

2026

CARNIVAL

S.R.O. 3

COMMONWEALTH OF DOMINICA

STATUTORY RULES AND ORDERS NO. 3 OF 2026.

ORDER

MADE by the Minister under section 5 of the Peace Preservation Act, (Chap. 15:04).

(*Gazetted* 12th February, 2026.)

1. This Order may be cited as the -

Short title.

CARNIVAL ORDER, 2026.

2. In this Order unless the context otherwise requires -

Interpretation.

“fireworks” includes explosives locally known as bombs or anything of a like kind or nature;

“sensay type costume” means a costume which is made of scraps of cloth, paper, crocus bags, or any other similar material and includes the mask used with the costume; and

“weapon” includes any firearms, cutlass, knife, stick, stone, bottle (either empty or containing liquid of any description), and any article or thing capable of being used for offensive purposes.

3. (1) On Monday the 16th day of February, 2026 and Tuesday the 17th day of February, 2026 (hereinafter referred to as “the Carnival days”) persons decently clothed and conducting themselves in an orderly manner may take part in the Carnival between the hours of 4:00 a.m. and 11:00 p.m. on Monday, 16th February, 2026 and between 8:00 a.m. and 10:00 p.m. on Tuesday, 17th February, 2026.

Carnival in public places.

(2) For the purpose of subsection (1), being “decently clothed” includes the wearing of rope costume, or any other sensay type costume or a mask but the person so dressed shall -

- (a) have registered no later than 9th February, 2026 with the Dominica Festival Commission at such place to be designated by the Commission; and
- (b) have obtained a registration number tag which must always be worn plainly visible.

(3) For the avoidance of doubt a person shall not be “decently clothed” within the meaning of this Order if the person during the hours of the Carnival-

- (a) wears any rope costume or any other sensay type costume without complying with the provisions of this section;
- (b) smears himself with any paint or colouring matter; or
- (c) wears any military type uniform or any wearing apparel designed to resemble such dress.

(4) Notwithstanding the provisions of subsections (1) and (2), no person shall wear a mask before 8:00 a.m. and after 6:00 p.m. on the Carnival days.

(5) Notwithstanding the provisions of subsections (1) and 3(b), a person may smear himself with paint or colouring matter between the jouvert hours of 4:00 a.m. and 8:00 a.m. on Monday the 16th day of February, 2026.

Prohibitions.

4. During the hours of the Carnival mentioned in section 3 no person shall -

- (a) carry any lighted torch or be armed with any weapon;

- (b) discharge, let off, or assist in discharging or letting off of any fireworks;
- (c) wear any mask or thing capable of obscuring the face;
- (d) sell bottled drinks; or
- (e) be in possession of glass bottled drinks on the Carnival routes, any person who contravenes this section is guilty of an offence and is liable on conviction to a fine of one thousand dollars and six months imprisonment.

5. (1) On the Carnival days any person who in a public place uses any apparatus, device, noisy instrument, musical instrument or radio by means of which sounds may be mechanically or electronically produced or reproduced, before 4:00 a.m. and after 11:00 p.m. on the said Monday and before 8:00 a.m. and after 10:00 p.m. on the said Tuesday commits an offence.

Prohibition of noisy instruments.

(2) On the Carnival days any person who uses any apparatus, device, noisy instrument, musical instrument or radio within a radius of twenty-five metres of the following areas commits an offence:

- (a) any place or area which is designated a Noise Abatement Zone under the Noise Abatement Act;
- (b) Fire Brigade Headquarters;
- (c) Police Headquarters;
- (d) Portsmouth Hospital; and
- (e) Princess Margaret Hospital.

Ch. 40:99.

(3) Any person who contravenes subsection (1) or (2) is guilty of an offence and is liable on summary conviction to a fine

of one thousand dollars and six months imprisonment.

Power of police to arrest or call persons to order.

6. (1) Any police officer or a special constable and anyone whom that officer calls to his assistance or aid may arrest without warrant any person found doing any act or thing contrary to this Order and may take or cause to be taken any person so arrested to some convenient place there to be detained until he is brought before a Magistrate to be dealt with according to law, provided that such detention shall not exceed forty-eight hours.

(2) Without prejudice to subsection (1), a member of the Commonwealth of Dominica Police Service or the Special Constabulary may, if he considers a person's behaviour to be suspicious or disorderly, call that person to order and take his name and address.

General Penalty.

7. Any person who does any act contrary to the provisions of this Order for which no penalty is prescribed is liable on summary conviction for each offence to a fine of one thousand dollars or to imprisonment for six months.

Application.

8. This Order extends to the whole of the Commonwealth of Dominica.

Made this 6th day of February, 2026.

RAYBURN BLACKMOORE
Minister for National Security

DOMINICA

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