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No. 447      Sunday, February 14, 2016      Price \$1.00

# Still No Justice For Jasmine Lowe

**BELMOPAN CITY, Cayo, Thursday, February 4, 2016:**

Accused murderer and sexual predator **Bert Vasquez** was in court on Thursday, February 4, but unfortunately the trial for the murder of **Jasmine Lowe** is still not set to commence. Vasquez is in prison on remand for the murder of Lowe who was brutally killed in June of 2012 but it is a case which predates that incident that brought Vasquez to Belmopan City on Thursday for a court appearance. In Belmopan Vasquez appeared before **Justice Adolph Lucas** to face a sexual assault charge that dates back to 2011. His attorney, **Oscar Selado**,



**Jasmine Lowe**

said it was merely a case management hearing for a trial date to be set. After

the brief hearing he was sent back to the Belize Central Prison.

Due to this sexual assault case, we learnt that a date still has not been set for the murder case against Vasquez. A preliminary inquiry in March of 2014 concluded that there was a prema facie case to commit Vasquez to stand trial at the Supreme Court for the murder of 13-year-old Jasmine Lowe. On Thursday, Vasquez's attorney, Oscar Salgado, said a date has not been set for the murder trial as yet. He did say; however, that it will be tried in the Belmopan court.

Vasquez was charged with Jasmine Lowe's murder on June 22, 2012. Lowe had gone missing on Monday June 4 as she was going to her mother's beauty salon located on the Bullet Tree Road in Cayo. Her body was found on Wednesday, June 6, at around 12:30p.m. a mile and a half on the Cristo Rey Road in the Cayo District. When police took Vasquez



**Bert Vasquez**

into custody, scenes of crimes technicians processed the vehicle and came up with a ring and hair inside the vehicle.

## Santa Elena Man And Accomplice Busted With Over 30lbs Of Weed

**CAMALOTE VILLAGE, Cayo, Wednesday, February 10, 2016:**

Belmopan police were conducting routine duties this morning around 4:30 a.m. when a checkpoint was set up in Camalote Village.

Officers report that a vehicle was heading toward Belmopan and upon seeing the check-point, made an abrupt u-turn.

The passenger in the backseat of the vehicle reportedly threw out a duffle bag along with a large container.

Police immediately pursued. Upon reaching the vehicle, police came across two men, later identified as **Travis Sutherland**, 21, of Georgeville Village and **Anthony August**, 48, of Santa Elena Town.

Police escorted the men to the area where the items were thrown and it



**Anthony August**

was opened and checked in their presence where Cannabis, 14, 531 grams or 30.1 pounds of weed was found inside.

Both men have been arrested and charged for Drug Trafficking.



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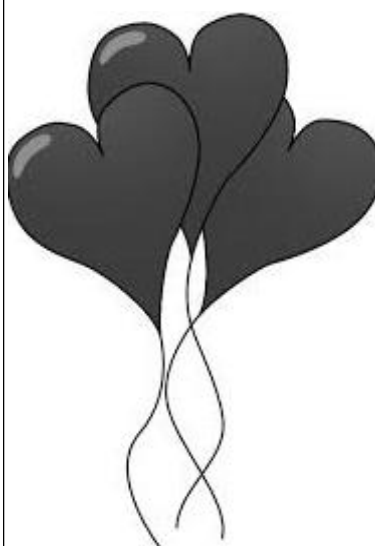
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Chief Financial Officer, Belize Telemedia Limited  
[hr@belizetelemedia.net](mailto:hr@belizetelemedia.net)





## Your Weekly Horoscope and Lucky Numbers

### ARIES:

#### March 22 to April 20

This is a positive week for your work. For those of you who are retired, this applies to any work you do. Not only will you have energy to accomplish things, but the resources that you need, especially toward the end of the week, will be available. This could include money, products or physical assistance. This is also a good time to make a great impression on bosses and people in authority. In fact, the impression you create will be so favourable, some of you might strike up a flirtation or new romance with this person. The thing to remember is that you make a great impression on VIPs now, so use this to your advantage! **Lucky numbers: 05, 34, 42.**

