

emocratic Part

The Democratic Party (DP) has identified several priorities as part of the safety and security programs for St. Maarten. These are all issues that relate to our Justice system.

Alternative punishment for imprisonment: • Foster care

- Delinquent youth facilities
- Crackdown on drugs

· Combatting Gambling addiction

For every resident and visitor to St. Maarten, a feeling of security and safety is vital. It is critical to our very economic survivability. The issue of safety and security remains a high priority for the DP, as there can be no economic growth and no sense of wellbeing, if citizens and visitors feel unsafe.

We are committed to improving the nation's internal security. The critical part in effectively fighting crime is one of human resources. We

work together, and we will continue to support Neighbourhood (Watch) programs. We believe in working with the private sector as a partner in implementing these programs. We also believe in partnerships with the Police Force – the most important partners for the police being the residents.

We will continue to support and expand the Community Police Program and a sustainable training academy to ensure a constant output of police officers. Tailored programs must be made for delinquent youth. This includes their detention as well as guidance following their release. Lack of capacity should never be the cause to give up on specialized programs, catering to youthful offenders.

The DP will work on alternative punishment for light crimes and work towards reducing imprisonment using the Netherlands as a need our communities to study example, rather than

attempting to re-invent the justice system. To achieve the goal of a safe nation, we also need to focus on the programs and support systems, including education, foster care, youth facilities, and work training, to stop the cycle of crime before it starts.

Gambling addiction is a real scourge. The present controls against excessive gambling by citizens are not effective. An improvement is urgently needed as is a gaming control board.

Programs, such as "protect the player", also offer casino operators the opportunity to assist in combatting gambling addiction.

Foster care must be well funded and regulated.

While the DP is a proponent for alternative punishments, our detention facilities must humane and decent, be geared at preparing inmates for a successful return into

Justice Chain

St. Maarten is returning to the polls on August 19, so voters want to hear from their political parties and candidates. The Daily Herald is offering an ideal opportunity to reach them with a series of seven special publications every week until then.

 ach issue of "Election
Views" will cover a specific question to be answered in a statement. The content may not mention other parties and should focus on own positions regarding the subject at hand. The newspaper reserves the right to omit

society. Training programs should therefore be a structured part of re-socialization.

Resources should be allocated to continue the fight against drugs coming into the island and proper drug treatment programs should be funded.



such references and correct spelling or grammatical errors in the text.

The publication dates were changed to Tuesdays so parties have more time to submit their contributions by Friday. However, the last edition will still appear on Monday, August 19, Election Day, with the former Thursday deadline.

This fourth Question of the Week is very topical, namely: "What are your main priorities in the law enforcement sector in general, including prison and combating crime?"

Enjoy the read!

Paul De Windt Publisher





SECURE THE LEGACY OF ST.MAARTEN : VOTE DEMOCRATIC PARTY

Oualichi Movement for Change

The OMC anti-crime measures, particularly under the leadership of Prime Minister Olivier Arrin dell, will be known for its effectiveness in significantly reducing crime rates and improving public safety. We declare war on government corruption – nepotism and cronyism will be punishable under the new modified penal code. The new Soualiga (legally known as St. Maarten) Penál Code is going to be the primary criminal code for St. Maarten, outlining definitions of offenses, penalties, and legal procedures. Below is an overview of its major sections, highlighting key components and notable offenses.

Introductory Provisions • General Provisions – Establishes definitions and general rules.Burden of Proof – Defines

standards for proving criminal responsibility. • Multiple Prosecutions – Ad-

dresses prosecution for multiple offenses General Principles of Criminal

Responsibility • Culpability Generally – Explains

levels of culpability: intentional, knowing, reckless, and criminal negligence.

• Criminal Responsibility for Con-duct of Another – Defines accomplice liability.General Defences to Criminal

Responsibility – Includes insanity, duress, and entrapment. **Punishments**

 Classification of Offenses and Authorized Punishments - Details felony and misdemeanour classifications and their respective penalties.

Inchoate Offenses

• Preparatory Offenses – Covers criminal attempt, conspiracy, and solicitation.

 Criminal Instruments, Interception of Wire or Oral Communication, and Installation of Tracking Device - Regulates the use of specific instruments in crimes.

Offenses Against the Person Criminal Homicide – Includes murder, capital murder, man-slaughter, and criminally negligent homicide.

 Kidnapping, Unlawful Restraint, and Smuggling of Persons – Addresses various forms of abduction and human trafficking. • Sexual Offenses – Covers sexual assault, statutory rape, aggra-vated sexual assault, and public

lewdness

• Assaultive Offenses – Includes

RE-ELECT

assault, aggravated assault, and injury to a child, elderly individual, or disabled individual. Offenses Against the Family

• Offenses Against the Family Includes bigamy, incest, and interference with child custody.

• Arson, Criminal Mischief, and Other Property Damage or Destruction – Includes offenses like vandalism and destruction of property.Robbery – Defines robbery and

aggravated robbery. • Burglary and Criminal Trespass

Covers unlawful entry offenses. Theft – Defines theft and re-

lated offenses like shoplifting and

auto theft. Offenses Against Public Administration

 Bribery and Corrupt Influence – Addresses corruption and bribery of public officials. Perjury and Other Falsification -

Covers perjury, false reports, and tampering with evidence.

