

INVESTIGATION INTO THE FAILURE OF WINSTON MORRIS, AN EMPLOYEE OF THE TRANSPORT AUTHORITY TO FILE STATUTORY DECLARATIONS WITH THE COMMISSION

INTEGRITY COMMISSION AUGUST 2022



This Publication until tabled in Parliament shall be confidential.

Section 55 and 56 of the Integrity Commission Act states:

"(4) Anything said or information supplied or any document or thing produced by any person for the purpose or in the course of any investigation by or proceedings before the Commission under this Act, shall be absolutely privileged in the same manner as if the investigation or proceedings were proceedings in a court of law.

(5) For the purposes of the Defamation Act, any report made by the Commission under this Act and any fair and accurate comment thereon shall be deemed to be privileged.

56.—(1) Subject to section 42(3)(b), every person having an official duty under this Act, or being employed or otherwise concerned in the administration of this Act (hereinafter called a concerned person) shall regard and deal with as secret and confidential, all information, Statutory Declarations, government contracts, prescribed licences and all other matters relating to any matter before the Commission, except that no disclosure made by the Commission or other concerned person in the proceedings for an offence under this Act or under the Perjury Act, by virtue of section 17(2) of that Act, shall be deemed inconsistent with any duty imposed by this subsection.

(2) The obligation as to secrecy and confidentiality imposed by this section, in relation to any documents, or information obtained under this Act continues to apply to a person despite the person having ceased to have an official duty, be employed or otherwise concerned in the administration of this Act.

[3] Every concerned person who is required under subsection [1] to deal with matters specified therein as secret and confidential who at any time communicates or attempts to communicate any such information, declaration, letter and other document or thing referred to in subsection [1] disclosed to his in the execution of any of the provisions of this Act to any person—

- (a) other than a person to whom he is authorized under this Act to communicate it; or
- (b) otherwise than for the purpose of this Act,

commits an offence and shall be liable on summary conviction in a Parish Court to a fine not exceeding one million dollars or to a term of imprisonment not exceeding one year.

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1. Summary of Investigation and Findings

- 1.1 This investigation by the Director of Investigation concerns the allegation that Mr. Winston Morris, an employee of the Transport Authority failed to file with the Integrity Commission (hereinafter the Commission), Statutory Declarations for the periods ending December 31, 2019 and December 31, 2020.
- 1.2 It was found that Mr. Winston Morris was required to file the Statutory Declarations with the Commission at the material time and having failed to do so committed an offence under Section 39 of the Integrity Commission Act (hereinafter ICA).



2. Chapter 1 - Background

2.1 Why was this investigation initiated?

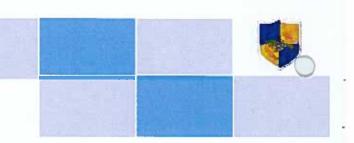
2.1.1 This investigation was initiated based on a referral by the Director of Information and Complaints. The complaint alleged that Mr. Morris is in breach of the ICA by virtue of his failure to file his Statutory Declarations with the Commission for the periods ending December 31, 2019 and December 31, 2020.

2.2 Jurisdiction and decision to investigate

2.2.1 Section 33 of the ICA gives the Director of Investigation the authority to investigate non-compliance with the Act by public officials.

2.3 The Investigation

- 2.3.1 During the investigation, Officers of the Investigation Division under the authority of the Director of Investigation pursued the following lines of enquiry/actions:
 - a) obtained information and witness statements from the responsible officers at:
 - (i) Transport Authority; and
 - (i) Information and Complaints Division of the Integrity Commission.



b) reviewed the information and statements collected and prepared the case file and report.

