station Award. In fact, Oracabessa Station is the only repeat winner from the inaugural competition, which was launched in 2019.

The Oracabessa Station received perimeter lights donated and to be installed by PowerGrid Electrical.

Aside from fielding two top awardees, the St. Mary Division also won the coveted title of Top Division in Area 2, toppling the Portland Division, who won the award in 2019. The division received 8 passes to the Joy Spence Appleton Rum Tour in St. Elizabeth. The next TOPS competition will be held in Area 5, which is comprised of St. Andrew North, St. Thomas, St. Catherine North and St. Catherine South divisions.



Acting Chief Technical Director in the Ministry of National Security, Renee Steele (right) handing over Campari and PCOA gift baskets to Oracabessa Station Commander, Inspector Bryan Palmer. His station won Top Prisoners in Custody Station in Area 2.

Bull Bay Station is “Top of TOPS”

The Bull Bay Station in the Kingston Eastern Division nabbed Top of TOPS Award, the biggest prize of them all at the awards ceremony for the Area 2 Transforming Our Police Competition.

This station triumphed over four other contenders, each a previous Area Top Station winner for the period 2019-2023. The other stations were: Area 1 Top Station winner - Bluefields (Westmoreland Division); Area 2 Top Station winner - Bamboo (St. Ann Division); Area 3 Top Station winner - Asia (Manchester Division); and, Area 5 Top Station

winner -Above Rocks (St. Catherine North Division). Since winning the Top Station in Area 4 title in 2021,



PCOA CEO, Otarah Byfield-Nugent (right) and Bull Bay Station Commander, Inspector Paul Cummings pose with ‘Top of TOPS’

the station had to relocate due to the development of the Southern Coastal Highway. The station, which is headed by Inspector Paul Cummings, received a cheque valued at \$300,000 for a station project. The Station Com-

mander received an investment account with an opening balance of \$150,000 from Barita Foundation. This award will be presented every 6 years.



Chairman of the JCF Secretariat to the PCOA, ACP Desmond Brooks presenting a Campari gift basket and other goodies to St. Mary Divisional Commander, DSP Anthony Wallace. The St. Mary Division won Top Division in the Transforming Our Police Service (TOPS) Competition.

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York Castle High Shines in Area 2 TOPS Poster Competition

The Area 2 Transforming Our Police Service (TOPS) Poster Competition for Secondary Schools culminated in a celebration of artistic talent, when the top three winners were announced at an awards ceremony held at Cardiff Resort and Spa in Discovery Bay, St. Ann. Kimmeisha Wright, a 16-year-old Grade 12 student from York Castle High School, captured the top prize with a piece entitled, “Transformation for Good,” which emphasized the crucial role of community in policing.

Despite the pressure of a demanding school schedule, Kimmeisha persevered, driven by her passion for art. “When I started the piece, I wasn’t sure where I wanted to go,” she revealed in an interview. “But I knew I wanted to focus on the message that policing involves the community,” she added.

Her art teacher, Mrs Shanique Brown-Moulton, was confident in Kimmeisha’s ability to complete the art piece on time, describing her as an “artist at heart,” known for her bubbly personality and dedication to her craft.

Kimmeisha’s winning piece earned her a cash award, tablet, trophy, a \$15,000 supermarket gift voucher from Progressive Grocers, and a PCOA limited edition knapsack filled with goodies.

Brown-Moulton, who had three students entering the competition, was pleased as punch, when Brian Levy, a 16-year-old Grade 10 student also from York Castle High School, secured third place with his entry, “Resilience”. He explained that his poster integrated Vision 2030 and the PCOA Core Values. His artwork featured a proud female police officer at its center, highlighting the leadership of women in the police force. “I observed in my re-



The top three awardees in the Area 2 Transforming Our Police Service (TOPS) Poster Competition for Secondary Schools from left to right: second prize winner, Ebonique Wauchope from St. Mary High; first prize winner, Kimmeisha Wright from York Castle High and third prize winner, Brian Levy from York Castle High.

search that the PCOA Chairman and PCOA CEO were women and I wanted to capture that,” he said. Adding, “I do believe that the police are a force for good.”