### TAURUS:

#### April 21 to May 21

Travel looks very sweet right now. In particular, you will want to travel for pleasure. These vibes are so favourable, some of you might also strike up a romance with someone from another country or a different culture. This is also a great week to explore opportunities in publishing, the media, medicine and the law. You will also do well at courses or anything to do with higher education. Meanwhile, as the week progresses, minor irritations with partners and close friends will diminish because you might be involved with others, and this involvement acts as a buffer. Remember that you are high viz. right now because the Sun is at the top of your chart. People notice you! **Lucky numbers: 12, 27, 73.**

### GEMINI:

#### May 22 to June 21

You are still eager to blow town and discover adventure because you need a change of scenery. However, this week, gifts, goodies and favours from others will come your way. And yes, some of these favours could be sexual and intimate because you feel very affectionate in a cozy way. Oh yeah. By the end of the week, your energy to work is all systems go. You will be keen to give something your best shot, not only because you have the energy to do so, but also because you are enthusiastic about something. Matters related to your job and business in general look excellent. **Lucky numbers: 51, 65, 77.**

### CANCER

#### June 21 to July 21

You are juggling a number of things now. Part of you, is keen to improve yourself or become a better person. This is something you might think about when you lie in bed at night. Yes, it might be wishful thinking but everything begins with a thought, right? Yet,

another part of you is keen to socialize and party this week. Early in the week you will want to schmooze with others, especially close friends and partners. You'll even enjoy members of the general public. But by the weekend, you are really in party mode! Enjoy sports events, the theatre, movies, the entertainment world, playful times with children and just eating and drinking too much. **Lucky numbers: 20, 83, 92.**

### LEO:

#### July 24 to August 21

I repeat - you need more sleep! Take naps or go to bed early - whatever. This is the one time of year when your energy is flagging and you must respect it. Most Leos tend to think they are super heroes, and therefore, they abuse their own health by ignoring their needs. Your focus on partnerships and close friendships continues. Everything at work and even your health is doing well now. Regarding health, be careful of overdoing it with sweets and rich food at the beginning of the week. So hard to resist, especially if they are excellent. And you do excellent very well. You will improvements to your home at the end of the week. **Lucky numbers: 09, 36, 95.**

### VIRGO:

#### August 22 to September 21

Your desire for perfection continues. You want good health, efficiency and productivity. But hey, any improvement will be a wonderful. Do take time from your busy pace because this week is full of marvellous opportunities to express your creativity. Early in the week, you want to party! Romance will blossom. But this same influence also encourages artistic creativity. By the end of the week, your communication skills are stellar. Therefore, in the midst of your efforts to get organized - take time out to get in touch with your creative vibes. You don't have to be a professional. The magic is in the doing - not the product. We are verbs not nouns. **Lucky numbers: 18, 28, 57.**

### LIBRA:

#### September 22 to October 23

This is one of the most playful months of the year for Librans! You want to party, vacation, go on romantic dates, be involved with sports events and enjoy playful times with children. It's all about fun and pleasure! This week however, you want to redecorate and make where you live more attractive. (More than any other sign you are affected by your environment. Bad lighting, awful spells - yuk! You want and need harmonious, attractive, appealing surroundings.) This is a great week to entertain at home. It's also a good time to explore real-estate deals. The weekend is excellent for business and commerce. If shopping, caution against going

overboard with extravagant choices. **Lucky numbers: 14, 49, 62.**

### SCORPIO:

#### October 24 to November 21

Even though home, family and your private world are your primary focus this month, this week you are hopping! You've got things to do, people to see and places to go! Whether you are aware of it or not, you will be diplomatic and charming with everyone. In fact, your communication skills are so refined, this is a great week for writers, salespeople and anyone who relies on communicating for a living. You will also appreciate your daily surroundings more, including the people in your life. By the end of the week you are super pumped with energy because Mars in your sign will get a zap from lucky Jupiter. This lifts your spirits and gives you joie de vivre! **Lucky numbers: 45, 68, 87.**

### SAGITTARIUS:

#### November 22 to December 21

This is a busy month for you. Short trips, conversations with others and a jam-packed schedule will keep you off your heels. However, this week in particular, business deals look great. This is an excellent time for financial discussions and negotiations. You might also make some important purchases that really please you. Some of you might get a better job or boost your earnings in your current job. By the end of the week, something behind the scenes will quietly surprise you and make you feel happy! Whatever it is will ultimately promote your good name among your peers. You can't lose! **Lucky numbers: 01, 50, 81.**

