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Jetblue Flight Carries Home St. Lucians Stuck in U.S.

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ST. LUCIA — Efforts by senior leadership of St. Lucia's representative offices in the United States and the St. Lucia Tourism Authority (SLTA) resulted in a JetBlue repatriation flight on June 10, from New York's John F Kennedy International Airport (JFK).

Jet Blue 8181, which was expected to arrive at 12:30 pm, brought home ninety-four nationals who had been stuck in different parts of the United States - notably students; parties whose visas had expired or were soon to expire; and nationals who traveled to the United States for medical purposes, according to the St. Lucia government.

The Department of Health and Wellness through the Embassy and Consulates informed the carrier and all returning nationals of the protocols to be observed upon arrival, including mandatory screening by Port Health Personnel and subsequent transfer to a government-operated quarantine facility for a 14-day period.

The minister responsible for External Affairs, Sarah Flood-Beaubrun, commended her North American team who coordinated this effort along with leadership of the St. Lucia Tourism Authority. She also expressed gratitude to others who were instrumental in making this flight a reality for our nationals - JetBlue and Goodwill and Brand Ambassador, Mr Taj Weekes.

The Consulate of St. Lucia to Martinique is also facilitating the repatriation of ten citizens who are expected to arrive in Saint Lucia on Thursday.

The Department of External Affairs and the Government continue to explore the most feasible options to facilitate the speedy repatriation of nationals desirous of returning home, the government said.

Nationals are reminded to keep in regular contact with the nearest St. Lucian Embassy and Consulate, along with the Office for Diaspora Affairs.

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