2.4 Who is the concerned public official pertinent to this Investigation?

2.4.1 Mr. Winston Morris is the concerned public official, employed to the Transport Authority.



3. Chapter 2 – Terms of Reference

- 3.1 The Director of Investigation sought to establish the following in respect of the declarant, Mr. Morris, whether:
 - a) Mr. Morris is a public official as set out under **Section 2 of the ICA**;
 - b) Mr. Morris is employed to a public body as set out under <u>Section 2 of</u> the ICA;
 - c) He was in receipt of the qualifying emoluments as prescribed under <u>Section 39(2) of the ICA</u>, occupies a post that was published in a Gazette by the Commission or was requested to file the referenced Statutory Declarations under <u>Section 41(2)(a) of the ICA</u>;
 - d) He failed to file his required Statutory Declarations as prescribed under <u>Section 39(1) of the ICA</u>;
 - e) His failure to file his required Statutory Declarations constitutes an offence under the Act;
 - f) Recommendations ought to be made to the Director of Corruption Prosecution; and
 - g) Recommendations ought to be made in respect of any act of corruption and/or anti-corruption initiatives.



4. Chapter 3 – The Law, Evidence and Discussion of Findings

4.1 The Law

4.1.1 The overarching objective of the Commission's investigation was to determine whether there is merit in the allegation that Mr. Morris failed to file his Statutory Declarations as outlined under <u>Sections 2, 39, 41(2), 41(4)</u> and 43(1) of the ICA, which states:

4.1.2 Section 2 of the ICA:

Section 2 of the act defines a public official as a person who is employed to a public body and a public body is defined as "... a statutory body or authority..."

4.1.3 Section 39 of the ICA:

This Section requires public officials; who are in receipt of emoluments of three million five hundred thousand dollars (\$3,500,000) or more, to submit statutory declarations to the Director of Information and Complaints outlining their assets, liabilities and income.

4.1.4 <u>Section 41(2) of the ICA:</u>

Section 41(2) requires that public officials who fall within the categories published in the Gazette by the Commission to submit their statutory declarations within the period specified.



4.1.5 <u>Section 41(4) of the ICA:</u>

Under Section 41(4) declarants have three (3) months from the date of the declaration to file their declarations.

4.1.6 <u>Section 43(1) of the ICA</u>:

Under Section 43(1) of the ICA a person who is required to submit a statutory declaration and who fails to do so, without reasonable cause commits an offence.

See Sections 2, 39, 41(1), 41(4) and 43(1) of the Integrity Commission Act at appendix 1.



4.2 The Evidence

4.2.1 Is Mr. Morris a public official as defined under <u>Section 2 of the ICA</u>?

4.2.1.1 Mr. Morris is employed to the Transport Authority as a Senior Inspector. This was proven by the evidence provided by the Welfare & Benefits Officer at the Transport Authority. Mr. Morris therefore falls within the definition of a "public official" under <u>Section 2 of the ICA</u>.

4.2.2 Is Mr. Morris employed to a public body?

- 4.2.2.1 The evidence confirms that Mr. Morris was employed to the Transport Authority at the material time. The Transport Authority is a statutory body established under the Transport Act of 1987 Mr. Morris is therefore employed to a "public body" as defined under <u>Section 2 of the ICA</u>.
- 4.2.3 Is Mr. Morris in receipt of the qualifying emoluments as prescribed under <u>Section 39 of the ICA</u>, occupies a post published in the Gazette by the Commission or was written to under <u>Section 41(2) of the ICA</u> and requested to file the Statutory Declarations?
- 4.2.3.1 The evidence provided by the Transport Authority showed that Mr. Morris is a public official who occupies a position which falls within the categories published in the Gazette by the Commission (see appendix 2 & 3 respectively) as outlined:



Table 2: Post Occupied

Period	Qualifying Criteria
December 31, 2019	Senior Inspector as
	specified under
	Jamaica Gazette Vol.
	CXLII, dated Friday,
	December 6, 2019
December 31, 2020	Senior Inspector as
	specified under
	Jamaica Gazette Vol.
	CXLIII, dated Tuesday,
	December 1, 2020

Mr. Morris was therefore required to file his Statutory Declarations for the time frame specified above.

