



**ROYAL ST. VINCENT AND THE GRENADINES POLICE FORCE
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PRESS RELEASE

An Unforgettable Evening Awaits at the Nation Celebrates 45 Years of Independence at Victoria Park!

October 13, 2024 - Kingstown: Prepare to witness history in the making as St. Vincent and the Grenadines (SVG) commemorate 45 years of independence with an evening of unparalleled splendor at **Victoria Park** on **October 27, 2024**. Under the theme “**45 Years of Togetherness, Prosperity and Perseverance!**”, this year's celebration promises to be a patriotic spectacle that will ignite national pride and unity.

In a historic shift, the Independence Parade will commence at **6:00 PM** in the evening, marking the first time in 45 years that our nation will experience an evening/night parade since the memorable midnight parade of October 27, 1979, when the Union Jack was lowered and the new national flag of SVG was hoisted as the nation gained its independence from Great Britain. This twilight celebration ushers in a new era of innovation, excitement, pomp and pageantry, offering a fresh perspective on our cherished traditions.

The parade will be a magnificent display of military precision and cultural vibrancy – under the Command of Superintendent of Police, Mr. Junior Simmons and Assistant Superintendent of Police, Mr. Parnel Browne as Adjutant. There will be seven (7) armed and approximately ten (10) unarmed guards on parade.

Her Excellency, the Governor General, Dame Susan Dougan, will receive the Royal Salute and conduct an inspection of the Guards on parade. Prime Minister, Dr. Hon. Ralph Gonsalves will receive the ‘General Salute’ while Commissioner of Police (Ag), Mr. Enville Williams will receive a complimentary salute. Adding to the grandeur, there will be an additional salute of ‘Three Cheers to St. Vincent and the Grenadines’, echoing our collective joy and aspirations.

Attendees will be enthralled by spectacular features and new innovations, including a special display by the troops on parade. The Royal Grenada Police Force Band will joined Royal St. Vincent and the Grenadines Police Force Band and the Cadet Force Band on parade, marking the first time three (3) bands will be on parade at the same time.

Another highlight of the evening will be the participation of a contingent of forty (40) Vincentian sailors from the British Royal Navy, symbolizing our nation's pride and the enduring bonds with our international partners. This national independence parade will truly be one with a difference, blending time-honored military traditions with contemporary elements that reflect our nation's progress.

As the sun sets, the celebrations will crescendo with a national concert and fireworks display at Victoria Park, showcasing the very best of our local talent and culture. We invite every citizen to come out and be part of this momentous occasion, to revel in our shared heritage, and to look forward to a future filled with promise and unity.

Join us at **Victoria Park** on **October 27, 2024**, as we stand together to honor our past, celebrate our present, and embrace the future with hope and determination. Let us make this 45th Independence Anniversary an unforgettable evening of togetherness, prosperity, and perseverance!

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