 Obstructing Governmental Operation – Includes resisting arrest,

evading arrest, and escape. Offenses Against Public Order and Decency

 Disorderly Conduct and Related Offenses – Includes offenses like riot, harassment, and public in-

toxication • Public Indecency - Covers prostitution, obscenity, and related offenses. Offenses Against Public Health,

Safety, and Morals

• Weapons - Regulates the carrying and use of firearms and other weapons. Intoxication and Alcoholic Bev-

erage Offenses – Includes driving while intoxicated (DWI) and pub lic intoxication.

Organized Crime • Organized Crime – Defines and

addresses participation in criminal organizations.

Key Offenses and Penalties The Felonies in Soualiga will be classified into five categories, punishable as follows: Capital Felony: Life imprison-

ment without parole.

• First-degree Felony: 7 to 99 ears in prison and/or a fine up to \$20,000.

• Second-degree Felony: 2 to 20 /ears in prison and/or a fine up to , \$10,000.

• Third-degree Felony: 2 to 10 years in prison and/or a fine up to

\$10,000. • Soualiga Jail Felony: 180 days to 2 years in jail and/or a fine up

to \$10,000. Misdemeanours are classified

into three categories: • Class A Misdemeanour: Up to 1 year in jail and/or a fine up to

\$4,000. • Class B Misdemeanour: Up to 180 days in jail and/or a fine up to \$2,000

• Class C Misdemeanour: A fine up to \$1000, no jail time.

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COUNTRY

FIRST

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Save money and ensure stability. Dualism leads to double the costs.



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The Unified Resilient St. Maarten Movement (URSM)

In an era where the very fabric of our society is tested by corruption, inequality and systemic inefficiencies, the call for justice is not just a slogan, but a rallying cry for genuine transformation. The Unified Resilient St. Maarten Movement (URSM) stands unwavering in its mission to forge a St. Maarten where justice prevails in every corner of society, ensuring a fair, equitable, and prosperous future for all its citizens.

Commitment to rule of law

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At the heart of our movement lies an unshakeable commitment to the rule of law. We believe that justice must be blind and impartial, ensuring that every individual, regardless of their status or affiliation, is held to the same standards. The URSM advocates for a judiciary empowered with the necessary resources and independence to carry out its mandate effectively and impartially. We champion better remunera-

tion and improved working conditions for all justice workers, recognizing their pivotal role in upholding the rule of law. Additionally, the URSM is focused on resocialisation and rehabilitation and tackling the issues within the community head-on, proposing different projects via the crime fund. URSM is also focused on establishing a pilot program for a legal helpdesk to provide citizens with the guidance and support they need to navigate the legal system.

Addressing social inequality

Justice extends beyond legal fairness to encompass social and economic dimensions. The URSM acknowledges the deep-seated inequalities that plague our society, from income and education disparities to access to healthcare and housing. We are dedicated to confronting these injustices head-on through comprehensive social policies that uplift the marginalized and create opportunities for all. By tackling poverty,





RAISE THE BAR"

improving education, and ensuring access to essential services, we can build a more just and equitable society for everyone in St. Maarten.

Fighting corruption

Corruption is a cancer that erodes trust in public institutions and undermines the foundation of justice. The URSM is resolute in its stance against corruption in all its forms. We demand stringent anti-corruption laws, rigorous enforcement, and the establishment and strengthening of independent oversight bodies, such as landrecherche, to investigate and prosecute corrupt practices. Transparency and accountability must be the hallmarks of our governance, ensuring that public resources are used for the benefit of the people and not for personal gain.

Advocating for human rights

The protection and promotion of human rights for all are paramount to achieving justice. The URSM is dedicated to defending the rights of all citizens, particularly the vulnerable and disenfranchised. We will work tirelessly to ensure that every person in St. Maarten can live free from discrimination, violence, and oppression. This includes advocating for gender equality, protecting the rights of children, and safeguarding the freedoms of speech, assembly and association. Currently, MP Roseburg is busy amending the current immigration law. This amendment will be submitted to the council of advice before the ending of this month.

Community engagement and empowerment

True justice cannot be achieved without the active participation of the community. The URSM believes in informing and empowering citizens to be active participants in the pursuit of justice. We will foster community engagement through education, dialogue, and collaboration, ensuring that every voice is heard and every concern is addressed. By building strong, resilient communities, we can create a united front against injustice and inequality.

Vision for the future

The URSM envisions a future where justice is not an abstract ideal but a lived reality for every St. Maartener. We strive for a society where fairness, equality, and accountability are the norms, not the exceptions. Achieving this vision requires courage, dedication, and unwavering commitment from all sectors of society.

The Unified Resilient St. Maarten Movement calls upon all citizens, leaders, and institutions to join us in the pursuit of justice. With a stronger mandate given to URSM, we will ensure preventive programs for our youth, better conditions for justice workers, completion of the building of new Point Blanche Prison, and the settlement of outstanding payments to justice workers. Together, we can build a brighter, fairer, and more resilient St. Maarten where justice reigns supreme and every individual has the opportunity to thrive.

