

British Father Ashley Tierney Faces Trial in Mauritius After Seven Years Tortures in Pre-Trial Detention

Monday 17 August, 2026

Foreign Prisoners Network calls for urgent international media scrutiny, fair trial monitoring, and investigation into allegations of torture and abuse

A man should not disappear into a prison system for nearly seven years without conviction, without scrutiny, and without the world asking hard questions."

— Jean Jacques, Foreign Prisoners Network

LONDON, UNITED KINGDOM, August 16, 2026 /-- Foreign Prisoners Network is calling on international media, British media, human rights organisations and trial observers to closely monitor the upcoming court proceedings involving Ashley Tierney, a British national whose case is scheduled to be heard in Port Louis, Mauritius, from 7 September to 18 September 2026.

Ashley Tierney has now spent almost seven years in pre-trial detention without a conviction. His case has attracted repeated public attention over the years and has become a matter of serious concern not only because of its exceptional duration, but also because of the deeply troubling allegations surrounding his treatment in detention, the conduct of the case, and the human cost of prolonged incarceration without judgment.

According to information and written testimony shared with Foreign Prisoners Network, Tierney has endured years of extreme physical and psychological suffering, including alleged beatings, intimidation, isolation, deprivation, and degrading treatment while in Mauritian custody. He has also been separated from his child for the duration of his detention and, according to information received by Foreign Prisoners Network, has not seen his child in more than seven years.

A Case Raising Serious Questions

Ashley Tierney, a British citizen from England, was arrested in Mauritius in November 2019. Since then, he has remained in detention without any final conviction in the principal matter for which he was originally arrested.

In his written account, Tierney alleges that he was forced into carrying narcotics under threat before arriving in Mauritius, that discrepancies arose in the evidential handling of capsules allegedly recovered from his body, and that he later became the subject of a second prosecution linked to substance allegedly remaining inside his body after his imprisonment.

He further alleges that he was denied a proper opportunity to fully state his defence for years, while court processes continued around him. These are grave matters that deserve full public scrutiny. Allegations of Torture, Abuse and Inhuman Treatment The written material received by Foreign Prisoners Network contains deeply disturbing allegations regarding Tierney's treatment after entering the Mauritian prison system.

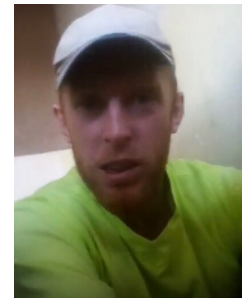
These allegations include:

- severe physical assaults by prison or security officers;
- prolonged isolation and punishment block detention;
- sleep deprivation and repeated intimidation; inadequate food, poor sanitation and degrading living conditions;
- threats, coercion and humiliation;
- denial or obstruction of timely legal defence opportunities;
- long-term psychological harm arising from detention conditions.

Foreign Prisoners Network is not a court and does not determine criminal guilt or innocence. However, no accused person, convicted or unconvicted, should be subjected to torture, inhuman treatment, or degrading punishment. If even a fraction of these allegations is true, they demand independent scrutiny at the highest level.

This case now stands as a wider test of justice in Mauritius. A person who has not been convicted is supposed to remain presumed innocent. Yet Ashley Tierney has spent almost seven years behind bars

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awaiting the proper conclusion of legal proceedings.

That reality alone should concern any legal observer, journalist, diplomat or human rights body. The issue is not merely the prosecution itself. The issue is whether justice delayed on this scale becomes justice denied.

Foreign Prisoners Network Calls For:

- full media scrutiny of the trial scheduled from 7 to 18 September 2026 in Port Louis;
- international trial observation by journalists, rights groups and legal monitors; strict protection of Ashley Tierney's right to a fair trial;
- renewed examination of the reasons for nearly seven years of pre-trial detention; serious and independent attention to the allegations of physical abuse, psychological torture and degrading treatment;
- transparency regarding his detention history, prison treatment and procedural delays;
- attention from British authorities and international human rights institutions.

Whatever view may ultimately be taken of the criminal charges, one principle must remain immovable: A man should not disappear into a prison system for nearly seven years without conviction, without scrutiny, and without the world asking hard questions.

Ashley Tierney's upcoming trial is not only a criminal case. It is also a serious human rights story, a due process story, and a test of whether fairness still has meaning when a person has waited almost seven years for justice. What if the court decides he is innocent?

Foreign Prisoners Network urges media outlets in Mauritius, the United Kingdom and internationally to report on this case, monitor the proceedings, and examine the broader conditions that have shaped it.

Notes to Editors

Ashley Tierney is a British national from England. He was arrested in Mauritius in November 2019.

His case is expected to be heard in Port Louis from 7 September to 18 September 2026.

He has spent almost seven years in pre-trial detention without conviction. Foreign Prisoners Network has received written testimony from Tierney detailing allegations of abuse, mistreatment, procedural unfairness and severe psychological suffering during detention.

These allegations are serious and should be independently examined. They remain allegations unless and until established by competent legal or investigative authorities.

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