

IAWP INTERNATIONAL SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENT 2014



Inspector Rebekah S. Jones Royal Grenada Police Force

* Region 26 Coordinator, Ann Marie Alleyne, talks about the 2014 Scholarship benefits to Region 26,

http://youtu.be/LTtiwy_mhrM

* 2014 Scholarship Recipient, Rebekah Jones, Royal Grenada Police Force, talks of the pride of being chosen,

<http://youtu.be/rQ9yk3HuisM>

Co-Chairs Linda Mayberry and Cindy Shain and members of the IAWP International Scholarship Committee are very proud to announce the recipient of the 2014 IAWP International Scholarship, Inspector Rebekah Sherry Ann Jones, Royal Grenada Police Force (RGFP). The process continues to be a very competitive one with high quality applicants. Sixteen scholarship applications, representing police women from 9 countries around the globe (from such diverse countries as Egypt Surinam, Kosovo, Sri Lanka, and Georgia to name a few).

When first notified by IAWP International Scholarship Chairs Linda Mayberry and Cindy Shain, Inspector Jones immediately responded with “*what a privilege and honor*” it was to receive the news that she was the recipient of such a prestigious scholarship. She added, “*The moment I read the notification, empowerment*

shifted to another dynamic level. I look forward to being a link in the chain of ‘many’ embracing human rights, strategically and triumphantly.”

Inspector Rebekah Jones joined the 965-member Royal Grenada Police Force (RGPF) in September, 1997, and has served in almost every department. One of 65 women, and two female commander, in the RGPF, she holds the rank of Inspector of Police. She is currently assigned as Commander of the Community Relations Department, where she is responsible for managing, investigating complaints against police officers, media relations and collaborating with other agencies in dealing with domestic violence, crimes against children, school deviance and juvenile delinquency. A guest lecturer at Grenada’s lone College, she engages students at the high school level on Social Deviance and Policing and receives invitations from a number of institutions and organizations to speak.

Inspector Jones has many notable achievements including assignments as Commander of a Satellite Station and Assistant Staff Officer, Regional Security Systems (RSS) in Barbados. When working for the Intelligence Unit, she was commended for leading an investigation resulting in the collapse of an offshore bank and which led to a drug and money laundering ring in Antigua that extended into France. In her current position she is responsible for investigations of sexual and gender-based crimes, complaints against police officers, and media relations. In November 2013, upon her return to the Community Relations Department, she received recognition for her advocacy against domestic violence; she was the subject of an article in *The Grenada Informer*, the nation’s leading newspaper, entitled “[*Excellence Pays Off.*](#)”

These and other accomplishments exemplify her dedication to policing and her determination to protect those who cannot protect themselves. For example, in the absence of a departmental policy dealing with victims of sexual crime, she successfully submitted a recommendation to influence such a policy. As Head of the Community Relations Department, she said “*I am drawn to the challenges faced by women, children, girls and the wider Grenadian public. This has deepened my human rights cause and resulted in me dedicating a substantial amount of time working closely with afflicted families, victims of domestic violence and sexual offenses particularly against children.*” As a result of her efforts, Inspector Jones was awarded the most outstanding Community Policing Initiative.

Educated at the Anglican High School in Grenada, Inspector Jones is a graduate of the Institution of Criminal Justice at the University of Portsmouth, England, with a BSC in Policing and Police Studies. She has the distinction of being the first officer in the history of the RGPF to have obtained such a degree. She is married and the mother of a ten-year old daughter named Bellaris. She was born in St. George, Grenada, West Indies and is the youngest of seven siblings.

Inspector Jones is tasked with leading a Steering Committee to form a “Women’s Arm” within the RGPF; she is currently in the process of launching the Grenada Association of Women Police. She is excited about the opportunities afforded to her at the 2014 IAWP conference that will help her to achieve that goal: “*I strongly believe that exposure to this conference will not only be beneficial to me but, by extension, all my sisters within the RGPF. This experience will certainly better equip me with the knowledge needed to effect positive policy changes within the RGPF for female officers.*”