



THE BAR ASSOCIATION OF GUYANA

ANNUAL REPORT

2019-2020



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PRESIDENT'S REMARKS

MR. TENI HOUSTY, ATTORNEY-AT-LAW



MR. TENI HOUSTY

ATTORNEY-AT-LAW

It has been an honour and privilege to serve as President of the Bar Association of Guyana for the period 2019 to 2020. The past year, and the extended months have seen the Bar Council and by extension the Bar as a whole, experience many challenges, still to emerge stronger.

We started this tenure of office, with a focus on health and wellness. We were clearly preparing ourselves for the ensuing months. We have observed elections, we continue to ensure that the health and welfare of legal practitioners are considered in the Covid-19 Measures of the Judiciary. We have recognised that the gravity of our concerns are not to be sacrificed on any altar of judicial expediency.

For the record, though the engagements with the judiciary, may have, of necessity, been confrontational, there are shared objectives between the Bar and the Bench, the administration of justice. Nevertheless, our first object as an Association is to deal with matters affecting the legal profession; and to take such action to promote, preserve and protect its interests.

From what has been a hard working tenure of the Bar Council, as President, I must highlight our response to technology. Technology has been embraced by our Association and its members, and will provide the foundation for the future of our practice of law. It was Kofi Annan (Former UN Secretary-General) who said: "Knowledge is power. Information is liberating. Education is the premise of progress, in every society ...". In our profession, liberty is pillar of both Human Rights and the Rule of Law. Our monument to the liberation of knowledge at the Bar in Guyana, will be seen through our website on which un-reported judgments of all courts, as well as Law Reports have been made accessible. For our members, in the spirit of the bar, we encourage you to consume these resources for your own fulfilment, and the advancement of the profession as a whole.

Finally, I have been brief in my remarks (you are all welcome). This year has been for you our members, thank you for the opportunity to be of service. In these times, continue to stay safe, sane and healthy as we continue to stand up for your rights and not give up the fight.



September 16, 2020.

BAR COUNCIL

2019-2020



MR. TENI HOUSTY
President



MR. ROBIN STOBY, S.C.
Vice-President



MR. KAMAL RAMKARRAN
Vice-President



MS. PAULINE CHASE
Secretary



MR. KEOMA GRIFFITH
Assistant Secretary



MR. SIAND DHURJON
Treasurer

BAR COUNCIL

2019-2020



MR. RAFIQ KHAN, S.C.
Council Member



MR. RAJENDRA POONAI, S.C.
Council Member



MS. JAMELA ALI
Council Member



MR. SANJEEV DATADIN
Council Member



MR. ARUDRANAUTH GOSSAI
Council Member



MS. ALANNA LALL
Council Member

THE BAR ASSOCIATION OF GUYANA



NOTICE

*PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that the next Annual General Meeting of The Bar Association of Guyana will take place on Tuesday the **29th day of September**, 2020 at **3:30pm** via Zoom Videoconference Link.*

All members of the Association in good financial standing are hereby invited to submit resolutions and matters for the Agenda within seven (7) days of this Notice to the office of the Bar Association, Lot 39 Brickdam, Stabroek, Georgetown.

August 28, 2020

Ms. Pauline Chase, Secretary, The Bar Association of Guyana

NOTICE OF ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING



AGENDA

1. Call to Order
2. Reading of Notice of AGM
3. Excuses
4. Adoption of Agenda
5. Adoption of Minutes of the previous year's AGM
6. Matters arising from Minutes
7. Reports:
 - i. Secretary
 - ii. Treasurer
8. Committee Reports:
 - a. IT Committee
 - b. Criminal Bar Committee
 - c. Mediation Committee
 - d. Oil & Gas Local Content Committee
9. Board Representatives/Nominees Reports:
 - i. Council of Legal Education (Executive Council) – Mr. Robin Stoby, S.C./alternate Mr. Teni Housty
 - ii. Council of Legal Education (General Council) – Mr. Kamal Ramkarran
 - iii. Guyana Legal Aid Clinic – Mr. Teni Housty
 - iv. Juvenile Justice Committee – Keoma Griffith
 - v. University of Guyana Council – Mr. Timothy Jonas
 - vi. Allied Health Professionals Council Guyana – Mr. Paul Braam
 - vii. Pharmacy Council – Mr. Nigel Niles
 - viii. Guyana-Cuba Trade Facilitation Council of the Georgetown Chamber of Commerce & Industry- Ms. Vidushi Persaud
 - ix. Guyana-India Trade Facilitation Council of the Georgetown Chamber of Commerce & Industr (GCCl) – Mr. Moenudin McDoom, Jnr.
 - x. Guyana-Canada Trade Facilitation Council of the Georgetown Chamber of Commerce & Industry – Mr. Sanjeev Datadin
 - xi. Deeds & Commercial Registries Authority Governing Board – Ms. Jamela Ali
 - xii. Rules Committee – Ms. Jamela Ali
10. Auditor's Report for fiscal years ending 2019 & 2020
11. Motions and or Resolutions
12. Election of Members to the Bar Council
13. Any other business
14. Adjournment.

MINUTES OF LAST ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Executive:

1. Kamal Ramkarran – President
2. Robin Stoby S.C – Vice President
3. Teni Housty – Vice President
4. Pauline Ann Cleopatra Chase – Secretary
5. Keoma D. Griffith – Asst. Secretary
6. Devindra Kissoon – Treasurer
7. Jamela Ali – Council Member
8. Timothy Jonas – Council Member

Ordinary Members:

9. Siand Dhurjon
10. Danielle Anthony
11. Emily Dodson
12. Naresh Poonai
13. Rafiq Khan, S.C.
14. Rajendra Poonai, S.C.
15. Motee Singh
16. Stephen Fraser, S.C.
17. Shellon Boyce
18. Chandrawattie Persaud

EXCUSES:

- Mr. Sanjeev Datadin asked to be excused as he was out of the jurisdiction in Canada.
- Ms. Alanna Lall asked to be excused as she was out of the jurisdiction in China representing the Association at a Conference.

CALL TO ORDER:

The Meeting was called to order by the President, Mr. Kamal Ramkarran at 3:30 pm. He thanked the members in attendance.

ADOPTION OF MINUTES:

Motion moved that the Minutes of the last Annual General Meeting held on May 31, 2018 be adopted. Motion was seconded. All in favour. Vote carried.

MATTERS ARISING:

No matters arising from the Minutes.

REPORTS:

Members agreed that the written report of the Secretary, Ms. Pauline Chase submitted to members of the association by way of email would be taken as read.

President, Mr. Kamal Ramkarran gave a brief oral report and promised to provide same in writing. The President, Mr. Kamal Ramkarran, performing the duties of Treasurer, also gave a brief financial report.

Board Representative and Nominee Reports

Members agreed all written Board Representative and Nominee Reports submitted by way of email be taken as read as follows:

- (i) Guyana Legal Aid Clinic – Mr. Teni Housty
- (ii) Rules Committee – Ms. Jamela Ali
- (iii) Allied Health Professionals Council – Mr. Paul Braam
- (iv) GCCI Guyana-Cuba Trade Facilitation Council – Ms. Pauline Chase
- (v) GCCI Guyana-India Trade Facilitation Council – Mr. M. Mc Doom Jr.

Mr. Robin Stoby and Mr. Kamal Ramkarran gave brief oral reports on the Executive and General Councils, respectively of the Council of Legal Education.

Mr. Timothy Jonas delivered an oral report on the University of Guyana Council.

No Reports received from:

- (i) Pharmacy Council – Mr. Nigel Niles
- (ii) Deeds and Commercial Registries Authority Governing Board – Ms. Sharon Small
- (iii) GCCI Guyana-Canada Trade Facilitation Council – Mr. Sanjeev Datadin

AUDITOR'S REPORT:

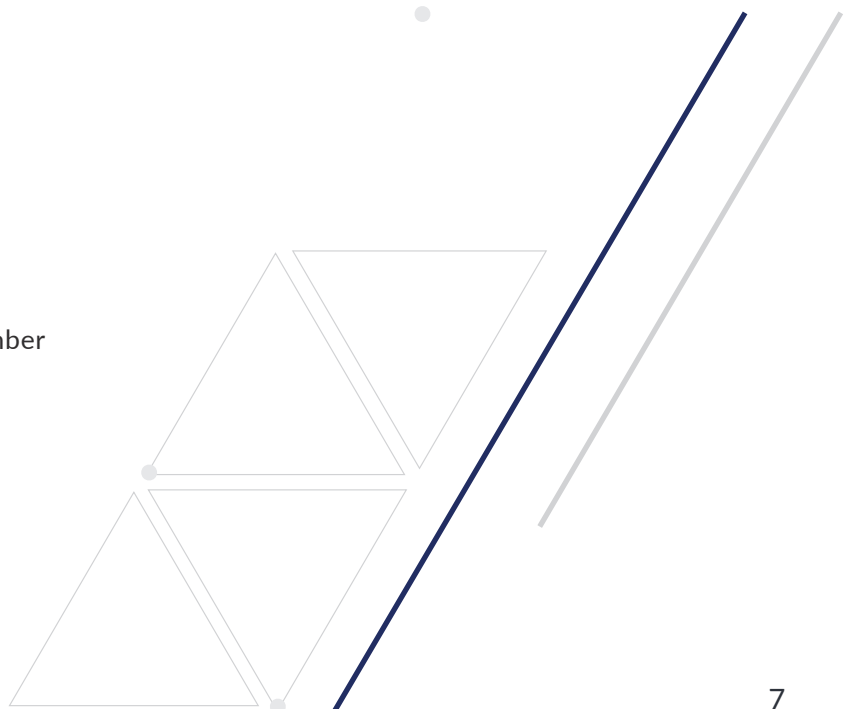
Motion moved, seconded and carried that the Auditor's Report for the fiscal year 2018-2019 be deferred to the next Annual General Meeting.

ELECTION:

Returning Officer: Emily Dodson

The Returning Officer declared the following members elected to serve on the Bar Council for the fiscal year 2019-2020:

1. Mr. Teni Housty as President
2. Mr. Robin Stoby S.C as Vice President
3. Mr. Kamal Ramkarran as Vice President
4. Ms. Pauline Chase as Secretary
5. Mr. Keoma D. Griffith as Asst. Secretary
6. Mr. Siand Dhurjon as Treasurer
7. Mr. Rafiq Khan S.C as Council Member
8. Mr. Rajendra Poonai S.C as Council Member
9. Ms. Jamela Ali as Council Member
10. Mr. Sanjeev Datadin as Council Member
11. Mr. Arud Gossai as Council Member
12. Ms. Alanna Lall as Council Member



Returning Officer, Ms. Emily Dodson, congratulated the Bar Council and wished them a successful term. President, Mr. Teni Housty thanked members for the confidence shown and election of the Bar Council.