### CAPRICORN:

#### December 22 to January 20

Money is on your mind this month. This might be due to the fact that this is an excellent time for you to buy wardrobe goodies. Don't be such a sucker for labels. Just buy whatever makes you look terrific. It's important for your sign to feel good about your appearance because you value the respect of others. And it is no question that in today's society, appearances count. Mark Twain pointed out that clothes really make the man because you don't see nude people sitting in boardrooms. Group activities this weekend will be upbeat and pleasing. They might also be competitive. If so, you will probably win. **Lucky numbers: 23, 38, 78.**

### AQUARIUS:

#### January 20 to February 18

You are powerful now because the Sun is in your sign. This week, something behind the scenes will bless you. Someone might give you

something or let you use something they own or do a favour for you. Negotiations about shared property, inheritances, taxes and debt will go in your favour. By the end of the week, you shine! You have been ambitious lately because Mars is high in your chart. Well, this weekend, Jupiter will magnify the energy of Mars making you look powerful, competent, capable and successful! **Lucky numbers: 25, 53, 85.**

### PISCES:

#### February 20 to March 21

Because your birthday will arrive soon, you are in the wings, waiting. The best way to use this time is to decide what you want to achieve in your new year. Write down some goals with deadlines. Meanwhile, friendship is important to you this week. Enjoy hanging out with a friend or dealing with a group. In fact, a friend could become a lover. Younger, creative and artistic people will be in your life. By the end of the week, you want to travel! Others will explore opportunities in publishing, the media, medicine, the law and higher education. This is a lovely time for your sign. Enjoy!

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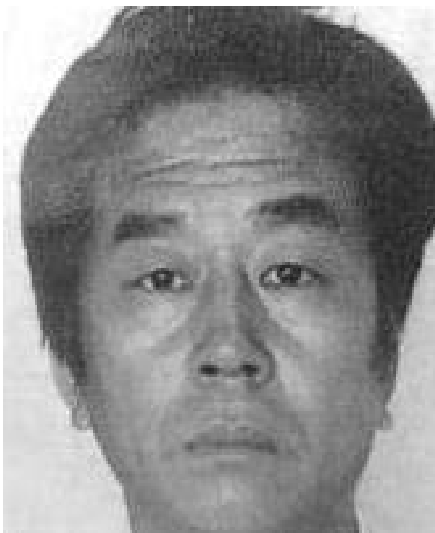
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# Murder At Popular Teakettle “Bar”

TEAKETTLE VILLAGE, Cayo, Saturday, February 6, 2016:

69 Bar in the quiet village of Teakettle is a favourite stop in spot for men travelling the George Price Highway towards Cayo at night. It is a place to get an ice cold beer and meet very accomodating company. However, the place looked like the scene of a horror movie when police visited in the early hours of Saturday morning, February 6.

Chinese bar operator **Zhijiang Zhang**, 52, was found motionless in his *69 Bar* with as much as seven chop wounds across his body. Police believe that he was the victim of a



Zhijiang Zhang

robbery. According to reports, a masked armed robber entered the

establishment just before closing and demanded money. Zhijuang Zhang chose to fight him and the clip fell out of the gun during the struggle. The robber then took out a small machete and inflicted several wounds to Zhang’s back, neck and head. He then fled the scene in an awaiting vehicle.

A waitress working at the bar, **Jacqueline Aquino**, was injured during the ordeal. She was shot in the leg as she attempted to assist Zhang. The 69 Bar had only recently moved from Cotton Tree to Teakettle. Neighbors say that the bar was frequented by men seeking female companionship. Twelve female

workers were detained by police for questioning and released shortly after.

Police found a knife at the scene but aren’t certain if it is the murder weapon.

Members of the public who may have information that can result in an arrest for this incident are encouraged to call the nearest police station or Crime Stoppers Hotline at **0-800-922-TIPS**.



# Local Rice Has Cancerous Toxins??

BELIZE CITY, Wednesday, February 10, 2016:

The rice being produced in Belize is contaminated by a cancerous chemicals, says importer **Jack Charles** in a press release dated February 10, 2016. Charles cited tests conducted by an American laboratory to argue that the major brands of Belizean rice, Circle R and Tropic, contain low levels of aflatoxins, which are cancer causing agents known to kill large numbers of people when consumed in excess.



