



## INTEGRITY COMMISSION

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### **Media Release**

#### **Integrity Commission Chairman's Letter to Attorneys Representing Senator Peter Bunting**

**June 7, 2023** - The Integrity Commission wishes to make public a letter, dated May 31, 2023, at the hand of its Chairman, the Hon. Mr. Justice (Ret'd) Seymour Panton.

The letter was addressed and sent to Messrs Hart Muirhead Fatta, Attorneys-at-Law representing Senator Peter Bunting.

The letter concerns, inter alia, "comments allegedly made by Senator Bunting, in respect of the investigation of the Firearm Licensing Authority, conducted by the Integrity Commission."

A copy of the letter is attached to this Media Release.

#### **END**

Contact: The Communications Department, Integrity Commission

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Commissioners: The Hon. Mr. Justice (Ret'd) Seymour Panton, OJ, CD (Chairman); Mrs. Pamela Monroe Ellis, FCCA, CA; The Hon. Justice (Ret'd) Lloyd Hibbert, CD; Mr. Eric Crawford, CD; Mr. H. Wayne Powell, OD, JP



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May 31, 2023

Messrs Hart Muirhead Fatta  
Attorneys-at-law  
2<sup>nd</sup> Floor VM Building  
53 Knutsford Boulevard,  
Kingston 5

Dear Sirs:

**Re: Senator Peter Bunting**

I refer to your letter dated May 24, 2023, which I received on the following day.

Having read certain comments allegedly made by Senator Bunting, in respect of the investigation of the Firearm Licensing Authority, conducted by the Integrity Commission, I tried unsuccessfully several times to contact him by telephone. Eventually, he called me and we spoke on the matter.

Subsequent to our conversation, I communicated the Senator's concerns to the Commissioners and the Commission's Director of Investigation. The latter, on his own volition, decided to revisit the report that was tabled in Parliament, and on May 12, 2023, he indicated his intention to table in Parliament, an addendum to the report. That addendum was, I understand, submitted to Parliament on May 30, 2023.

My interest in this matter was aroused in July 2022, when I realized that Senator Bunting had wronged me, by suggesting that I had participated in the process while having a conflict of interest. On July 13, 2022, in a report published in the Gleaner, I rebutted his statement so far as it referred to me. I was therefore very annoyed, upset, and surprised to hear and see this matter being repeated on the airwaves and in print in 2023.

I was not the Chairman of the Review Board that made the recommendations to the Senator, when he was the Minister of National Security. Furthermore, I recused myself from the Integrity Commission's investigation of the Firearm Licensing Authority. Therefore, I was not involved in this matter in any way. I have not read the report and have no intention of reading it.

I am still finding it difficult to appreciate or understand how the Senator could have even vaguely entertained the thought, that I would have conflicted myself in such a manner.

Yours Sincerely,

Hon. Mr. Justice (Ret'd) Seymour Panton, OJ, CD  
Chairman of the Board of Commissioners