ANY OTHER BUSINESS:

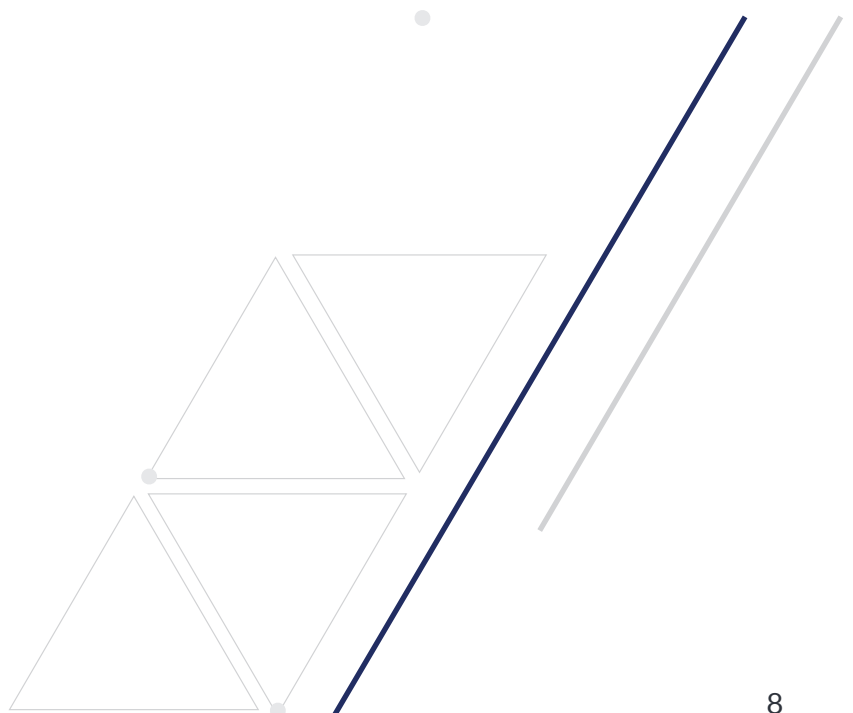
Member Ms. Emily Dodson, raised the matter of improving mediation services offered by the Court. She suggested that the mediation list be cleansed and that new members of the Bar, especially young colleagues who were exposed to mediation training at HWLS, be added to the list of mediators. Members then discussed the best means of achieving this.

ADJOURNMENT:

The Meeting was adjourned at 4:30 pm.

Mr. Teni Housty
President

Ms. Pauline Chase
Secretary



SECRETARY'S REPORT

MS. PAULINE CHASE, ATTORNEY-AT-LAW



The world is in the midst of a pandemic. There are few parts of the inhabited planet left untouched. The spread of a highly contagious virus has been rapid and pervasive. Governments and citizens all over have had to act with expedition with measures to contain it. Borders have been closed; some freedoms have been curtailed and measures such as sanitizing, wearing of face coverings and social distancing have quickly become part of what is called a new normal.

-The Hon. Justice Ronnie Boodoosingh

-Suraj & Ors v AG of Trinidad and Tobago Claim No. CV2020-01370

Opening

The 2019-2020 term has been extraordinary, so much so, that for the first time in our recorded history the term lasted sixteen months instead of the usual twelve months. We were unable to hold our Annual General Meeting (AGM) in May, 2020 in the usual way as a result of COVID-19 measures and restrictions.

COVID-19 became a reality in Guyana on March 11, 2020 with the first reported death therefrom.

Without much forewarning for preparation, the term 'social distancing' became a part of our vocabulary and with that, the manner in which we operate as a society, relate to and interact with each other, were abruptly changed.

For us at the Bar, the way in which we practice has been fundamentally transformed. We have lost the theatre of the courtroom; sterilized by virtual hearings. The halls now echo. Corridor gaffe has vanished. Jury trials have ceased. And, opportunities have diminished for the 'Junior Bar' to learn from and sharpen their craft by witnessing the conduct of senior members of the Bar in the courtroom.

COVID-19 has also exposed the inadequacies of the system, particularly in the area of technological advancements pertaining to virtual hearings, electronic filing and service of documents, e-commerce, electronic commission of affidavits, searches, and processing of applications and requests.

Practice Directions, Protocols and mechanisms were put in place to adjust but regrettably first without input from the Bar. At present and after more than five months, there still hasn't been much advancement

in addressing the aforesaid technological inadequacies as we continue to lag behind other jurisdictions in this and other areas. While other jurisdictions were able to pass legislation to adapt, we did not have the luxury of Parliament as Guyana was strangled by a concurrent five month long electoral process. this and other areas. While other jurisdictions were able to pass legislation to adapt, we did not have the luxury of Parliament as Guyana was strangled by a concurrent five month long electoral process.

As an association, we too have had to grapple with the changes brought about by the pandemic. And despite the challenges, I am proud to report that we have nevertheless made progress. We swiftly transferred to the online platform through which we were able to meet and continue to deliver legal education to the Bar while employing innovative ways of fundraising to satisfy our expenses.

Over the past three years, we have become more social and while we miss gathering as the COVID-19 measures imposed restrict us from so doing, it is but a small price to pay to keep us safe.

Officers

The last Annual General Meeting ('AGM') of the Association was held on May 31, 2019, at 3:30 pm in Court 1 of the Victoria Law Courts, Demerara. Thereat, the following persons were elected to serve on the Bar Council for the 2019-2020 fiscal year in the corresponding positions:

»	Mr. Teni Housty	-	President
»	Mr. Robin Stoby, S.C.	-	Vice President
»	Mr. Kamal Ramkarran	-	Vice President
»	Ms. Pauline Chase	-	Secretary
»	Mr. Keoma D. Griffith	-	Assistant Secretary
»	Mr. Siand Dhurjon	-	Treasurer
»	Ms. Jamela Ali	-	Council Member
»	Mr. Rajendra Poonai, S.C.	-	Council Member
»	Mr. Arudranauth Gossai	-	Council Member
»	Mr. Sanjeev Datadin	-	Council Member
»	Mr. Rafiq Khan, S.C.	-	Council Member
»	Ms. Alanna Lall	-	Council Member

Statutory Meetings

The Bar Council met on the second Wednesday of every month, first at the Bar Office and then from April 2020, after the outbreak of COVID-19, virtually through the Zoom online platform. Attendance was as follows:

»	Mr. Teni Housty	-	President	-	16/16
»	Mr. Robin Stoby, S.C.	-	Vice President	-	5/16
»	Mr. Kamal Ramkarran	-	Vice President	-	13/16
»	Ms. Pauline Chase	-	Secretary	-	15/16
»	Mr. Keoma Griffith	-	Assistant Secretary	-	16/16
»	Mr. Siand Dhurjon	-	Treasurer	-	8/16
»	Ms. Jamela Ali	-	Council Member	-	10/16
»	Mr. R. Poonai, S.C.	-	Council Member	-	1/16

»	Mr. A. Gossai	- Council Member	- 0/16
»	Mr. Sanjeev Datadin	- Council Member	- 8/16
»	Mr. Rafiq Khan, S.C.	- Council Member	- 0/16
»	Ms. Alanna Lall	- Council Member	- 13/16

A WhatsApp group with all Council Members and email communication facilitated work between statutory Council Meetings.

Committees

Four (4) Committees were established and constituted during the term to assist with the work of the association.

The President and Secretary of the association are ex officio members of each committee.

Mediation Committee

Arising out of issues raised at our last AGM, the Bar Council in June 2019 established a Mediation Committee to determine the basis on which students who have undergone a mediation course at the Hugh Wooding Law School ('HWLS') can be incorporated into the mediation framework in Guyana.

The Committee is constituted as follows:

»	Mr. Teni Housty	- Chairperson
»	Ms. Jamela Ali	
»	Ms. Emily Dodson	
»	Ms. Chandra Persaud	
»	Ms. Yolander Persaud	
»	Mr. Keoma D. Griffith	
»	Mr. Siand Dhurjon	
»	Ms. Nekeisha Persaud	
»	Mr. Bernard DaSilva	
»	Tonza Sarrabo	

IT Committee

COVID-19 brought about increased technological demands in our practice and as an association. To address those needs, an IT Committee was established in May 2020 and has since been indispensable in assisting in the current climate. Through this Committee we have been able to render advice and assistance to the Bar; contribute suggestions to the Bench; conduct virtual meetings and Webinars; and even host this year's AGM with an online voting mechanism which they formulated.

The Committee is convened as follows:

»	Mr. Nikhil Ramkarran	- Chairperson
»	Ms. Danielle Anthony	- Secretary
»	Mr. Ron Motilall	
»	Mr. Naresh Poonai	
»	Mr. Siand Dhurjon	

- » Ms. Anne Hussein
- » Ms. Shellon Boyce
- » Mr. Keoma Griffith

Criminal Bar Committee

This Committee was reconstituted and reconvened in June 2020 to assist the Bar Council with the numerous issues facing criminal law practitioners. In a very short space of time, this Committee has completed impressive work. The Bar Council has come to rely on the efficiency of this Committee.

The Committee is constituted as follows:

- » Mr. Glenn Hanoman – Chairperson
- » Mr. Donavon Rangiah – Secretary
- » Mr. Lyndon Amsterdam
- » Mr. Sanjeev Datadin
- » Ms. Latchmie Rahamat
- » Mr. Dexter Todd
- » Mr. Curtis R. Crawford
- » Mr. Keoma Griffith
- » Mr. Everton Singh-Lammy
- » Mr. Samuel Glasgow
- » Mr. Brandon DeSantos
- » Mr. Bernard DaSilva
- » Ms. Mitra Devi Ali
- » Mr. Siand Dhurjon
- » Ms. Yondessa Welcome-Mercurius
- » Ms. Anita Mohan
- » Ms. Collette Marks
- » Ms. Chandra Persaud

Oil and Gas Local Content Committee

The Bar Association has been identified as a civil society organization to be consulted with on local content in the oil and gas sector. In response, this Committee was established with the specific mandate of advising on the position the association should take with regard thereto.

The Committee is presently constituted as follows:

- » Mr. Teni Housty – Chairperson
- » Mr. Christopher Ram
- » Mr. Sanjeev Datadin
- » Ms. Jamela Ali

Meetings

The Bar Council engaged with a number of persons, bodies, and organizations over the past term in furtherance of the mandate of the association. The number and frequency of meetings placed a great demand on the President's time, which he shouldered with admirable responsibility.