Jack Charles

Charles forwarded results of samples tested by Eurofins Central Analytical Laboratories of New Orleans, Louisiana, to the Belize Bureau of Standards, the Belize Agricultural Health Authority (**BAHA**) and Ministry of Agriculture on February 1. The test found small samples of aflatoxins B<sup>1</sup> B<sup>2</sup> G<sup>1</sup> and G<sup>2</sup> in each sample. Charles says that the Bureau’s Declaration of Compulsory Standard, Order 2015, Rule 6.1.6 declares that rice shall be free of contaminants such as aflatoxin which

causes the growth of the fungus known as *Aspergillus Flavus*. Charles says studies show that excessive consumption of these agents can result in aflatoxicosis and damage to the liver, lungs, kidneys, brain and heart. Charles assures the public that he is not trying to cause a panic but he is simply looking out for the best interest of Belizeans.

The Belize Bureau of Standards issued a press release hours after Charles did. The release states: **“The Bureau would like to categorically state that Mr. Please Turn To Page 6**

## REQUEST FOR EXPRESSIONS OF INTEREST

Consultancy: Revision and Development of an Advanced Marine Tour Guide Training Manual for Belize

### BACKGROUND

The National Sustainable Tourism Master Plan implemented October 2012 was designed to be the blue print for the sustainable development of Belize’s Tourism Industry to 2030. The Sustainability and Quality Assurance Macro Program in the NSTMP is comprised of programs directed at raising the quality standards of the tourism service offering in order to reach international market demand standards and assure sustainable development of tourism economic resources.

The Belize Tourism Board (BTB) is currently in the process of redesigning and updating its current Tour Guide Training Program. Advances in Belize’s tourism sector has necessitated the development of areas of specializations such as Marine. These advances also require the introduction of continual training programs in this areas to ensure tour guides are well versed in the area of specialization. In this context, the Belize Tourism Board is seeking to contract the services of a Consultant to draft and publish, in conjunction with the BTB, an Advance Marine Tour Guide Manual to be used as the primary training text for specialized training for tour guides.

### OBJECTIVE

The assessment of the existing Advance marine tour guide training manual identifying the gaps and needs of the current manual against regional and international manuals, and the further development of the manual to ensure that it encompasses all relevant and current data, necessary for an advance marine guide.

### QUALIFICATIONS/EXPERIENCE

- The prospective Consultant should possess the following minimum qualifications ó
- At minimum ten years marine related experience.
  - A Master’s degree in any of the following areas ó
    - Biology,
    - Chemistry,
    - Ecology,
    - Tourism Development,
    - Sustainable Tourism Practices,
    - Teaching.
  - Has been published at least once.
  - Intimate knowledge and understanding of relevant regional and international marine activities, policies and legislations.
  - A general understanding of the social, cultural and economic environment of Belize.

The detailed Terms of Reference can be requested from:

Mrs. Shola Babb,  
Belize Tourism Board,  
Corner Regent and South Street,  
P.O. Box 325,  
Belize City,  
Belize.

Deadline for submission of applications is Friday February 19<sup>th</sup>, 2016 by 12:00 noon.

Please direct all queries to Mrs. Shola Babb at [training@travelbelize.org](mailto:training@travelbelize.org)

## REQUEST FOR EXPRESSIONS OF INTEREST

Consultancy: Development of an Advanced Archaeology Tour Guide Training Manual for Belize

### BACKGROUND

The National Sustainable Tourism Master Plan implemented October 2012 was designed to be the blue print for the sustainable development of Belize’s Tourism Industry to 2030. The Sustainability and Quality Assurance Macro Program in the NSTMP is comprised of programs directed at raising the quality standards of the tourism service offering in order to reach international market demand standards and assure sustainable development of tourism economic resources.

The Belize Tourism Board (BTB) is currently in the process of redesigning and updating its current Tour Guide Training Program. Advances in Belize’s tourism sector has necessitated the development of areas of specializations such as Archaeology. These advances also require the introduction of continual training programs in this areas to ensure tour guides are well versed in the area of specialization. In this context, the Belize Tourism Board is seeking to contract the services of a Consultant to draft and publish, in conjunction with the BTB, an Advance Archaeology Tour Guide Manual to be used as the primary training text for specialized training for tour guides.

### OBJECTIVE

The development of an Advance Archaeology Tour Guide Training Manual which should encompass all archaeological sites within the country, relevant and current data, and any necessary information for an Advance Archaeology tour guide to possess.

