MISSION STATEMENT
TO BE THE REGIONAL LEADER IN FACILITATING EFFECTIVE ACCESS TO JUSTICE FOR ALL

MISSION STATEMENT
TO FACILITATE EFFECTIVE ACCESS TO JUSTICE AND DELIVER QUALITY JUSTICE SERVICES FOR ALL BY ESTABLISHING FIRST CLASS JUSTICE SYSTEMS AND PARTNERSHIPS
The Honourable Delroy Chuck, QC, MP was on Sunday, September 13, 2020 sworn in for his third consecutive term as Minister of Justice.

The Minister, who is also a Member of Parliament, has continuously championed a First Class Justice system, where all Jamaicans have access to fair and efficient justice services, delivered by highly-trained professionals from world class facilities.

Under his leadership in this new administration, the Justice Ministry renews its emphasis on Legislative Reform and Alternative Dispute Resolution solutions; continued modernisation of the justice sector built environment; and improvements to systems and procedures in court operations.

“My focus is on ensuring that all available resources are professionally and transparently deployed so that Jamaicans will have the justice system they deserve,” he said.
MESSAGE

THE CURRENT FINANCIAL YEAR HAS BEEN A HIGHLY CHALLENGING ONE FOR BOTH PUBLIC AND PRIVATE SECTOR LEADERS. AS THE NATION CONTINUED TO ADJUST TO THE EFFECTS OF THE CORONAVIRUS, THE JUSTICE MINISTRY LIKewise REORIENTED ITS FINANCIAL, TECHNICAL AND HUMAN RESOURCES TO CONTINUE TO BE EFFECTIVE IN THIS NEW, DYNAMIC LANDSCAPE.

Key among our operations in these first two quarters was introducing virtual solutions for many of our service delivery channels, as well as re-imagining face-to-face contact for some services, such as those from the Legal Aid Council and the Restorative Justice Unit.

Important too for this first half of the fiscal year was our collaboration with local and international partners whose ongoing support has bolstered our mandate to facilitate an accessible, efficient and fair justice system for all Jamaicans.

In this unprecedented period in our nation’s history, the staff at the Justice Ministry will continue to be guided by our core values of service, professionalism, integrity, respect, innovation and teamwork (SPIRIT) as we work to ensure effective access to justice for all.

Sancia Bennett Templer
Permanent Secretary
Ministry of Justice
TO FACILITATE EFFECTIVE ACCESS TO JUSTICE...
Access Justice Live events are being staged with the kind partnership of the National Integrity Action (NIA) and the European Union. Themes covered so far for this financial year are COVID-19 and Court Operations and Children and the Justice System.

As the Jamaican public and private sectors adjust how they connect with their publics in a Covid-19 dominated era, the Justice Ministry has taken to online channels with Digital Town Hall meetings to update the nation on how they can continue to access justice services. Each event is streamed live on Facebook and Instagram, and features presentations on core Justice services and Court operations as well as questions from the live audience.
...& DELIVER QUALITY JUSTICE SERVICES FOR ALL...
As part of its ongoing programme to modernise and enhance efficiencies in the courts, the Justice Ministry officially handed over more than JMD $85M worth of audio-visual equipment to members of the Judiciary during a ceremony held at the St Catherine Parish Court on Friday, June 26.

The equipment includes screens, microphones, cameras and supporting software for 78 courtrooms across 19 court houses island-wide.

The Ministry is also undertaking a major software development project, Judicial Case Management System (JCMS) valued at $185M. The system will manage, inter alia, jury selection, case flow and docketing management and case scheduling.

Both initiatives are funded with support from the European Union.
...BY ESTABLISHING FIRST CLASS JUSTICE SYSTEMS & PARTNERSHIPS
Many Justice Sector projects are undertaken with the ongoing support of international partners who contribute to the reformation and enhancement of justice sector facilities and systems. These include Global Affairs Canada, the European Union and the United States Agency for International Development.

Another key international partner is the UK’s Department for International Development (DFID). In August 2020, the Justice Ministry signed a Memorandum of Understanding with DFID for a £1M contribution to strengthen prosecutorial services, enhance Parish Court operations, and effect systems and processes to advance the fight against corruption.
JUSTICE TRAINING INSTITUTE
116 trained in qualifying courses for JPs and Deputy Clerks of Court

LEGAL AID CLINIC
Mobile Justice Unit visited 8 communities. 60 persons received legal advice

PUBLIC LAW, PREVENTATIVE AND RESTORATIVE JUSTICE
• 109 persons approved as JPs
• 11 applications approved for Attorneys to serve as Notaries Public

PROJECT MANAGEMENT AND TECHNICAL SERVICES
Work to renovate St James Parish Court 85% complete

RESTORATIVE JUSTICE UNIT
1073 beneficiaries from 68 sensitization sessions
176 conferences resulting in 175 agreements

VICTIM SERVICES DIVISION
• 112 face-to-face counselling sessions
• 1115 electronic counselling sessions
• 14 families received welfare assistance for funerals

CRIMINAL, CIVIL AND FAMILY UNIT
1,110 Minister’s Marriage Licences produced
$1 Billion Spent To Build, Renovate Justice Facilities

JUSTICE JUNE 26, 2020 WRITTEN BY: LATONYA LINTON

The Justice Ministry expended $1 billion between January 2019 and March 2020 to construct, renovate and retrofit justice facilities across the island, providing comfortable, safe and aesthetically pleasing surroundings for the delivery of justice services.

Portfolio Minister, Hon. Delroy Chuck, in his contribution to the 2020/21 Sectoral Debate on June 24 said that a Victim Services Division (VSD) office was completed in Trelawny for approximately $31 million and a justice centre in St. Elizabeth for just over $24 million.

He said that the Ministry spent $29 million to relocate the staff and operations of the Manchester Parish Court after fire decimated the facility late last year.
We want to hear from you. Please take two minutes to respond to this poll

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