With regard to the administration of justice, the Bar Council met with those directly responsible therefor as follows:

- Registrar of Deeds – the Bar Council first met for the term with the Registrar of Deeds (ag). on June 18, 2019, at which meeting the following issues were raised and addressed:
 - opening hours;
 - delay in refund of filing fees;
 - demand of the Registrar for colour copies of the photo ID of parties to certain deeds;
 - out of order and misplaced matters;
 - service by Registry staff;
 - property description re decision of Land Court; and
 - the status of Irrevocable Power of Attorney after death.
- Chief Magistrate – the Bar Council met with the Chief Magistrate, Her Worship Ann McLennan on June 19, 2020. The following matters were raised and addressed:
 - failure of notification to Counsel when matters will not be going on, particularly in out of town matters;
 - long wait time by Counsel for matters to be called;
 - transcription;
 - placement of persons in the lockups for non-violent offences while bail is being paid;
 - lenient adjournments in favour of the prosecution when not ready to proceed; and
 - conduct of Counsel in Court.
- Bench and Bar – there was an increased number of engagements with the Bench as compared with the previous term, both with the Honourable Chancellor of the Judiciary (ag). and the Honourable Chief Justice (ag). individually and along with other Justices of the High Court as part of a wider Bench and Bar body.
- Chancellor of the Judiciary (ag). - The Bar Council first met with the Honourable Chancellor (ag). on September 23, 2019, and addressed such matters as:
 - delays in entering Orders of Court, granting of Estates and delivery of judgments;
 - the frequency of meetings of the Rules Committee;
 - locking of Courtrooms and restriction of Counsel therefrom;
 - e-filing;
 - transcription;
 - improved Robing Room facilities in Demerara as done in Barbice; and
 - publication of a joint Bench and Bar Law Journal.
- The Honourable Chief Justice (ag). - was also engaged in October to specifically address the delay in the entering of Orders of Court and the filing fee being charged for applications for Probate and Letters of Administration without a Schedule therefor.
- Special Meetings - There were also a few preparatory meetings in December 2019 and January 2020 with the Bench with regard to the presentation by the Honourable Justice C. Dennis Morrison, OJ, President of the Court of Appeal of Jamaica on the topics of "Technology and the Law" and "Continuing Legal Education" on January 9, 2020, at the Regency Suites Hotel, Hadfield Street, Georgetown. The Bar was invited to attend jointly with the Bench on the invitation of the Honourable Chancellor of the Judiciary and assisted in preparations. Our President delivered opening remarks.

- Bench and Bar - As mentioned hereinbefore, COVID-19 gave rise to new challenges in the administration of justice. In addressing these, the Bench and Bar met virtually on no less than four occasions; the first such meeting taking place on May 25, 2020. As per course, timely reports were issued to the Bar which set out the myriad of matters addressed such as:
 - updates by the Bench, including the Magistracy on steps taken in response to the COVID-19 pandemic including the manner of operation of the Supreme Court Registry;
 - conduct of (urgent) hearings;
 - operation of the Supreme Court Registry;
 - access to information and response to queries via email;
 - e-filing;
 - electronic service of documents;
 - Marshal Service;
 - Swearing of Affidavits;
 - Conduct of civil and jury trials;
 - Practice Directions & Protocols – computation of time, amendment to Court Forms;
 - Execution Sales;
 - Mediation;
 - recording of Court proceedings;
 - use of technology;
 - access to justice – pro se litigants;
 - entering and service of Orders of Court;
 - Maximum Sentence Indications;
 - Manner of operation of the Magistrates' Courts.

The Association continues to advocate for fixed scheduled Bench and Bar Meetings with Agenda and Minutes. Since the introduction or reintroduction of the Bench and Bar Committee a few years ago, Meetings are convened by the Chancellor, whether on request by the Bar or on the Chancellor's own motion. Historically and prior to the introduction of the Bench and Bar Committee, the association held monthly meetings with the Chief Justice. It is important that there be an ongoing consultative process in keeping with good administration practices.

- Attorney General & Minister of Legal Affairs – On August 21, 2020, the Bar Council met virtually with the newly appointed Attorney General & Minister of Legal Affairs, the Hon. Mohabir Anil Nandlall. Promising discussions were had on:
 - Constitution of the Judicial Service Commission
 - Timeline for (re)constitution of the Commission
 - Article 198(2)(b) – bodies to be consulted with and requirements for nomination.
 - Deeds & Commercial Registries Authority – Board
 - Legal effect of purported constitution of the Board as gazetted on 26th October 2019
 - Appointment of substantive Registrars
 - Hours of Operation & Online Searches - Digitization and Access to Records
 - Removal of the Notice by the Registrar of Commerce for the establishment of beneficial ownership particulars for all companies registered in Guyana

- Facilities to accommodate remote hearings – Magistrate's Court, Prisons
- E-filing
- Acceptance of credit, debit, and other such electronic banking for payment of filings both online and at the Registries.
- Guyana Bar Association v Attorney General of Guyana et al – Action No. 601-W of 2003, Demerara.
- Mandatory Report as prescribed by the Time Limit for Judicial Decisions Act.
- Framework for the Appointment of Senior Counsel
- Law Reform Commission
- IDB Criminal Justice Project

As noted, there were meetings with other bodies and organizations:

- Organization of Commonwealth Caribbean Bar Associations (OCCBA) – There were two formal engagements with OCCBA of which Guyana is an institutional member. First, the President attended the Executive Meeting in Trinidad & Tobago on November 30, 2019; and secondly, the President along with your humble servant attended the Executive Meeting June 2020 via Zoom Video Conference Link. The latter meeting included presentations from eminent jurists in the Caribbean.
- Commonwealth Law Association (CLA) – the President attended a meeting on May 12, 2020, under the theme “How COVID-19 is affecting the administration of justice - Caribbean”. The President also attended the CLA America's Hub Meeting on August 31, 2020.
- Caribbean Court of Justice (CCJ)/JURIST – the President and your humble servant attended a Webinar under the theme ‘Adapting to the COVID-19 Reality – A Roadmap for Caribbean Judiciaries’ which was convened to discuss the impact and difficulties facing both Bench and Bar as a result of COVID-19.
- Hugh Wooding Law School (HWLS) Students – There were two such engagements. The President, Assistant Secretary, and your humble servant travelled to Trinidad to meet with the students as part of their orientation week in September 2019. Another meeting was facilitated via Zoom Video Conference Link on April 29, 2020, to address their concerns as methods or assessment and travel home to Guyana in light of the restrictions imposed by COVID-19.
- Law Association of Trinidad and Tobago (LATT) – The Assistant Secretary and your humble servant at the invitation of the President of the (LATT) were able to meet with and have positive discourse with the executive members of LATT in September of 2019. At the meeting, way in which the Associations could collaborate as well as areas of mutual interest were discussed.
- Council of Legal Education (CLE) – The President attended the Executive Council Meeting held in Jamaica in September 2019 and Bahamas on January 31, 2020, and February 1, 2020. The President also attended an Emergency Meeting of the Council on May 15, 2020, to make decisions concerning the mode of assessment of students in light of the COVID-19 pandemic. Vice-President, Mr. Kamal Ramkarran attended the General Council Meeting in September 2019 in Jamaica.
- Public Education and Engagement Working Group (PEEWG) – there has been continuous engagement, the President being the representative of the association on this JURIST funded body whose mandate is to provide public education on the functioning of the Judiciary. The first meeting was held on December 3, 2019.
- Consultants on Juvenile Justice – On August 19, 2019 discussions were had on alternatives to incarceration and other such approaches to reforming Juvenile Justice in Guyana.
- European Union (EU), Carter Center, Private Sector Commission (PSC), and Organization of American States (OAS) – as part of the election observation, there was continuous engagements with these organizations which were also carrying out observation of the 2020 General and Regional Elections in Guyana.

- Additional representations were made through:
- Council Member Ms. Jamela Ali represented the association on July 8, 2019, at the Pegasus Hotel the EU/UN Multi-Stakeholder Consultation on the Elimination of Violence Against Women & Girls, where she made valuable contributions.
- Council Member, Ms. Alanna Lall represented the association on October 7 & 8, 2019 at the Meeting to discuss Bankruptcy and Insolvency Legislation held at the Accra Beach Hotel in Barbados.
- The President, the Assistant Secretary and your humble servant represented the association at the Dinner of the Law Association of Trinidad & Tobago (LATT) on November 29, 2019, where OCCBA was relaunched.

The President also represented the association by attending:

- The Canada Day Reception at the Marriott Hotel Georgetown.
- The ceremonial arrival of the Liza Destiny on September 7, 2019;
- A Meeting of the Community Service Organizations (CSO) to discuss the improvements to and refinement of the project document for EU funded Spotlight Initiative aimed at preventing violence against women and children;
- The HWLS Graduation on October 5, 2019;
- The Eminent Caribbean Jurists Gala and Awards Ceremony in Trinidad and Tobago on October 7, 2019;
- The Reception to commemorate that 70th Anniversary of the founding of the People's Republic of China;
- The University of Guyana, Department of Law, Aubrey Bishop Mooting Competition where he sat on the panel of Judges. The Association also donated the trophies for the winning team;
- The opening of the 1st Chinese Film Festival on December 5, 2019;
- The UG Think Tank Meeting;
- A Cocktail Reception for the Minister of Curacao;
- The Anti-Money Laundering Launch where the then Attorney General Mr. Basil Williams, S.C. made special note that the legislation will next target Attorneys-at-Law;
- Stock-taking exercise convened by the Government of Guyana, UNICED, and the Hague Convention on Private International Law Conference HCCH on January 15, 2020;
- A Meeting with representatives of the Revenue Authority on November 21, 2019, concerning the settlement of pending litigation;
- Ceremony to mark First Oil in Guyana also on January 15, 2020, at the Marriott Hotel;
- The opening of the Diamond-Grove Magistrates' Court on January 22, 2020, where he delivered opening remarks;
- A Webinar hosted by the Guyana Association of Women Lawyers (GAWL) on June 26, 2020, on Wellness and Financial Management.
- The funeral of Ms. Sheila Chapman-Wong on July 16, 2020, via Zoom Video Link in observance of COVID-19 protocols whereby he delivered a tribute.

Association Meetings:

- An Emergency General Meeting - was held on April 28, 2020, via Zoom Video Conference Link whereby a Resolution was passed to postpone the date of the Annual General Meeting (AGM) to date not later than September 30, 2020.
- A Special Meeting – was convened on August 6, 2020, via Zoom Video Conference Link to address the operation of the COVID-19 Emergency Practice Directions 2020.

Court Proceedings

The Association was a party to four (4) proceedings over the past term:

- i. Christopher Ram v Chief Election Officer et al - Action No. 2019-HC-DEM-CIV-FDA-1151 – The Association appeared amicus curiae and was represented by our President, Mr. Teni Housty, and Council Member, Mr. Sanjeev Datadin. The Association also appeared in the said capacity at the hearing of the appeal.
- ii. Teni Housty and Pauline Chase in their capacity as representatives of The Bar Association of Guyana v The Registrar of Deeds - Action No. 2019-HC-DEM-CIV-FDA-1626 - The Association challenged by way of Judicial Review, the decision of The Registrar of Deeds to refuse documents for filing in the Notarial Section of the Deeds Registry which is not accompanied by copies of Identification and Birth Certificates of the parties thereto. The said proceedings were heard before the Honourable Chief Justice (ag). on November 8, 2019, wherefor judgment was granted in favour of the Bar Association quashing the said decision of The Registrar of Deeds, with costs fixed in the sum of \$50,000.
- iii. Teni Housty and Pauline Chase in their capacity as representatives of The Bar Association of Guyana v The Town Clerk - Action No. 2019-HC-DEM-CIV-FDA-1975 – The Association challenged by way of judicial review the decision of the Town Clerk of Georgetown to demand certain documents and a fee of 0.5% of the current market value of a property in order to obtain a Certificate of Compliance therefor in accordance with Section 16A of the Deeds Registry Act. The matter was heard before the Honourable Justice Gino Persaud on September 4, 2020. The decision has been reserved.
- iv. Guyana Bar Association v Revenue Authority et al – Action No. 601 of 2003. This matter was called before the Honourable Chief Justice (ag). earlier in the year and put down for settlement discussions which were interrupted due to COVID-19 and general elections. Notices are to be sent for continuation.