### QUALIFICATIONS/EXPERIENCE

- The prospective Consultant should possess the following minimum qualifications ó
- At minimum ten years experience in the field of Archaeology.
  - A Master’s Degree in any of the following areas ó
    - Anthropology,
    - Archaeology,
    - Cultural anthropology,
    - Biological anthropology
    - Sustainable Tourism Practices,
    - Teaching.
  - Has been published at least once.
  - Intimate knowledge of relevant regional archaeological sites.
  - Participated in training in archaeological field and laboratory techniques.
  - A general understanding of the social, cultural and economic environment of Belize.

The detailed Terms of Reference can be requested from:

Mrs. Shola Babb  
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## Local Rice Has Cancerous Toxins??

### Continued From Page 5

Charles is not recognized as a competent authority to conduct testing of any basic food item in Belize. Notwithstanding this claim, the Bureau in collaboration with the competent authorities aforementioned concluded that the test results provided on February 1<sup>st</sup>, 2016, by Mr. Jack Charles shows that none of the rice samples analysed contain detectable levels of aflatoxins and as a result does not pose any threat to human health."

The release continues, "The Bureau and the Government is committed to ensuring food safety and health in Belize and categorically rejects

any suggestion that they are not so committed. It is regrettable that the commercial interests of one individual, veiled under the guise of food safety concerns, is being used in an attempt to erode the confidence in food safety which the people of Belize now enjoy. The Bureau repeats its commitment to the people of Belize to maintain its vigilance and to prevent access to the market place of goods which are likely to be a danger to the health or safety of consumers."

Charles has not released any tests on the Guyanese rice he imported in December.

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# Sarstoon Base To Protect Belizeans In South From Guatemalans

**BELMOPAN CITY, Cayo, Wednesday, February 10, 2016:**

**Hon. John Saldivar**, the Minister of National Security, and the Barrow Government have proven that they can keep their promises to the Belizean People. On Wednesday, February 10, they traveled down to the mouth of the Sarstoon river to inspect ongoing construction of the Joint Forces Forward Operating Base at the entrance of the Sarstoon River.

Saldivar was accompanied by a number of dignitaries to the site. Those officials included **Frank "Papa" Mena**, the Minister of State in the Office of the Prime Minister and senior members of the Belize Defense Force (**BDF**), the Belize Police Department and Ministry of National Security. On site the delegation was able to appreciate the rapid pace at which the construction is proceeding.

Elements of the BDF have set up temporary installations at the site as the work progresses.

The site, on the northern bank of the Sarstoon River, is definitely Belizean territory and was chosen by the national security advisors as the best location for this base. Sarstoon Island, traditionally considered to be in Belizean territory, is a few hundred yards away from where this new base will be built. So, the Belize law enforcement will be able to monitor the island, as well as the coast lines of both Belize and Guatemala, and the movement of traffic in and out of the Sarstoon River.

The island itself was not chosen for this base because as is well known, it is a mangrove island with very limited ground to build on. Most of it is covered in a mangrove swamp. The entire entourage of Belizean officials made their way on the dry land by

personnel who are deployed to the area.

Through the diplomatic channels, the Guatemalan government has asked that the base not interfere with



**Hon. John Saldivar and Team**

way of a pier that was built for this occasion. The grounds of this upcoming base was then blessed, and then officially dedicated to the purpose of national security. This base is being built not because of the public pressure from the anti-government agitators, but because of the strategies of the National Security Council. It was identified as an area of concern for Belize's National Security. The Sarstoon River is suspected of being a transit point for human trafficking, drug trafficking, weapons trafficking and other transnational criminal activities. The base will be completed within a few months time and will run somewhere around 100 thousand dollars to construct. It will not be an elaborate building but it will serve the needs of

the fishing practices of Guatemalans in the area. To this, Minister of National Security, John Saldivar explained that the base will be for law enforcement purposes and will not be a hindrance to the neighborly relations Belize has with Guatemala.

The Forward Operating Base at the mouth of the Sarstoon River is one of several initiatives being undertaken by the Government of Belize to safeguard and protect our national sovereignty. The Forward Operating Base, though modest in its beginnings, will establish a much needed presence and will serve to combat illicit activities such as drug, contraband and human trafficking, and weapons trading, which threaten Belize's national security.

