



THE GUYANA REVENUE AUTHORITY
SECRETARIAT

357 LAMAHA AND EAST STREETS

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PRESS RELEASE

From: The Office of the Commissioner-General

Date: June 25, 2010

Topic: **GRA, Police investigates missing boat**

In response to an article written in the Saturday June 19, 2010 edition of the Kaieteur Newspaper captioned 'Smuggler's boat vanishes from Customs Wharf', the Commissioner – General of the Guyana Revenue Authority wished to inform the general public that a report was made to the Ruimveldt Police Station and the GRA, together with the police is investigating the matter. Up to press time no person has been apprehended in relation to this offence.

The Guyana Revenue Authority Law Enforcement and Investigation Division on May 28, 2010, acting on information received, seized a large wooden vessel conveying a quantity of uncustomed goods around the No. 7 Beach area, West Coast Berbice. The vessel was at the time in possession of Eric Mootoo, Boodram and Mangar Outar, all of the West Coast of Berbice.

These three persons were subsequently charged for breach of section 218 (d) of the Customs Act Chapter 82:01.

After the seizure, the vessel was stored at the Customs Boathouse pending the outcome of forfeiture proceedings. However, while being stored at this location criminal enterprises stole the said vessel in a devious attempt to evade prosecution or condemnation of same.