Observer Status

The association was an accredited local observer of the General and Regional Elections held on March 2, 2020.

The team was led by our President, accompanied by:

- » Ms. Emily Dodson
- » Mr. Keoma Griffith
- » Mr. Glendon Greenidge
- » Mr. Siand Dhurjon
- » Mr. Selwyn Pieters
- » Mr. Ryan Crawford
- » Mr. Glenn Hanoman
- » Mr. Nikhil Ramkarran
- » Ms. Odessa James
- » Ms. Ocelisa Marks
- » Ms. Azeena Baksh, and
your humble servant.

As is now well documented, the election process and cycle lasted much longer than any of us could possibly have anticipated, with many twists and turns in the intervening five-month period between election day and the declaration of results.

A special note of appreciation is extended to Messrs. Nikhil Ramkarran and Glenn Hanoman who readily volunteered to be our representatives at the protracted recount exercise of the votes at the Arthur Chung Convention Center during the COVID-19 pandemic and therefore risking their own lives and safety so that the association could discharge its duty.

The association has a long history of its role in the election process as inter alia evidenced by being a founder of the Electoral Assistance Bureau (EAB) in the 1990s. The Association should be proud of its continued role and active participation in ensuring the preservation of the democratic process through free and fair elections.

Continuing Legal Education

In execution of the mandate to provide continuing legal education to the Bar, five educational sessions were organised and produced by the association over the past year:

- Civil Procedure Rules - Overview, Case Management, and Pre-Trial Review conducted by the Honourable Justice Fidela Corbin on Saturday, September 14, 2019, at the Herdmanston Lodge.
- Practice at the Bar – was held on October 18, 2019, at the Cara Lodge Hotel to welcome the recent graduates of the HWLS by giving them practical guidance on the practice of law at the Bar. This is the second consecutive year that this event was held and it is hoped that it continues to be an annual event. Senior Counsel Mr. Robin Stoby and Mr. Stephen Fraser along with Ms. Dela Britton readily gave of their time to partake in a panel discussion and socialize thereafter at a cocktail reception.
- Civil Procedure Rules One Day Seminar - Witness Statements, Fixed Date Applications, and Injunctions presented and facilitated by Mrs. Martha Des Vignes, Ph.D., Senior Tutor II, Hugh Wooding Law School on Friday, January 31, 2020, at the Pegasus Hotel.
- Operating a Modern Law Office: Adapting to COVID-19 Measures presented by Mr. Stephen Fraser, S.C. on June 25, 2020.
- Judicial Review Practice & Procedure: The New Landscape was held on July 27, 2020. We were honoured to have the Honourable Justice Eddy Ventose, High Court Judge, Eastern Caribbean Supreme Court present and facilitate the session.

The first two sessions were held in person while the latter two were held virtually as we adapted to the new manner of operation brought about by COVID-19 measures.

Both in-person sessions were overwhelmingly well attended at the maximum capacity permitted for the venues.

I proudly report that our first Webinar was held through our IT Committee less than one month after it was convened. The work of this Committee has been integral to our productivity during the ongoing COVID-19 measures.

While COVID-19 has made us physically distant, the use of technology has brought us together like never before and opened opportunities.

Members of the Bar also had the benefit of taking advantage of other educational sessions through Webinars held by other organizations within the region and around the world. Through our institutional membership with OCCBA, members of the association benefited from a Criminal Practice Webinar Series and a now ongoing Civil Practice and Procedure Webinar Series.

'Webinars' have widened educational opportunities.

Through the Organization of Commonwealth Caribbean Bar Associations ('OCCBA'), we were pleased to invite and be joined by colleagues from the region for our Judicial Review Webinar.

Members of the Bar also had the benefit of taking advantage of other educational sessions through Webinars held by other organizations within the region and around the world. Through our institutional membership with OCCBA, members of the association benefited from a Criminal Practice Webinar Series and a now ongoing Civil Practice and Procedure Webinar Series.

'Webinars' have widened educational opportunities.

Social Activities

In the words of Machel Montano, “work hard, play harder”. The Association continued to host a number of various social activities to foster togetherness at the Bar and which I am happy to report, were well supported and received.

- Cricket: Scales v Steths – We took on the doctors’ cricket team on August 31st, 2019 at Thirst Park for a rematch of our 2017 encounter. Sadly, our team lost again in a nail-biting finish. We do however thank the doctors for their support in assisting us with raising much-needed funds which we earned from the Bar and gate entrance fee.
- Walkathon & Continental Breakfast – to promote fitness at the Bar, we held a Walkathon on September 29th, 2019 followed by a Continental Breakfast at the Pegasus Hotel. The route was directed to raise awareness of the Rule of Law bypassing the three arms of the State. The Walkathon departed at 6:30 am from Square of the Revolution (opposite to Office of the President, the seat of the Executive), proceeding west into Brickdam turning into High Street at Parliament Buildings (seat of the Legislative) passing the Magistrates’, High and Appeals Courts (Judicial) where it ended. The participation and support of the Bench
- Annual Bar Dinner – the 39th Annual Bar Dinner, our pinnacle event of the year, was held on November 15th, 2019 at the Marriott Hotel, Georgetown. It was extremely well attended, by both Bench and Bar and sold out once again. We were honoured to have Lady Avril Anande Trotman deliver the keynote address. Awards in recognition of attaining fifty years at the Bar were given to Justice Donald Trotman, Mr. Jailall Kissoon, Mr. Dyal Singh, Ms. Sheila Chapman-Wong, and Mr. Cecil Dhurjon, S.C.
- Christmas Social – we ended the year with our Christmas Social on December 20, 2019, at the Cara Lodge Hotel, spreading Christmas Cheer!
- Coastline Clean-up – in observance of International Coastline Clean-up Day and the caretaking endeavour of Mr. Carl Melville, the Bar Association, in collaboration with Seawalls and Beyond, organized a coastline clean-up of the Georgetown Seawalls area on Saturday 19th September, 2020. This effort was led by Mr. Everton Singh-Lammy.

Press Releases

The Association had cause to speak through the release of Statements on fifteen (15) occasions during the term.

More than one Statement addressed the attacks on the Judiciary, Members of the Bar, and other persons in the execution of their professional duties during the protracted election period.

Statements are published on release on the association’s website and can be accessed through the following link:

<http://guyanabarassociation.org/media-centre/>

Publications

Disappointingly, there was not sufficient response to the Call for Papers to enable the publication of an updated edition of the Bar Association Review (‘BAR’). This publication was published biannually in the 1980s when it was first introduced. Law Journals such as the ‘BAR’ are essential for growth in legal learning and it is hoped that members of the Bar do find the time to engage in this important aspect of their craft.

Bar of Sorrow

Over the past year, we have regrettably suffered the loss of many esteemed members of the Bar, now of blessed memory.

- » Mr. Ian Chang, SC, CCH on the 16th November, 2019

- » Mr. Tameshwar Sarwan on the 17th January, 2020
- » Mr. Brynmor Pollard, SC, OR, CCH on the 24th January, 2020
- » Mr. Cecil Seepersaud on the 3rd April, 2020
- » Mr. Hafiz Khan on the 14th April, 2020
- » Mr. Keith Massiah, SC, CCH on 26th April, 2020
- » Mr. Dyal Singh on the 27th May, 2020
- » Ms. Sheila Chapman-Wong on the 6th July, 2020
- » Mr. Sase Narain, SC, OR on the 25th August, 2020

A Special Sitting of the Full Bench was convened at the Court of Appeal on the 21st February, 2020 to pay tribute to the memory of the late Chief Justice (ag)., Mr. Ian Chang, SC, CCH. A Night of Reflection was earlier held by the Honourable Chancellor (ag). at the Umana Yana.

A Special Sitting of the Full Bench was also convened on the 24th January 2020 to pay tribute to the memories of Senior Counsel, Mr. Bernard De Santos, and Miles Fitzpatrick who died in March 2019. Ms. Alanna Lall gave a moving tribute as a representative of the Bar.

We are poorer at the Bar for the loss of their guidance and expertise. May their souls rest in eternal peace.

Here and There

Donations

- i. The association made a donation to the Library of the HWLS in September, 2019 of copies of the 2018 and 2019 editions of the Bar Association Review ('BAR'). The presentation was made by the President and Assistant Secretary to the Principal of the HWLS.
- ii. In September, 2019, we raised the sum of \$200,000.00 through contributions of members of the Bar as part of OCCBA's Call to Action for Hurricane Relief for The Bahamas. The said sum was transferred to OCCBA for donation to the Bahamas Bar Association, to bring much needed relief to our colleagues there.

Website

Our website launched in 2018 has expanded with the upload of judgments of the Land Court, High Court, Full Court and Court of Appeal. Further, through the initiative of Senior Counsel Mr. Stephen Fraser and facilitation by Cameron & Shepherd, the British Guiana a Law Reports (BGLR) and Guyana Law Reports (GLR) can now be accessed.

The combination of these uploads provides invaluable tools in the practice of members of the association.

Closing

It has been a pleasure to serve as your Secretary and I thank you for the opportunity to so do.

I do hope that I have served you well. I extend deep appreciation to our President Mr. Teni Housty for his leadership, particularly in the face of an unprecedented double whammy of the COVID-19 pandemic coupled with an election crisis. Please also do permit me the opportunity to thank my fellow colleagues on the Bar Council for their support or rather, for putting up with me.

The support of members of the Bar has been a source of motivation. I wish the next Bar Council well in the execution of their duties.

