

8 August 2017

The Honourable Major General Edmund Dillon (Ret),
Minister of National Security,
Temple Court,
31-33 Abercromby Street,
PORT OF SPAIN.

Dear Honourable Minister,

Re: Appointment of Inspector of Prisons

I write to you regarding the vacant office of Inspector of Prisons.

As you know, the term of office of Mr. Daniel Khan, the last duly appointed Inspector, expired in June 2016. The Inspector of Prisons performs an important function in ensuring that the Prison rules are complied with by those charged with guarding prisoners and generally in seeing after the health and welfare of persons detained in the nation's prisons. Although a person who has been convicted of a crime or who is detained pending trial is constitutionally deprived of his or her right to liberty, the other protections which the Constitution affords are not suspended in the meantime. Each prisoner is entitled to be treated with dignity and in accordance with the prison rules. The inspector plays a crucial role in ensuring that the state lives up to these obligations and expectations.

In light of the above, I write to you to express the Law Association's concern that the office of Inspector has now been vacant for more than a year. We trust that you will do all within your power to ensure that an Inspector is appointed with due dispatch.

If there is anything which the Law Association can do to hasten this process, please let me know.

Yours sincerely,


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Douglas L. Mendes S.C.
President

**Law Association
of Trinidad and Tobago**
established by the
Legal Profession Act 1986



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31-33 Abercromby Street,
PORT OF SPAIN.

Dear Honourable Minister,

Re: Appointment of Inspector of Prisons

I refer to a letter dated 5th August 2017 incorrectly addressed to "The Honourable Mervyn Dillon". I respectfully apologise for this error and ask that you ignore that letter and replace it with the attached.

Yours sincerely,

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Douglas L. Mendes S.C.
President

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