Brian for his effort, won a cash award, tablet, trophy and a PCOA limited edition knapsack filled with goodies. Moulton also won two cash awards and gift basket. Her art department received \$50,000 from Jamaica National Bank.

Eighteen year-old Grade 13 student from St. Mary High School, Ebonique Wauchope, earned second prize for her poster, “Stronger Together,” which advocated peace and unity

people and the police force.

“I wanted a message of the unification of Jamaican people and the police force especially with the Rastafarian community... like the Coral Gardens incident that happened. So that was sort of the idea that we wanted to show a peaceful unification between both parties,” she explained. Unlike the winning York Castle students, Ebonique does not study art. She uses drawing as a form of relaxation. “It helps me to clear my head,” she explained



Entertainer, Alaine (right) took time out to pose with second prize winner, Ebonique Wauchope from St. Mary High at the TOPS Awards Ceremony.

Ebonique also received similar prizes to Brian and her assisting teacher, Mr. Ian Johnson, also received a cash award and gift basket.

Sponsors included West Jamaica Conference of Seventh Day Adventists, JN Bank and Progressive Grocers of Jamaica.

The Trelawny Division Cops the Dr. the Hon. Marshall Hall Award

The Trelawny Division became the fourth recipient of the Dr. Marshall Hall Award. This special award is named in honour of former founding PCOA Member, the late Dr. the Hon. Marshall Hall, and is presented to the station or division exhibiting the most improvement in the Transforming Our Police Service (TOPS) Re-inspection for Area 1. This division exhibited the greatest improvement ever seen in TOPS Re-inspection history, with all 9 stations attaining perfection in records management. It is also the second division to win the award. The division received a cheque valued at \$100,000 courtesy of Pan Jamaica Group Limited, which will go towards funding a station project of the recipient’s choosing.

The Trelawny Divisional Commander also received JPS gift vouchers, a Campari and PCOA gift basket.

Meanwhile, the re-inspection is the last component of the TOPS programme, which consists of four components - a competition targeting one of five Jamaica Constabulary Force (JCF) Area Com-



Trelawny Divisional Commander, Superintendent Winston Milton (left) and PCOA Member, Norman Heywood display winning cheque valued at \$100,000 from sponsor, Pan Jamaica Group Limited.

mands: an awards ceremony; a performance review meeting where PCOA Members and the JCF High Command/Area Commanders agree on targets for improvements in performance of participants in the competition; and, a re-inspection.

The Pan Jamaica Group, has sponsored this award for the past three years.



York Castle High School Art Teacher, Shanique Brown-Moulton (right) sharing lens time with one of her two winning students, first prize recipient, Kimmeisha Wright.

Buff Bay and Runaway Bay Stations Top Their Divisions

The Runaway Bay and Buff Bay stations claimed Top Station honours for their respective divisions in the Area 2 Transforming Our Police Service (TOPS) Competition.

The announcement was made at an awards ceremony held at the Cardiff Resort and Spa in Discovery Bay in St. Ann.

The Runaway Bay Station was named the Top Station for the St. Ann Division, beating 11 stations including 2019 Top Station winner, Bamboo, in the division. Cardiff Hotel and Spa donated dinner for 2 to the station commander, Inspector



PCOA Member, Vivette Miller (right) presenting Top Customer Service Station trophy and PCOA goodie bag to Runaway Bay Station representative, Sgt. Mignette Ambersley. She also received a Campari gift basket, JPS gift vouchers and 5 passes to Chukka Adventure Tours.

Loren Hardwire.

The station won the Top Customer Service Award. This occasion marked the first time that a station or division has won the Top Customer Service award in Area 2, as this award was added to the competition post 2019.