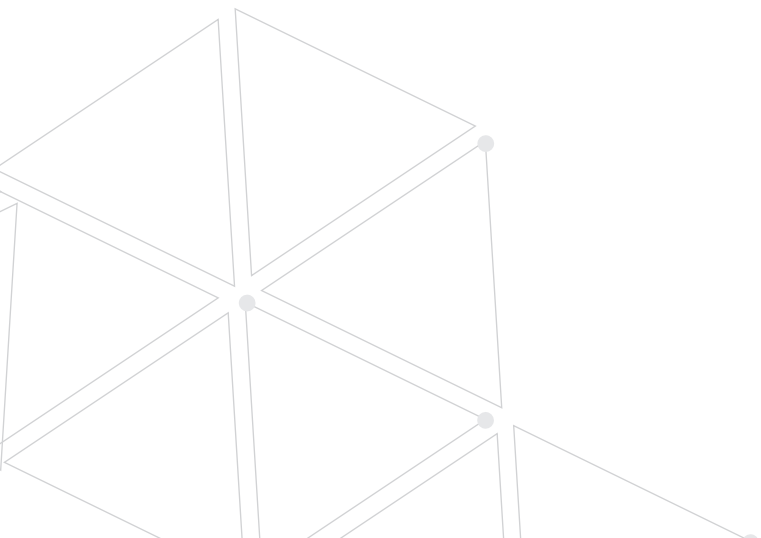
Thank you.

September 20, 2020

TREASURER'S REPORT

MR. SIAND DHURJON, ATTORNEY-AT-LAW

No written report submitted.



COMMITTEE REPORTS

a. IT Committee Report

Introduction

The IT Committee was convened by Mr. Keoma Griffith, Assistant Secretary of the Bar Association on the 5th June, 2020 using the Whatsapp platform. The Committee was mandated to advise the Bar Council on such matters related to Information Technology and to render such advice as requested and or needed including offering suggestions as the Committee sees fit for consideration.

In accordance with the Bar Council's Rules, the President and Secretary are ex officio members of the Committee. The other members of the Committee included the following volunteers:

1. Mr. Nikhil Ramkarran
2. Mr. Ron Motilall
3. Mr. Siand Dhurjon
4. Ms. Danielle Anthony
5. Mr. Naresh Poonai
6. Ms. Shellon Boyce
7. Mr. Keoma Griffith

Since its establishment, the Committee has held three (3) meetings using the Microsoft Teams Platform on 9th June, 2020; 15th June, 2020 and 6th July, 2020 to discuss the following matters:

Video Conferencing Platforms

The IT Committee is of the view that multiple video conferencing platforms to host hearings and trials could lead to confusion and therefore the Judiciary ought to focus on the use of a few options including Microsoft Teams, Zoom and Whatsapp.

The Chairman of the Committee, Mr. Nikhil Ramkarran met with his counterpart in Trinidad via Zoom to discuss mutual matters. The Chairman reported that the discussions were of immense benefit for guidance as the Committees in both jurisdictions face similar challenges.

IT Education

With the current pandemic looming, the education of the Association's members on technological advancements has become a critical concern. As such, the Committee intends to render assistance to members of the Bar who require such assistance.

To this end, the Committee has assisted the Bar Council with the following:

- Provision of an estimate for the procurement of equipment that will be necessary to upgrade the Bar Office;

- Preparation of Information Technology briefs and the curation of video tutorials of video conferencing platforms which were distributed to members;
 - Preparation of Court checklists for remote hearings to be utilized by the Court and Attorneys;
 - Recommended equipment for the conduct of remote hearings; and
- Procurement of Zoom licenses to host the Association's meetings and webinars.

Webinars

The Committee assisted in facilitating the hosting of two Webinars organized and produced by the Association, the first on June 25, 2020, that is, within three weeks of the Committee being convened, and the second on July 27, 2020.

E-Filing & Service

The Committee canvassed the Civil Procedure Rules and the Draft Practice Directions to determine the practicality of e-filing and service. The Committee openly discussed the possibility of the Judiciary establishing an e-filing payment platform and recommended that the Bar Council should engage the Minister of Finance to assist in this regard.

Judiciary Website

The Committee applauds the step taken by the Judiciary to create an online presence but recommends that the Website should contain a Notice Board or calendar of some sort with a schedule of court hearings and trials for the Judges and Magistrates.

Criminal Trials

The Committee recognizes the backlog of criminal cases in the High Court due to the closure of the Criminal Assizes. It also noted that the Magistracy's approach to matters has been much more effective than the High Court during this period.

Conclusion

While the life of the Committee was short lived, I believe that its members were able to accomplish much. There is still a lot of work to be done to assist the Council, its members and the Judiciary to embrace the change and propel us into a technological advanced era that will stand to benefit us all in the long run.

Report prepared by Ms. Danielle Anthony, Attorney-at-Law & Secretary of the IT Committee of The Bar Association of Guyana.

September 10, 2020.

b. Criminal Bar Committee Report

The Criminal Bar Committee's (hereinafter referred to as the 'CBC') activities were somehow curtailed due to the Covid-19 pandemic. The activities are as follows:

1. Submissions were made on the 7th July 2020 to the Guyana Bar Association on the following:
 - a) Legal basis for impact statements in criminal trials;
 - b) Continuation of criminal trials having regard to covid-19 measures;
 - c) Sufficiency of measures imposed for the hearing of criminal matters in the Magistrates and High Courts.
2. A Letter was drafted and directed to the Director of Prisons highlighting the obligations for the prison systems in Guyana to comply with the Remote Hearing Directions of 2020.
3. Submissions were made on the 26th August 2020 to the Guyana Bar Association on the technology needed to conduct simultaneous remote hearings.
4. Submissions were made on the 5th September, 2020 on the Draft Bail Bill of 2020.

Report prepared by Mr. Donavon A. Rangiah, Attorney-at-Law & Secretary of the Criminal Bar Committee of The Bar Association of Guyana.

September 9, 2020.

c. Mediation Committee

In November, 2019 a mediation committee of the Bar Association was convened from amongst the following volunteers: Jamela Ali, Keoma Griffith, Siand Dhurjon, Chandrawattie Persaud, Emily Dodson, Nekeisha Persaud, Bernard Da Silva, Yolander Persaud and Mitra Devi Ali.

The Committee was convened virtually. The President is an ex-officio member of the Committee.

Main work:

Comments on the Draft Protocol for Remote Mediations, as part of the COVID-19 measures of the High Court. The Protocol was shared with the High Court. It is observed that remoted Mediations have commenced by the High Court.

Priorities.

Issues to be addressed as a priority, extension of the pool of mediators, the evaluation of the Mediation Training, examination of the equivalency of Law School mediation training in other countries.

Report prepared by Mr. Teni Housty, Attorney-at-Law & Chairman of the Mediation Committee of The Bar Association of Guyana.

September 17, 2020.

d. Oil & Gas Local Content Committee

The Committee was convened with the following members including: Nigel Hughes, Jamela Ali, Sanjeev Datadin and Christopher Ram

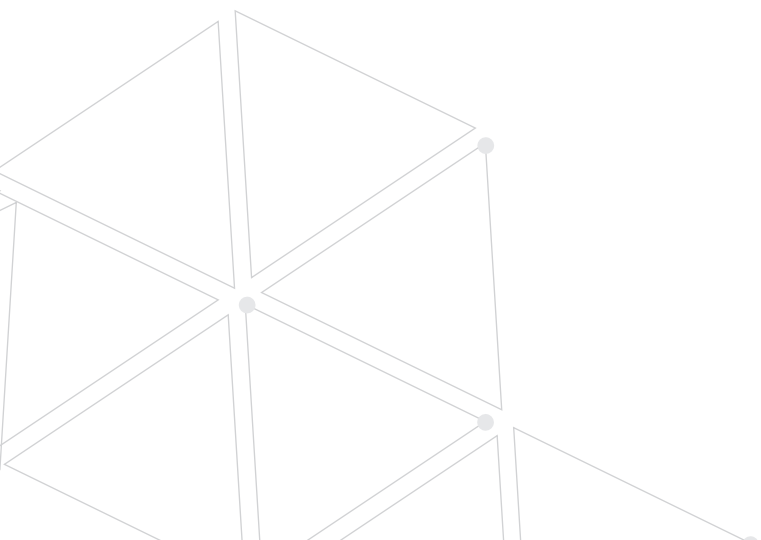
The President and Secretary are ex-officio members of the Committee.

Mr. Hughes, subsequent to the convening of the committee, indicated his unavailability to serve. He is thanked for his indication of service.

Though convened, the Committee has not formally met. Elections may have impacted on the ability of members to address oil and gas issues during the reporting period. It is trusted that we the dust from elections having settled somewhat. The committee would be in a better position to function. The members who have been called to higher service are congratulated on their appointments.

Report prepared by Mr. Teni Housty, Attorney-at-Law & Chairman of the Oil & Gas Local Content Committee of The Bar Association of Guyana.

September 17, 2020.



BOARD REPRESENTATIVES / NOMINEES REPORTS

a. Council of Legal Education (Executive Council) – Mr. Robin Stoby, S.C./alternate Mr. Teni Housty

The Bar Association of Guyana continues to be represented on the wider council of the Council of Legal Education, as well the Executive Committee of the Council of Legal Education. Our representative at the Executive Committee is Vice-President Robin Stoby, S.C., with (the President) Teni Housty as his alternate. Kamal Ramkarran is the other representative of the Bar Association on the Council of Legal Education.

Meetings

There was one meeting of the General Council of the Legal Education (the Council) held in Kingston Jamaica, in September, 2019.

There were three meetings of the Executive Committee of the Council held during the reporting period. The first in Jamaica (September, 2019), The Bahamas (January, 2020) and an Extra-Ordinary Meeting by Zoom in May (2020).

Issues of Interest

- Mr. Reginald Armour, S.C. was returned as Chairman of the Council of Legal Education for the period 2019 to 2021.
- General issues of the functioning of the Law Schools continued to engage the attention of the Council, these included Student Enrollment Levels, entrance examinations, financial contributions, quality assurance and matters of general staff welfare. In Jamaica there was the opening of a new building to house the students and staff of the Normal Manley Law School.
- COVID-19 had disrupted the manner of the delivery of legal education at all Schools. Measures taken by the Council included an amendment of the regulations to permit the Chairman of the Council, to implement measures in an efficient manner to address fluidity of the COVID-19 situation. The practical effect on the delivery of legal educations has been that Final Term examination of students were conducted by way of 24 hour assessments, instead of the 3 hours written examinations. The teaching for the September, 2020 term will be entirely remotely. The Council of Legal Education continues to monitor the science and impacts on COVID-19 and to implement measures to promote the delivery of Legal Education to all students.
- An issue currently engaging the Council is whether there should be a reduction of fees having regard the shift to delivering teaching remotely. The position of the administration of the Laws Schools is that the fees are justified even in a remote environment. The course content remains the same, the staff complement may have to be increased. There may be additional technology related costs.
- The admission policies have been the subject of litigation in the Supreme Court of Trinidad and Tobago and the Court of Appeal of Trinidad and Tobago in the case of *Dianne Hadeed v The Attorney general of Trinidad and Tobago*, *the Law Association of Trinidad and Tobago* and *The Registrar of the Supreme Court of Trinidad & Tobago*.