4.2.4 Did Mr. Morris fail to file his Statutory Declarations as required under <u>Section</u> 39 of the ICA?

4.2.4.1 The procedure for identifying a declarant who has not filed a statutory declaration begins with the Director of Information and Complaints writing the Heads of all Ministries, Departments and Agencies and requesting a list of public officials who are qualified to file Statutory Declarations. When the referenced lists are received, the information is



entered into a database, which provides the list of prospective declarants. Mr. Morris's name appeared on the aforementioned list of persons who were required to file Statutory Declarations with the Commission for the periods ending December 31, 2019 and December 31, 2020.

- 4.2.4.2 When Statutory Declarations are filed, they are entered into another database. This enables the Commission to generate a list of those declarants who have not complied with their statutory obligations under <u>Section 39 of the ICA</u>.
- 4.2.4.3 The evidence provided by the Declarations Verification Officer at the Integrity Commission showed that Mr. Morris did not file his required Statutory Declarations for the periods ending December 31, 2019 and December 31, 2020.
- 4.2.5 Does Mr. Morris's failure to file the required Statutory Declarations constitute an offence under the Act?
- 4.2.5.1 The failure to file a statutory declaration is an offence under <u>Section</u>

 43(1)(a) of the ICA, which states:

"A person who -

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(a) Fails, without reasonable cause, to submit a statutory
declaration which he is required to submit in
accordance with the provisions of this Part;

commits an offence, ..." (See full Section at appendix 1)



4.3 Discussion of Findings

4.3.1 During the investigation into the allegations against Mr. Morris, the Director of Investigation followed all reasonable lines of enquiry, gathered evidential material and collected/recorded the statements of witnesses deemed necessary. Upon analyzing the evidential materials collected, the Director of Investigation is satisfied that there is evidence to support the allegation that Mr. Morris failed to file his required Statutory Declarations with the Commission for the periods ending December 31, 2019 and December 31, 2020.

4.4 Conclusion

- 4.4.1 Based on the foregoing, the Director of Investigation finds reasonable grounds to conclude that the following have been established in respect of Mr. Morris:
 - a) Mr. Morris is a public official as per Section 2 of the ICA;
 - b) He is employed to a public body as per Section 2 of the ICA;
 - c) He occupies a post which was published in a Gazette published by the Commission requiring him to file the Statutory Declarations;
 - d) He failed to file the Statutory Declarations for the periods ending December 31, 2019 and December 31, 2020;
 - e) His failure to file constitutes an offence under <u>Section</u> <u>43(1)(a) of the ICA</u>; and



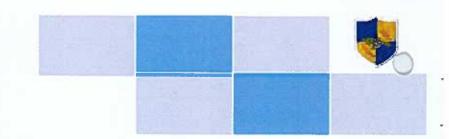
f) He has provided no lawful explanation for his failure to file the referenced Statutory Declarations.

4.5 Recommendations

- 4.5.1 The Director of Investigation recommends that this report be referred to the Director of Corruption Prosecution for consideration.
- 4.5.2 The Director of Investigation further recommends that Public entities should ensure that public officials provide, annually, proof that they are compliant with the law in respect of filing their Statutory Declarations. Public Bodies and the Office of the Services Commission should be engaged to ensure that compliance with https://doi.org/10.2016/j.com/linearity-commission-act becomes a requirement for employment and continued employment in the public service.