For Constable Jermaine Brown, who has been attached to the station for 2 years, the accolades were deserving. “It was a good feeling, as we put in the work,” he highlighted. He further added that the station would continue putting in the



PCOA CEO, Otarah Byfield Nugent (right) presenting Above Rocks Station Commander, Sgt. Garfield Wallace with PCOA Leadership Legacy Award.



Senior Director, Inspections and Monitoring, Andrew Beaumont (right) presenting Top Station in Portland trophy to Buff Bay Station Commander, Inspector Richard Taylor. Inspector also received JPS gift vouchers; Campari basket; a weekend for 2 at Sea Cliff Resort and donation of water from Zanuja Purified Water Store.

work, and “to always do their best”.

In addition to gift baskets from Campari and the PCOA, the station received 5 passes to Chukka Adventure Tours.

The Buff Bay Station won the Top Station in the Portland Division, replacing San San Station, the winners in 2019. Interestingly, the Buff Bay Station Commander, Inspector Richard Taylor, was the Station Commander for San San Station in 2019. Local businesses in Portland sponsored prizes which included a weekend for 2 at the Sea Cliff Resort and a supply of drinking water from Zanuja Purified Water Store.

Meanwhile, the Top Marine Outpost in Area 2 Award, which was a new award category in this year’s competition, went to the outpost located at the Errol Flynn Marina in the Portland Division.

This award was sponsored by Lannaman and Morris Shipping to the tune of \$150,000, which will go towards an outpost project of choice. Guardsman also gave the outpost 10 guest passes to Puerto Seco Beach in Discovery Bay, St. Ann.

The Portland Marine Post Commander, Sgt. Barrington Martin, said in an interview that “his team felt great and overwhelmed at the same time”.

“They also think that they deserved it as they did what they were supposed to do administratively. We are very proud of that,” he said. Since winning, Sgt. Martin said that most of the personnel are motivated and happy.

“My arrests are up, patrols are up and they are happy. They say they can’t fall down in any area...they can only go higher. A lot of them have stepped up,” he revealed.

The PCOA Leadership Legacy Award, which was also introduced in this year’s competition, was given to Sgt. Garfield Wallace of Above Rocks Station in the St. Catherine

North Division. This award represents the commitment of the PCOA staff to invest in a tangible way, to a station commander and station that displays exemplary leadership and dedication. This station received much needed fans, mattresses and two perimeter lights purchased by PCOA staff. All awardees received Campari gift baskets as well as PCOA gift baskets. JPS gift vouchers with a total value of \$150,000, were evenly distributed among the awardees, with the exception of the Top Division, receiving double the amount.



Portland Marine Outpost Commander, Sgt. Barrington Martin (left) received a cheque valued at \$150,000 from Senior Group Sales and Marketing Manager at Lannaman and Morris Shipping, Najee Carter (centre). Looking on is PCOA Member, Rear Admiral (Ret’d) Peter Brady. Sgt. Martin collected JPS gift vouchers along with a Campari basket.

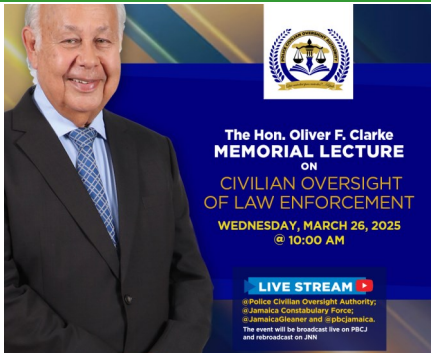
30th NACOLE Conference



The PCOA contingent are all smiles at the 30th NACOLE Conference in Tucson, Arizona. From left to right are: Legal Counsel, Sheldon Clarke, Inspections and Monitoring Manager, Nichelle Duncan and Inspection and Monitoring Officer, Norville Davy.

The consensus of the PCOA Team who made representation at then 30th Annual National Association for Civilian Oversight of Law Enforcement (NACOLE) held in Tucson, Arizona was that it was both useful and informative. For the PCOA Team, the “coolest thing about the conference was being taught to use a taser, as one of the response models for law enforcement interactions with people experiencing behavioural health crisis.