Guyana Specific Issues

- The issue of the quota of graduates from the University of Guyana entering the Law Schools of the Council featured on the agendas of all meetings. The issue was a live one having regard to the need to renew the tripartite collaborative agreement between the University of Guyana, the Cave Hill Faculty of Law of the University of the West Indies, and the Council of Legal Education. The finalisation of the Agreement remains largely incomplete, due to adjustments proposed through the position shared between the Government of Guyana and the University of Guyana. The position advanced both an increase in the numbers of University of Guyana graduates admitted as well as greater autonomy for the University of Guyana. There was an appreciation for the increase in numbers subject to space availability. The issue of the autonomy of the University of Guyana was generally not supported.
- The establishment of a Law School in Guyana was raised in the Meeting in Jamaica. There were matters of feasibility of the establishment of such a school considered. When the representative of the Government of Guyana could not address many of the substantive concerns of the Council, the issue was to be placed on the agenda of a later meeting.
- At the Executive Council Meeting in the Bahamas, the then Attorney-General of Guyana made remarks which were intended to be disparaging and demeaning to the representative of the Guyana Bar. These remarks were not taken lightly by the President of the Bar, the representative at the meeting. The remarks were also objected by most members present the meeting. This incident is mentioned to remind the future representatives of the Bar at the meetings of the Council. The Bar is an equal and respected stakeholder at the Council of Legal Education. Disrespect for the voice of the Bar should never be tolerated.
- The President was welcomed both at the Hugh Wooding Law School and the Graduation of the Students for the Hugh Wooding Law School, this is mentioned as it was suggested that Bar Associations continue to maintain linkages with graduating students as they enter into the profession.

September 16, 2020.

b. Council of Legal Education (General Council) – Mr. Kamal Ramkarran

No written report submitted.

c. Guyana Legal Aid Clinic – Mr. Teni Housty

The President is the Association's representative on a multi-disciplinary Board. The Board is chaired by Mr. Bishwa Panday, the Secretary is Ms. Josephine Whitehead, S.C.

The Attorney in charge of the Clinic is Ms. Shellon Boyce, who is supported by Attorneys-at-Law Sasha Roberts, Shameka Taitt, Collette Marks, Nikita Edwards, Renée McDonald, Michelle Matthias, Darshanie Lall and Tonza Sarrafo. There are offices of the Clinic in Demerara, Berbice and Essequibo.

The Board meets on the 3rd Wednesday of every month. With the Covid-19 measures meetings are held by Zoom.

The Clinic is supported financially by a government subvention. The Clinic continues to provide services in all areas of law to qualifying members of the Guyana Public. For the Bar, members are requested to consider providing services to the clients of the clinic particularly at courts in remote districts.

September 17, 2020.

d. Juvenile Justice Committee – Mr. Keoma Griffith

The Juvenile Justice Act 2018 was enacted to amend and consolidate the law in relation to criminal justice for juveniles. Section 82 of the Act, provides for the appointment of a Juvenile Justice Committee (“JJC”). The functions of the committee are set out in section 83 of the Act.

The work of the Justice Committee remains in its initial stage. The focus of the committee has therefore been to identify and assess the situation as it relates to juveniles in care of the state and the procedure for juveniles who will potentially come into contact with the law and the criminal justice system.

Pursuant to the provisions of the Act, the JJC has embarked on several strategic objectives. Objective one seeks to establish an effective organization for the administration of juvenile justice and a comprehensive juvenile justice system. In this regards, the JJC has been able to identify personnel and layout the manner in which the Juvenile Justice Committee shall perform its duties in accordance with the Act, advocate for the strengthening and structuring of the specialized unit for entry to the Juvenile Justice programmes, creating a structure for the Juvenile Justice Department and staffing/office space.

Objective two seeks to build/strengthen the capacity of stakeholders to execute Juvenile Justice activities in accordance with acceptable standards through training, assessments and sensitization and Raising National Awareness. This objective has seen widespread training and consultation with members of the Guyana Police Force, including community policing groups, Probation Officers, Community Development Councilors, Child Protection Officers, NGOs and members of the Magistracy.

Objective three seeks to put in place the necessary infrastructure(facilities) and personnel to enable attainment of the identifiable deliverables (guided the juvenile justice act). In this regard, the JJC has also been able to classify the current institutions which aid in Juvenile Justice and identify their needs, conduct analysis on the right sizing of institutional capacity (accommodation and personnel), creating conceptual designs and building of Facilities and compile demographic statistics of children in contact with the law.

The work of the JJC during the outlined period has not been without its challenges. Since the appointment of the JJC, there has been no budget allocation, thus many of the ideal objectives could not be achieved. The JJC thus continually seeks assistance of the relevant Permanent Secretaries for an allotment and foster partnerships through interagency collaboration and donor assistance where the goals are common. Other constraints include the continued absence of an assigned Chief Probation Officer, lack of interagency and interdepartmental protocols and conflict between the management of the New Opportunity Corp (NOC) which presently under the Ministry of Social Protection although listed in the Act, as a Facility to be Managed by the Ministry of Public Security.

Despite the absence of budgetary allocations, the work of the JJC has been fruitful. It is hoped that through a collaborative approach, priority will be given to this aspect of our Criminal Justice System which seeks to advance the rights of and protect Guyana’s children.

September 2, 2020.

e. University of Guyana Council – Mr. Timothy Jonas

No written report submitted.

f. Allied Health Professionals Council Guyana – Mr. Paul Braam

Gentlemen & Ladies

From June 2019 to August 2020, the Allied Health Professional Council met once monthly in 2019, in a physical setting, and then in 2020 during the covid-19 period by way of Zoom on two occasions only. There was some uncertainty as to whether the old Council members could have continued after its two year tenure expired in July 2019. Eventually, the Chief Medical Officer and the Chairperson, in consultation with the then Minister of Public Health received approval for the continuation of the Council and same was published in the Official Gazette in August 2019. I had advised otherwise consequent of the then prevailing circumstances.

Despite the number of uncertainties with which the council was faced, we managed to organize one Continuing Education Seminar for the registered Allied Health Professionals in October 2019 in a physical setting and one by way of Zoom in July 2020, since this is a mandatory requirement for annual licensing for all Allied Health Professionals. The Council also managed to continue its work of licensing old and new applicants and registering new applicants mostly virtually during the reporting period.

During the reporting period, I continued to offer legal advice to the Council and responded to correspondences on its behalf as was necessary.

As a result of the then prevailing political uncertainties in the country and the Covid-19 Pandemic, the Council's activities were severely frustrated and it is hoped that we can move forward for the remaining life of the current membership to function as mandated in accordance with the Allied Health Professionals Act. The life of the current Council ends in July 2021.

All for your information.

September 9, 2020.

g. Pharmacy Council of Guyana – Mr. Nigel Niles, Attorney-at-Law

Background

On or around the year 2006, I was selected to sit on the Board of the Pharmacy Council of Guyana. Over the year I have provided legal advice to the Council on several matters and assisted with the preparation of draft Regulations to the Pharmacy Practitioners Act 2003.

Meetings

Statutory meetings of the Council are held on the second Wednesday of each month. During the period June 2019 to August 2020, eight (8) meetings were held. I attended six (6) of the eight (8) meetings held. My absence at any meeting may have been as a result of work commitments.

Major Matters

(I) Internship Programme

The Council is required by law to conduct an Internship programme which is mandatory for new graduates of the University of Guyana. The Council struggled over the years to start this programme but in 2018 the first batch of Interns were trained. The programme continued in 2019 with some resistance from the pharmacy fraternity.

(II) Draft Regulations to the Pharmacy Practitioners Act 2003

This matter fell within the ambit of the Regulatory & Disciplinary Committee of the Council. I am a member of this Committee. During the reporting period the only matter that engaged this Committee was a review of draft Regulations which were prepared sometime in 2015. The document is still to be finalized.

(III) Continuing Education

The Council conducts continuing education seminars twice per year where members of the profession are refreshed on certain areas of their training and presentations are made on new and or innovative interventions in the field of medicine. Despite the challenges with COVID-19, the Council is preparing for its first ever CE session.

(IV) Challenges

During the period February 2020 to May 2020 meeting of the Council were suspended due to the COVID-19 pandemic. Meetings resumed in May 2020 and are conducted via the Zoom platform.

I have submitted the Minutes of meetings held during the period June 2019 to August 2020 to The Bar Association through the Secretary thereof.

September 16, 2020.

h. Guyana-Cuba Trade Facilitation Council of the Georgetown Chamber of Commerce & Industry – Mrs. Vidushi Persaud-McKinnon, Attorney-at-Law

Pursuant to the kind recommendation of the Bar Association last year, I was on October 8, 2019 duly appointed by the Georgetown Chamber of Commerce & Industry (GCCI) as the Bar Association's representative on the Guyana-Cuba Trade Facilitation Council (Council) which is was recently established in 2018 to foster trade and relations between Guyana and Cuba.

This Council comprises the Chair, who is a GCCI's nominee, Mr. Gavin Ramsoondar, Vice- Chairman, also GCCI's representative Mr. Richard Rambarran and other entities such as the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Guyana Tourism Authority, Ministry of Business and GO-Invest all have nominees who sit on the Council. The Meetings of the Council I have attended since last year October have been relatively well attended, with the last Meeting being held virtually in June of this year.

Areas addressed thus far primarily deal with trade and travel between the two countries. There were previous plans to participate in the FIHAV 2020 Trade Fair in Cuba in November. However, the Go-Invest representative who is spearheading this Trade Fair, indicated that all events for now until further notice will be virtual. They are awaiting further information as to the planning and logistics of this with the recent ongoing global Covid-19 Pandemic.

The Cultural Exchange Programme Students at the University of Guyana also would have attended and participated in cultural studies in Cuba but this had to be deferred. It was suggested that a virtual classroom setting can be used as well and this option will be explored.

Another area of discussion is the proposed establishment of a Cambio at the Cheddi Jagan International Airport. A few cambios were shortlisted but the Chairman met with representatives of the Bank of Guyana who indicated that the establishment of a Cambio is dependent on the approval by the Ministry of Finance and at the time it was put on hold and still is.

An issue that was raised and will no doubt engage attention in the future will concern the Ministry of Citizenship and their policy with respect to the granting of licences to Cuban nationals. There appears to be some difficulties experienced with Cuban professionals having to physically return to their country for a period of time. A Meeting will have to be scheduled to discuss this further but it was noted that tremendous assistance was received thus far from the Cuban Medical professionals during this surreal time with Covid-19 should be taken into account in making it less onerous especially for persons who have families here.

The Chairman at the last Meeting reported that the Executives of the Chamber had a virtual event with the Cuban Ambassador who, at that time, in June of this year, indicated that the Cuban government would be assisting Guyana in the form of sending officials and PPEs to Guyana in response to the Covid-19 pandemic. In return they were requesting that the GCCI organises a flight to assist stranded Cubans to return to Cuba and distribute hampers to the stranded Cubans in Guyana. At the time the schedule of flights posed a problem but reports in the local Media indicate that this was recently resolved.

