



## United States Embassy Belize *Press Release*

February 22, 2005

### **Four Government of Belize Officials return from a one-week Intellectual Property Rights training course in Washington, DC**

**Belize City, Belize** – Four Government of Belize officials returned to Belize on February 12, 2005, after participating in a weeklong training course on the enforcement of Intellectual Property Rights in Washington, D.C. The United States Department of State and the United States Patent and Trademark Office sponsored the training course.

The four Government of Belize officials are:

- **Cheryl-Lynn Branker-Taitt**, Senior Crown Counsel, Director of Public Prosecutions
- **Floyd Robinson**, Customs Examiner Grade 1, Belize Customs
- **Alhaji Tejan-Cole**, Deputy Registrar of Intellectual Property, Belize Intellectual Property Office
- **Mario Vernon**, Superintendent of Police, Police Department

The training course provided practical IPR enforcement education and capacity-building to foreign judges, prosecutors, customs officials, and law enforcement officers in CAFTA member countries, plus Belize and Panama, who are involved in the civil, administrative or criminal enforcement of intellectual property rights in their respective countries.

This seminar was the first in a series of train-the-trainer programs that will create a cadre of Central American officials who would be able to develop and continue IPR training, especially as CAFTA and other IP enforcement obligations come into effect.

For additional information on this release, kindly contact the Political/Economic Officer Edgar L. Embrey at tel: 227-7161, ext. 359.

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