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**Thanks for choosing the STAR Newspaper**

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# SHOPPERS' CHOICE

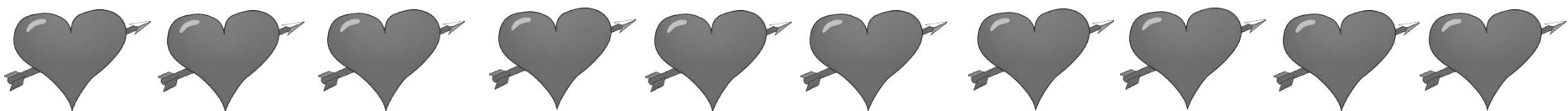
Visit us on Hudson Street, San Ignacio Town, Cayo  
Telephone: 824-4971 or Cell: 610-3503 or 627-9966

*This Is The Month Of Love*

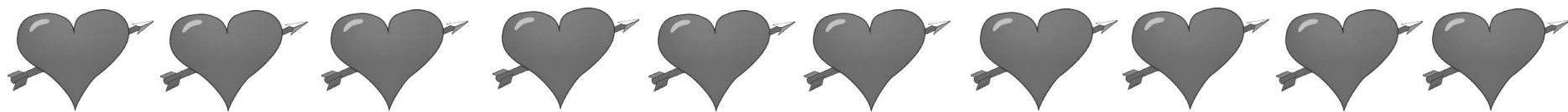


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\$249.00		\$899.00		\$449.00		\$1299.00	



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\$899.00



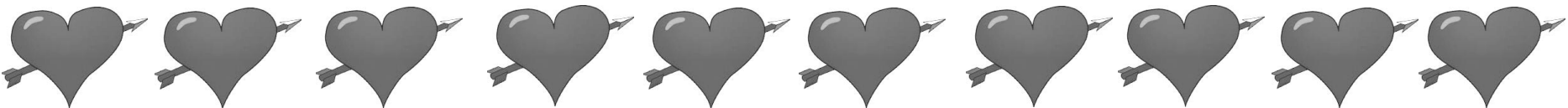
\$259.00



\$399.00



\$69.00



\$49.00



\$69.00



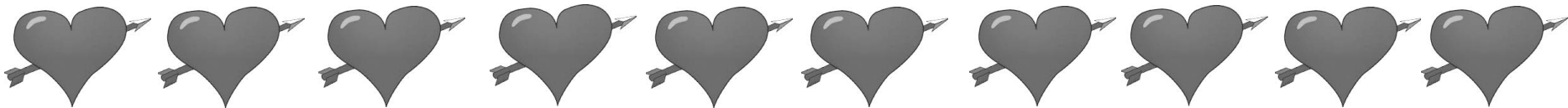
\$99.00



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\$99.00



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\$59.00



\$59.00



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# Belize Water Services Limited

## VACANCY: Operations Area Manager

**BWS** invites interested professionals to apply. The Area Manager will assist the Operations Manager to plan, direct, coordinate and evaluate the operational activities of the technical operations in the Northern Zone (Corozal, Orange Walk, San Pedro and Caye Caulker). He/She will implement policies and procedures and ensure compliance with the company's mission, vision and core values.

POSITION:	Operations Area Manager ( Northern Division)
KEY RESPONSIBILITIES:	<div><div>* Liaise with Branch Operations Supervisors to oversee and maintain the daily operation of the company's water and wastewater systems in the Northern Zone including.</div><div><div>a) Maintaining adequate water supply on a daily basis of quality, quantity, security and pressure</div><div>b) Maintaining the integrity of the water treatment processes and the water transmission and distribution systems including storage tanks and pumping stations</div></div><div>*Providing technical assistance in meeting water quality regulations and consumption demand including:<div><div>a) Coordinating with engineering staff to evaluate the effectiveness of alternative treatment and methods</div><div>b) Daily monitoring of production and consumption levels</div><div>c) Planning of required maintenance and expansion works</div></div></div><div>* Preparing monthly management and KPI reports and updating of the company's key operational data.</div><div>* Ensuring proper Health and Safety operations and environmental compliance.</div></div>
QUALIFICATIONS:	<div><div>* Degree in Civil or other Technical Engineering</div><div>* Five years' experience in supervisory/management will be preferred</div><div>* Valid driver's license</div><div>* Excellent command of English language; Spanish language will be an asset</div></div>

Please send your application letter with your detailed resume giving your current position and salary by March 4th, 2016 to:

Human Resource Manager

Belize Water Service Limited

P.O.Box 150, Central American Boulevard, Belize City, Belize

E-mail: HR@bws.com.bz

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