Thanks to the Executive Committee once again for the opportunity to serve as a representative of the Bar on this Council.

i. Guyana-India Trade Facilitation Council of the Georgetown Chamber of Commerce & Industry (GCCCI) – Mr. Moenudin McDoom, Jnr.

No written report submitted.

j. Guyana-Canada Trade Facilitation Council of the Georgetown Chamber of Commerce & Industry – Mr. Sanjeev Datadin

No written report submitted.

k. Deeds & Commercial Registries Authority Governing Board – Ms. Jamela Ali

I was nominated by Council of GBA and appointed to represent GBA on the Deeds and Commercial Registries Authority Governing Board on the 28th August 2020.

The first meeting took place by Zoom on Monday 7 September 2020.

Meeting was led by the Attorney General and included Chair Christine Mc Gowan, Nicole Prince (Commercial Registry), Zanna Frank (Deeds Registry), J. Barrington from Valuation Office and a representative from Ministry of Finance.

The meeting commenced with the AG giving a brief historical background to the creation of the DCRA. The AG informed that the Budget submitted was endorsed by the Ministry of Finance.

Issues raised and decisions taken included the following:

- a. Need for additional space for all the Registries was identified and this would be actively pursued. The AG Indicated he had recognized this prior to 2015 when he was AG and proposed the use of Federation building, but Saphier Hussain, Attorney at Law was the sole occupant in possession and refused to move despite dilapidated conditions of the building, whilst he has not paid rent for years.
- b. Registries were requested to consider extending daily opening hours to 1 pm instead of 12 noon.
- c. GBA rep - The Deeds Registry was requested to reduce the 3 working days wait for powers of attorney to same day or 2 days. This will be considered by Registrar. AG – If persons wanted POAs before the time set by the Registry, a request in writing to be made setting out special reasons.
- d. GBA rep - Issue of forged power of attorney in the name of Bonny Singh was raised. In addition the power was executed and registered same day. Ms Frank reported an investigation was carried out by her office. The matter is in the hands of Police. The issue of Notary Public signing to be addressed.
- e. GBA Rep – Efficient Access to online searches and enquires was raised, including trademark and company searches from Commercial Registry and Titles from Deeds Registry. Ms. Prince referred to WhatsApp and email facilities to Commercial Registry which she stated is working well. Deeds Registry was requested to do the same.
- f. GBA rep - In this light, request was made for fee for searches to be temporarily waived until appropriate online facilities were made available by Registries. This was all to limit human presence at Registries due to COVID-19.
- g. AG suggested promoting services of DCRA and the need for a dedicated Compliance Officer to be appointed to ensure compliance with AMCL structure and FIU requirements
- h. AG said technology will be utilized and is being actively pursued. AG referred to legislation to support offering services electronically.
- i. Chair raised consideration of Evidence Act with regard to signatures.
- j. AG informed of his meetings with GBA and Berbice Bar.
- k. Ms. Prince mentioned a draft of proposed amendments to the schedule of charges. It was agreed this draft would be shared with GBA rep before the next meeting.
- l. It was agreed that meetings would take place virtually, by Zoom and Email communication would be utilized.
- m. DCRA would acquire a Zoom licence.

Meetings usually take place second Fridays monthly.

September 8, 2020.

I. Rules Committee – Ms. Jamela Ali

Report of Rules Committee by Jamela A. Ali, Attorney at Law for period 1st June 2019 to 10th September 2020.

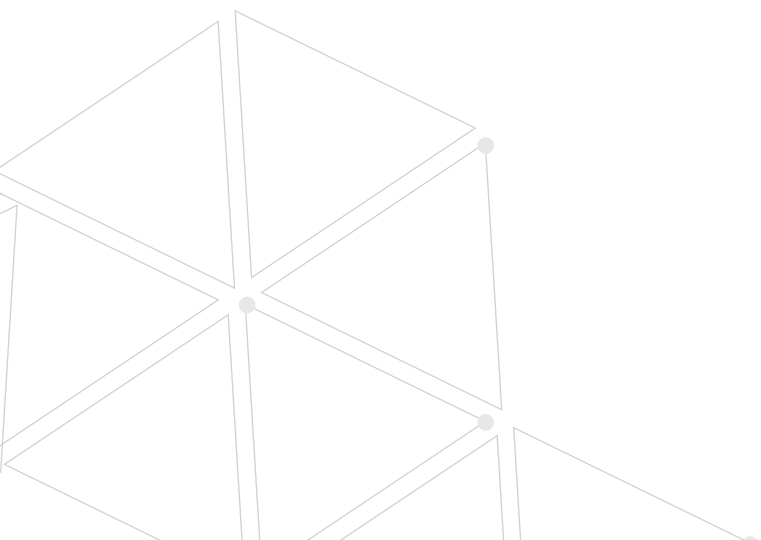
On the 23rd November 2018, I was nominated as a representative of GBA on the Rules Committee and accepted by the Chancellor of the Judiciary who chairs the Committee. The other members are the Chief Justice Roxane George, SC, Justice of Appeal Rishi Persaud, Rafiq Khan, SC, Registrar of Supreme Court and a representative from the Attorney General's Chambers.

On the 12th June 2019, members were informed by email that the Civil Procedure (Amendment) Rules 2019 were concluded with assistance from the Attorney General's Chambers. You would recall that in my report last year, I informed that a decision was taken to amend Part 48 of the CPR to delete the rules relating to execution of judgments and to substitute with Order 36 of the old Rules with amendments.

The Civil Procedure (Amendment) Rules 2019 were signed by members of the Rules Committee and sent to the Attorney General for transmission to the Clerk of the National Assembly. The Rules were laid before Parliament and subsequently published in the Official Gazette on the 19th July 2019.

No meetings of the Rules Committee were convened.

September 10, 2020.





AUDITOR'S REPORT FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDING 2019



GUYANA BAR ASSOCIATION

FINANCIAL STATEMENTS AS AT 30 APRIL 2019

TOGETHER WITH

REPORT OF THE AUDITORS

**MAURICE SOLOMON & CO.
CHARTERED ACCOUNTANTS**

GUYANA BAR ASSOCIATION

30 APRIL 2019

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MSC 030/2020

INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT TO THE MEMBERS OF GUYANA BAR ASSOCIATION

Report on the Audit of the Financial Statements

Qualified Opinion

In our opinion, except for the effects of the matter described in the Basis for Qualified Opinion section of our report, the accompanying financial statements present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of Guyana Bar Association as at April 30, 2019 and of its financial performance and its cash flows for the year then ended in accordance with International Financial Reporting Standards (IFRSs) for Small and Medium Sized Entities (SMEs).

We have audited the accompanying financial statements of Guyana Bar Association which comprise the Statement of Financial Position as at April 30, 2019, the Statement of Income for the year then ended, and notes to the financial statements, including a summary of significant accounting policies as set out in pages 6 to 8.

Basis for Qualified Opinion

The Association reported the amount of five hundred and twenty two thousand seven hundred and seventy one dollars (\$522,771) as stated in note 9 of the financial statement being excess deposits made in the bank account. We were unable to determine whether this amount represents current year income, advance dues or outstanding dues for prior periods due to the absence of sufficient records not being provided to the auditors.

Included in administrative expense, an amount of two hundred and thirty five thousand six hundred and forty six dollars (\$235,646) which represents other expenses were not supported with adequate documentations.

We conducted our audit in accordance with International Standards on Auditing. Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Statements section of our report. We are independent of the Guyana Bar Association in accordance with the International Ethics Standards Board for Accountants' Code of Ethics for Professional Accountants together with the ethical requirements that are relevant to our audit of the financial statements, and we have fulfilled our other ethical responsibilities in accordance with these requirements and the International Ethics Standards Board for Accountants' Code. We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our qualified opinion.

Responsibilities of Management and those Charged with Governance for the Financial Statements

Management is responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of the financial statements in accordance with International Financial Reporting Standards (IFRSs) for Small and Medium Sized Entities (SMEs) and for such internal control as management determines is necessary to enable the preparation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error. In preparing the financial statements, management is responsible for assessing the company's ability to continue as a going concern, disclosing, as applicable, matters related to going concern and using the going concern basis of accounting unless management either intends to liquidate the company or to cease operations, or has no realistic alternative but to do so.

Those charged with governance are responsible for overseeing the company's financial reporting process.

Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Statements

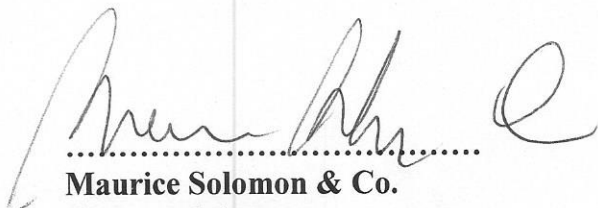
Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements as a whole are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditor's report that includes our opinion. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance, but is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with International Standards on Auditing will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. Misstatements can arise from fraud or error and are considered material if, individually or in the aggregate, they could reasonably be expected to influence the economic decisions of users taken on the basis of these financial statements.

As part of an audit in accordance with International Standards on Auditing, we exercise professional judgment and maintain professional skepticism throughout the audit. We also:

- Identify and assess the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements, whether due to fraud or error, design and perform audit procedures responsive to those risks, and obtain audit evidence that is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion. The risk of not detecting a material misstatement resulting from fraud is higher than for one resulting from error, as fraud may involve collusion, forgery, intentional omissions, misrepresentations, or the override of internal control.
- Obtain an understanding of internal control relevant to the audit in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the company's internal control.
- Evaluate the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of accounting estimates and related disclosures made by management.

- Conclude on the appropriateness of management's use of the going concern basis of accounting and based on the audit evidence obtained, whether a material uncertainty exists related to events or conditions that may cast significant doubt on the company's ability to continue as a going concern. If we conclude that a material uncertainty exists, we are required to draw attention in our auditor's report to the related disclosures in the financial statements or, if such disclosures are inadequate, to modify our opinion. Our conclusions are based on the audit evidence obtained up to the date of our auditor's report. However, future events or conditions may cause the company to cease to continue as a going concern.
- Evaluate the overall presentation, structure and content of the financial statements, including the disclosures, and whether the financial statements represent the underlying transactions and events in a manner that achieves fair presentation.

We communicate with those charged with governance regarding, among other matters, the planned scope and timing of the audit and significant audit findings, including any significant deficiencies in internal control that we identify during our audit.



.....
Maurice Solomon & Co.
Chartered Accountants

30th June, 2020.

