

To: Union NAPB – ABVO - WICSU/PSU  
St. Maarten,  
Dutch Caribbean

Monday, December 7, 2020

REF: Minister of Justice to Parliament

Dear Presidents,

As members of the NAPB, ABVO and WICSU/PSU we hereby urgently advise you to take note and act upon the following in the benefit of your members;

Your members have been extremely patient and acting in good faith for almost a decade despite many injustices committed upon us by successive governments. The justice chain have seen very little progress or resolution of ongoing issues of any kind over this period.

The members of the justice chain have diligently executed their duties while waiting on government to do right by us. To compound an already bad situation, we have a current Minister of Justice Ms. Anna Richardson, whose behavior towards us, her employees, is beyond acceptable. From the moment that the Honorable Minister has taken office she has operated and given us the impression that we are her enemies. The Honorable Minister has taken the approach that it is us against her and do not listen to us with equal respect, understanding and empathy.

While the Minister unfortunately takes everything personal, she has yet to provide information on many issues including, but not limited to, the function book, incorrect salary scales, prison guard safety issues, health dangers at almost all departments, a legal way to separate immigration from police, repayment of vacation money, not getting our yearly increases and many other illegal infractions that have been committed against us. You, our unions, have the many dates and documentation of much more of her infractions against us. The legality of these decisions must also be questioned.

Having said all of that, we want to make it clear that **we have lost all confidence** in the Minister of Justice and are hereby mandating you our union representatives to do everything within your power to involve Parliament and relay our position. The unions must pressure Parliament to call the Minister to be questioned and provide truthful and concrete answers.

Parliament as the highest body in the land must now get involved in an effort to resolve these issues post haste. We are giving the unions three days to compose the necessary letter to Parliament. Please express to Parliament, with all due respect, that the justice chain expects Parliament to prioritize this issue and react to your letter on our behalf sooner, rather than later, and in any case within a week.

Should we not receive the respect and desired result from Parliament, membership will meet to consider further action.

As our representative the unions should also take note that should you fail or decline to execute this mandate, your membership will meet to consider if you are representing us adequately enough and perhaps take action against you.

For too long we have allowed others to dictate what we should and should not accept and this ends today with the mandate hereby given to you,

Looking forward to a swift response,

The members of ABVO, NAPB and WICSU/PSU.