Kevon A. Stephenson, JP Director of Investigation August 17, 2022 Date

APPENDICES



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INTEGRITY COMMISSION INVESTIGATION INTO THE FAILURE OF WINSTON MORRIS, AN EMPLOYEE OF THE TRANSPORT AUTHORITY TO FILE STATUTORY DECLARATIONS WITH THE



Appendix 1: Sections 2, 39, 41(2), 41(4) & 43(1) of the Integrity Commission Act

Section 2 of the ICA:

""public official" means-

- (a) any person holding an executive, an administrative or a judicial office, or a parliamentarian, whether appointed or elected, whether permanent or temporary, or whether paid or unpaid;
- (b) any other person who is employed to a public body; and any member of the Security Forces;

"public body" means-

- (a) a Ministry, department or agency of Government;
- (b) a Municipality or Municipal Corporation;
- (c) a statutory body or authority;
- (d) an entity the governing body of which is appointed by a Minister;
- (e) a company registered under the Companies Act, being a company in which the Government or an agency of Government holds at least fifty percent of the voting shares of the company;"



Section 39 of the ICA:

"39.-(1) Subject to the provisions of this Act, every person who, on or after the appointed day, is a parliamentarian or public official, shall submit to the Director of Information and Complaints, a statutory declaration of his assets and liabilities and his income in the form set out in the Third Schedule.

(2) Subsection (1) shall not apply to a public official who is in receipt of total annual emoluments of less than three million five hundred thousand dollars or such other amount as may be prescribed by the Minister, subject to affirmative resolution of the House of Representatives."

Section 41(2) of the ICA:

"(2) The Commission, acting upon the recommendation of the Director of Information and Complaints, may-

- at any time, in writing, require any public official or parliamentarian to submit a statutory declaration to the Commission;
- (b) by notice published in the Gazette, require such categories of public officials as are specified in the notice, to submit a statutory declaration within the period so specified."



Section 41(4) of the ICA:

"(4) A statutory declaration required to be made as at a particular date shall be submitted to the Director of Information and Complaints on or before the last day of the third calendar month following that date."

Section 43(1) of the ICA:

"43.-(1) A person who-

- (a) fails, without reasonable cause, to submit a statutory declaration which he is required to submit in accordance with the provisions of this Part;
- (b) fails, without reasonable cause, to provide any information as the Director of Information and Complaints may require in accordance with the provisions of this Act; or
- (c) fails, without reasonable cause, to attend an inquiry being conducted by the Director of Investigation that he is required to attend in accordance with the provisions of this Act,

commits an offence, and is liable on summary conviction in a Parish Court to a fine not exceeding five hundred thousand dollars, or to a term of imprisonment not exceeding six months and the Court may make an order mandating the person to comply with the requirement in respect of which the offence was committed."



Appendix 2: Jamaica Gazette Vol. CXLII



GAZETTE

EXTRAORDINARY

Vol. CXLII

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 6, 2019

The following Notifications are, by command of His Excellency the Governor-General, published for general

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GOVERNMENT NOTICES

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THE INTEGRITY COMMESSION ACT

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Dec. 6, 2019]

THE IAMAICA GAZETTE EXTRAORDINARY

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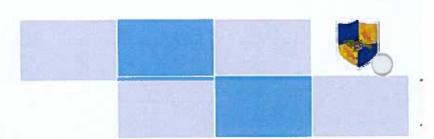
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Leh Technicana Administrat
Marine Operations Administrat
Marine Operations Coordinator
Security Advisor/Secrety Coordinator
Security Pacificies Monitor
All Engineers

National Works Agency

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All Engineers
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Building Officer
Field Technician/Field Officer
Field Technician/Field Officer
Floot Supervisor
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Project Officer/Seminor Project Officer
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THE JAMAICA GAZETTE EXTRAORDOVARY

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Systems Records & Information Officer
Systems Engineer

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Appendix 3: Jamaica Gazette Vol. CXLIII



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GAZETTE JAMAICA

EXTRAORDINARY

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Vol. CXLIII

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 1, 2020

No. 238'A

The following Notification is, by command of His Excellency the Governor-General, published for general

RVAN EVANS Governor-General's Secretary and Clerk to the Prixy Council.