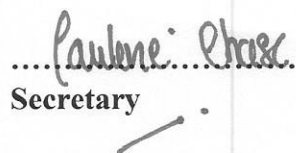
GUYANA BAR ASSOCIATION
STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION
AS AT 30 APRIL 2019

	Note	2019 G\$	2018 G\$
ASSETS			
NON-CURRENT ASSETS			
Machinery and Equipment	3	<u>1,279,262</u>	<u>1,205,139</u>
CURRENT ASSETS			
Receivables & Prepayments		68,000	398,250
Cash and Bank	4	<u>1,787,863</u>	<u>3,098,554</u>
		<u>1,855,863</u>	<u>3,496,804</u>
TOTAL ASSETS		<u>3,135,125</u>	<u>4,701,943</u>
EQUITY AND LIABILITIES			
ACCUMULATED FUNDS			
	8	1,569,886	3,755,298
CURRENT LIABILITIES			
Deferred Income	5	-	171,260
Payables	9	809,746	249,975
Advance Income		755,493	525,410
		<u>1,565,239</u>	<u>946,645</u>
TOTAL EQUITY AND LIABILITIES		<u>3,135,125</u>	<u>4,701,943</u>

The Council approved these financial statements for issue on ...**JUN 29 2020**.....



 President



 Secretary

The notes on pages 6 to 8 form an integral part of these financial statements.

GUYANA BAR ASSOCIATION
STATEMENT OF INCOME & EXPENDITURE
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 APRIL 2019

	Note	2019 G\$	2018 G\$
INCOME	6	4,269,516	5,949,763
EXPENSES			
Administrative Expenses	7	(6,548,938)	(5,668,539)
NET SURPLUS/(DEFICIT) FOR THE YEAR		<u><u>(2,279,422)</u></u>	<u><u>281,224</u></u>

The notes on pages 6 to 8 form an integral part of these financial statements.

GUYANA BAR ASSOCIATION
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

30 APRIL 2019

1. PRINCIPAL ACTIVITIES

The Association represents the interest of Attorneys at Law engaged in private practice and provides Civil Society Support on Rule of Law and related issues.

2. SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES

The significant accounting policies are:

(a) Basis of Preparation

These financial statements have been prepared in accordance with International Financial Reporting Standards for Small and Medium- sized entities (IFRS for SME), and have been prepared under the historical cost convention.

(b) Office Furniture and Equipment

Office Furniture and equipment are stated at cost less accumulated depreciation. Depreciation is provided on the straight line basis at rates calculated to reduce the assets to their residual values at the end of their estimated useful lives.

Current rates of depreciation are:

Office Furniture and Equipment	10- 15% per annum
Computer	50% per annum

(c) Income

Revenue from rendering of services is based on when the performance obligation is met.

GUYANA BAR ASSOCIATION
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

30 APRIL 2019

3. MACHINERY AND EQUIPMENT

	OFFICE FURNITURE & EQUIPMENT	TOTAL
	G\$	G\$
COST		
As at beginning of the year	1,447,484	1,447,484
Additions	142,500	142,500
As at end of the year	<u>1,589,984</u>	<u>1,589,984</u>
DEPRECIATION		
As at beginning of the year	242,345	242,345
Charges for the year	68,377	68,377
As at end of the year	<u>310,722</u>	<u>310,722</u>
NET BOOK VALUE		
As at end of the year	<u><u>1,279,262</u></u>	<u><u>1,279,262</u></u>
As at beginning of the year	<u><u>1,205,139</u></u>	<u><u>1,205,139</u></u>
	2019	2018
	G\$	G\$

4. CASH AND BANK

Cash on Hand	-	66,361
Special Purpose Account- Bar Journal	1,653,392	1,662,133
Guyana Bank for Trade & Industry	134,471	1,370,060
	<u><u>1,787,863</u></u>	<u><u>3,098,554</u></u>

5. DEFERRED INCOME

	<u><u>-</u></u>	<u><u>171,260</u></u>
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GUYANA BAR ASSOCIATION

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

30 APRIL 2019

	2019 G\$	2018 G\$
6. INCOME		
Subscription	631,427	1,105,390
Donations	-	786,760
Other	3,638,089	2,197,113
Tickets	-	1,884,000
Refunds	-	(23,500)
	<u>4,269,516</u>	<u>5,949,763</u>
7. ADMINISTRATIVE EXPENSES		
Wages and Salaries	434,250	362,500
Advertising	10,944	10,944
Cleaning	2,000	-
Legal & Professional Fees	120,320	-
Electricity	71,000	3,660
Rental	103,500	1,285,851
Interest and Bank Charges	17,552	48,000
Office Expenses	328,897	61,490
Telephone and Internet	201,000	-
Repairs and Maintenance	424,098	27,000
Stationery & Postage	73,823	169,583
Depreciation	68,377	95,345
Travelling	38,900	144,447
Conference/ Workshop	3,036,321	3,255,699
Donation	-	204,020
Printing	1,111,250	-
Special Events	271,060	-
Other Expense	235,646	-
	<u>6,548,938</u>	<u>5,668,539</u>
8. ACCUMULATED FUND		
Beginnning of the year	3,755,298	3,474,074
Prior Year Adjustment	94,010	-
Less: Surplus/(Deficit) for the year	(2,279,422)	281,224
Balance at year end	<u>1,569,886</u>	<u>3,755,298</u>
9. PAYABLES		
Trade Payables	286,975	249,975
Uncleared deposits	522,771	-
	<u>809,746</u>	<u>249,975</u>

MOTIONS AND OR RESOLUTIONS

REPUBLIC OF GUYANA
COUNTY OF DEMERARA

RESOLUTION

CERTIFIED TRUE COPY OF THE RESOLUTION PASSED AT THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING OF THE BAR ASSOCIATION OF GUYANA HELD ON THE 29TH DAY OF SEPTEMBER, 2020 AT. 3:30PM VIA ZOOM VIDEO CONFERENCE LINK.

RESOLVED THAT the Annual General Meeting of The Bar Association of Guyana held on the 29th day of September, 2020 via Zoom Video Conference Link shall be deemed to be properly held within the Rules of the Association and decisions made thereat to be binding.

RESOLVED FURTHER THAT the election of members to the Bar Council via an electronic voting system shall be deemed to be properly conducted within the Rules of the Association.

RESOLVED FURTHER THAT [] be and is hereby appointed as auditor of the Association to hold office until the conclusion of the next Annual General Meeting (AGM) at a fee to be agreed with the President of the Association, acting for and on behalf thereof.

Dated:

Mr. Teni Housty
President

Ms. Pauline Chase
Secretary

PHOTO HIGHLIGHTS



Scales v Steths Cricket Match – Thirst Park, Georgetown – August 31, 2019



Civil Procedure Rules Seminar presented by The Hon. Justice Fidela Corbin-Lincoln – Herdmanston Lodge, Georgetown
– September 14, 2019



Donation of Guyana Bar Reviews to the Library of The Hugh Wooding Law School – St. Augustine, Trinidad – September 19, 2019



Walkathon & Continental Breakfast at The Pegasus Hotel, Georgetown – September 29, 2019



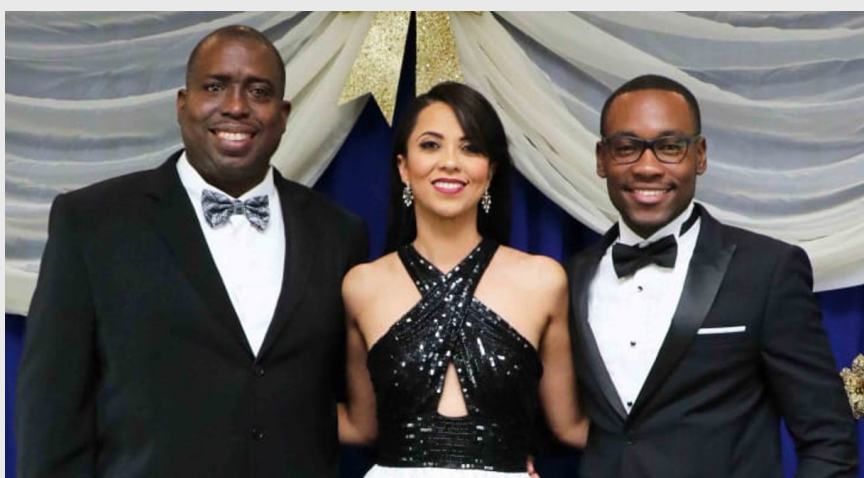
'Practice at the Bar': An Orientation for Newly Admitted Attorneys-at-Law – Cara Lodge Hotel, Georgetown – October 18, 2019:



39th Annual Bar Dinner – Guyana Marriott Hotel, Georgetown – November 15, 2019



OCCBA Law Summit – Hilton Hotel, Port-of-Spain, Trinidad – November 29, 2019



Law Association of Trinidad & Tobago Dinner – Hilton Hotel, Port-of-Spain – November 29, 2019



Christmas Mingle & Jingle – Cara Lodge Hotel, Georgetown – December 20, 2019



Cocktail Reception to Commemorate the Occasion of Guyana's First – Guyana Marriott Hotel, Georgetown – January 17, 2020



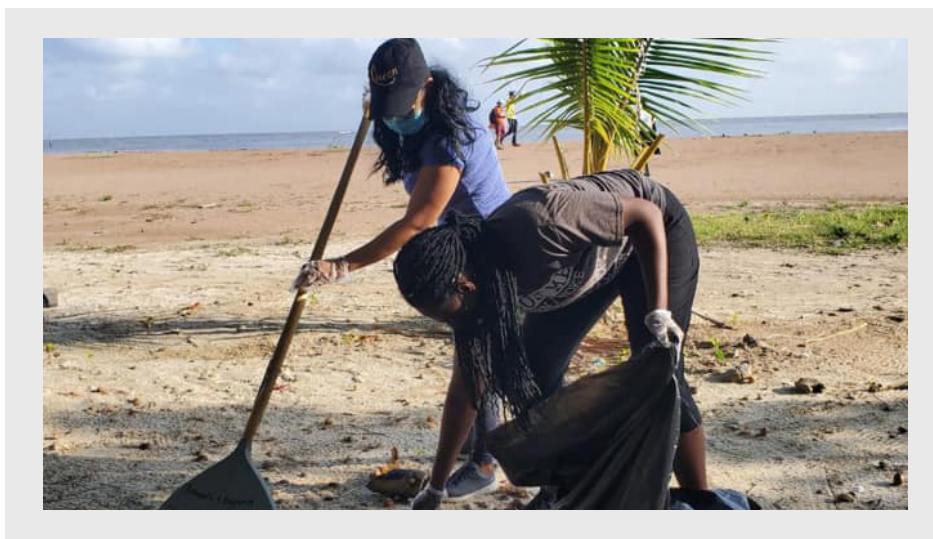
Civil Procedure Rules One Day Seminar Presented by Dr. Martha Des Vignes, Senior Tutor II of the Hugh Wooding Law School – Pegasus Hotel, Georgetown – January 31, 2020



Observing the General and Regional Elections – GECOM Tabulation Center, Ashmin's Building, Georgetown – March 3, 2020



Practice in the time of COVID-19 – Vigilance Magistrate's Court – July 27, 2020



International Coastal Clean-up Day – Kingston Seawalls, Georgetown – September 19, 2020