**Hon. Oliver F. Clarke Memorial
Lecture Set for March 26, 2025**



Official poster for the inaugural Hon. Oliver F. Clarke Memorial Lecture on civilian oversight of law enforcement.

Plans are far advanced to stage the inaugural Hon. Oliver F. Clarke Memorial Lecture on Wednesday, March 26, 2025. The lecture will be held under the theme, *Partnerships for Progress: Improving Policing Through Effective Oversight for a Safer Jamaica.*

Headlining the inaugural lecture are : Mrs. Marcia K. Thompson, Esq., Assistant Professor, Criminal Justice Department at Aurora University in Aurora, Illinois (USA), and, Seattle Police Chief, Dr. Shon Barnes, Washington (USA). Both professionals have extensive experience in law enforcement and civilian oversight. They will share their insights on how they have worked to change the culture within law enforcement agencies; and their successes, lessons learned and recommendations.

This lecture was conceptualized to honor the late Mr. Clarke, a founding member of the PCOA in 2006, and a strong advocate for police oversight in Jamaica. The event will be livestreamed on The Police Civilian Oversight Authority YouTube Channels and others to be named.

CONTACT US

- Address: 5a West Avenue,
Kingston Gardens, CSO
- Telephone: 754-7993
754-7289
754-8901
- Website: www.pcoa.gov.jm
- www.facebook.com/pcoagov
- [@policecivilianoversight](https://www.instagram.com/policecivilianoversight)
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Compiled by the PCOA Communications Unit

Two ISO 9001 Stations Selected for 2024/25 SMP

Two ISO 9001 certified stations were selected for the 2024/25 Station Monitoring Programme (SMP). They are: the Matilda’s Corner Station in the St. Andrew Central Division, and Duhaney Park Station in the St. Andrew South Division.

“Last year we selected small stations in high crime areas but, this year we moved towards larger stations in low crime areas and included, a prisoners in custody station,” Senior Director, Inspection and Monitoring, Andrew Beaumont said, adding that the selection marked a strategic expansion of the authority’s inspection coverage. The programme, which was launched in 2024, seeks to determine whether there is a correlation between consistent monitoring



Inspection and Monitoring Officers, Adin Grant (left) and Toni-Ann Baker (right) in conversation with a police officer at the Duhaney Park Station in the St. Andrew South Division.

and improved compliance with policies and procedures of the Jamaica Constabulary Force (JCF). The previous stations under the SMP were Gold Street Station in the Kingston Central Division and the Rockfort Station in the Kingston Eastern Division. Each station was monitored once a month for five months.

Thank You TOPS Sponsors!

The PCOA would like to extend heartfelt gratitude to TOPS sponsors - Barita Foundation, JPS, Couples Resort, PanJam Group, West Jamaica Conference of Seventh Day Adventists, Lannaman and Morris Shipping, Campari, Appleton Tours. Sea Cliff Resort, Chukka Adventure Tours, Guardsman, Cardiff Resort and Spa, PowerGrid Electrical Zanaja Purified Water Store, JN Bank and Progressive Grocers.



Guardsman Metaverse representative, Ernest Richards (right) presenting 10 guest passes to Puerto Seco Beach to Portland Marine Outpost Commander, Sgt. Barrington Martin .



The ISO-9001 certified Matilda’s Corner Station in the St. Andrew Central Division. This station was one of the first to attain this designation.

PHOTO OP FOR THE QUARTER



Five of the top six winners in the Area 2 Transforming Our Police Service (TOPS) Poster Competition for Secondary Schools. From left to right are: Ishra Reid of Discovery Bay High (St. Ann), Ebonique Wauchope of St. Mary High (St. Mary), Kimmeisha Wright from York Castle High (St. Ann), Brian Levy of York Castle High (St. Ann) and Nashaye Chambers of St. Hildas Diocesan (St. Ann) posing with their trophies and plaques. Missing is Mikayala McLeod of Happy Grove High (Portland)