GOVERNMENT NOTICE

MISCELLANEOUS

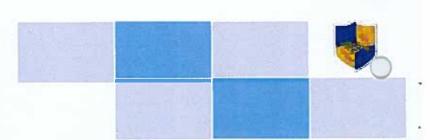
THE INTEGRITY COMMISSION ACT. 2017

Notice is hereby given, pursuant to section 41(2)(b) of the Integrity Commission Act, 2017 ("The Act"), that the following categories of public officials are required to submit to the Director of Information and Complaints a statutory declaration of their assets and liabilities as at December 31, 2020 and income for the period of twelve months ending December 31, 2020 on or before March 31, 2021

Notwithstanding the rotal annual emoluments threshold of \$3,500,000.00, all Public Officials with positions said/or functions stated hereunder should submit Statistory Declarations (Applicable to all Ministeries, Departments and Agencies)

Accounts Receivable/Accounts Poyable Officers and Supervisors

Principals of Public Educational Institutions



Dec 1,2030)

THE JAMAICA GAZETTE EXTRAORDINARY

Departments

Tax Administration Jamaica contd

Municipal Corporations, Portancer Municipal Council and Kingston & St. Andrew Municipal Corporation

National Works Agency

Motor Vehicle Title Officer
Reviewe Field Officer
Senior Tax Auditor/Tox Auditor
Stock Clerk/Warehouse Clerk/Store Clerk
Supervisor - Storek (Fecoming and Dispatch)
Supervisor, Stock and Asset Management
Valeation Surveyor
Perforator
Stamper
Valuer

Valuer

Assistant Supermiendent
Building Officer
Building Technician
Cashier/Collection Officer
Chief Engineer/City Engineer
Depoit, Supermiendent
Depoit, Supermiendent
Depoit, Building Survey or
Disaster Preparedness Caordinator
Enforcement Officer
Local Government Councillor
Mayor of Purtatore
Manicipal Engineer
Municipal Engineer
Municipal Police
Physical Planner
Plannung Coordinator
Praget Officer
Supermiendent
Urban Planner
Works Overseer
Engineers

Engineers

Engineers

Engineers

Works Overseer
Engineers
Senior Supervisors
Supervisors
Supervisors
Assistant Contracts Administrator
Contracts Administrator
Contracts Administrator
Corporate Secretary/Legal Officer
Data Entry Clerk
Day Technician-Product Movement
Reconcidiation
Lab Technician-Product Movement
Marine Operations Officer
Marine Operations Officer
Marine Operations Assistant
Marine Operations Coordinator
Security Advisor/Security Coordinator
Security Facilities Monnor.
Engineers

Security Facilities Monitor

Engineers

Supervisors

Assistant Portsh Manager

Building Officer

Field Technician/Field Officer

Fleet Supervisor

Land Surveyor/Assistant Land Surveyor

Maintenance Supervisor

Planning Technologist

Project Coordinator

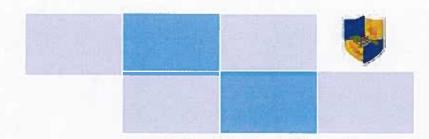
Project Officer Senior Project Officer

Quality Assistant of Regional Supervisor

Regional Coordinator/Regional Supervisor

INTEGRITY COMMISSION INVESTIGATION INTO THE FAMURE OF WINSTON MORRIS, AN EMPLOYEE OF THE TRANSPORT AUTHORITY TO FILE STATUTORY DECLARATIONS WITH THE

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Dec 1,2020)

THE JAMAICA GAZETTE ENTRAORDINARY

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Departments

Figure Licensing Authority

Island Traffic Authority

Integrity Commission Major Organised Crime and Ami-Corruption Agency (MOCA) Categories

Ballistic Data Input Techniqua Compliance and Enforcement Officer Records Clerk Sensor Compliance and Enforcement Officer Sensor Fincaria Examination Officer Sensor Fincaria Examination Officer Systems Engineer

Administrators
Cashier/Collection Officer
Cherl Inspector
Inspector
Inspector 2 All Staff of the Integrity Commission

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THE HON JUSTICE SEYMOUT PANTON (RETIRED) OF CD Chairman, Integrity Commission

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