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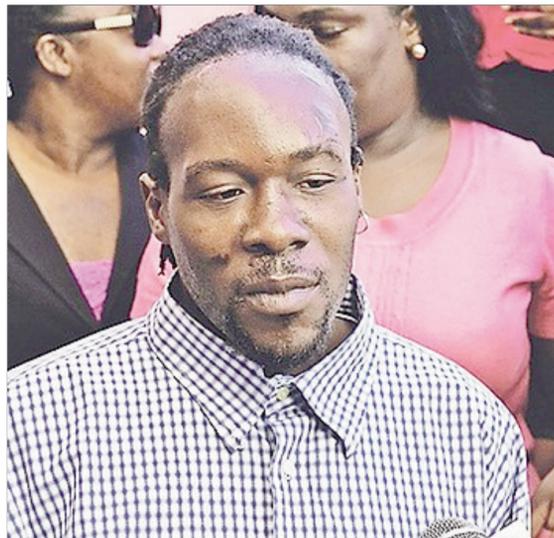
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JEAN-RONY'S CASE FOR PRIVY COUNCIL

Human Rights and Constitutional Lawyer Fred Smith is seeking leave to appeal to the Privy Council in the controversial immigration case of Jean-Rony Jean Charles.

Recently, The Court of Appeal found that the Justice Gregory Hilton was not entitled to consider or grant the Jean-Rony's application for relief pursuant to Article 28 of the Constitution and that he should have instituted new proceedings if he wanted to seek that relief.

Mr. Smith is asking the



▶ Jean-Rony Jean Charles (File photo)



▶ Fred Smith, QC (File photo)

Miller Speaks Out On Proposed LNG Plant

BY JAMEELHA MISSICK
 Journal Staff Writer

Former Trade and Industry Minister, Leslie Miller, says he is waiting to see if environmentalists in the Bahamas would object to a Liquefied Natural Gas (LNG) Power Plant to be constructed at Clifton Pier, near to the prestigious Lyford Cay.

Last week officials of



▶ Former Trade and Industry Minister, Leslie Miller (File photo)

■ See JEAN-RONY / page 2...

■ See MILLER / page 4...

Two Major Drug Busts

BY JAMEELHA MISSICK
 Journal Staff Writer

Police have reported two major drug seizures in the capital. The first occurred after 11:00 Monday night.

According to reports, a team of Drug Enforcement Unit officers, police marine support officers along with DEA officials intercepted a

■ See TWO MAJOR / page 7...

Three Men Arraigned On Robbery Charges

BY BERTHONY MCDERMOTT
 Journal Staff Writer

Three young boys were arraigned before Chief Magistrate Joyanne Ferguson Pratt on Armed Robbery related charges and attempted murder.

In the first case 19 year old Alvin Morley was

■ See THREE MEN / page 6...

Agreement To Limit Damage In Financial Sector

BY BERTHONY MCDERMOTT
 Journal Staff Writer

The government and the official opposition have agreed to work together to

limit reputational damage to The Bahamas in the Financial Services Industry.

Attending a meeting on behalf of the government were Attorney General Carl

Bethel and Minister of State for Legal Affairs Ellsworth Johnson who met with Opposition Leader Phillip Davis and Deputy Leader Chester Cooper.

It was agreed in the meeting that there would be enhanced cooperation and consultation on all steps nec-

■ See AGREEMENT / page 2...

Dr. Lester Gittens Public Service Officer of the Year



▶ Dr. Gittens is pictured, left, being congratulated for his achievements by Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Finance, the Hon. Peter Turnquest. (BIS Photo/Raymond A. Bethel, Sr.)

Child Dies In Eleuthera Fire

BY JAMEELHA MISSICK
 Journal Staff Writer

Shock and grief gripped an Eleuthera family after a late night fire ended in death.

Investigations have revealed that a call was made after 9:00pm on Monday of a fire that had engulfed a single story structure in Green Castle.

With the help of volunteer firefighters and residents, police were able to extinguish the blaze.

The building however was completely destroyed.

An inspection revealed the body of a five-year-old child in a southeast-ern room.

Investigations are ongoing.



DONATE A DOLLAR FOR BREAST CANCER WITH BAF IN OCTOBER

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JEAN-RONY'S CASE FOR PRIVY COUNCIL

Continued from / PAGE 1...

Privy Council to find that Judge Hilton was correct in finding that Jean-Rony's constitutional rights were breached; to reverse the decision of the Court of Appeal; uphold Justice Hilton's decision and to reinstate Jean Rony's entitlement to damage and costs.

The lawyer insists that it was wrong of the Court of Appeal to ignore the abuse suffered by Jean Rony at the hands of the government, when they had all of the powers under article 28 of the constitution to determine if his rights had been breached.

Documents filed by Attorney Smith of Callenders and Company state: "The Court of Appeal erred in finding that the proceedings were brought to an end, so as to preclude the determination

of the constitutional application, by the Judge's determination in relation to the writ of Habeas Corpus. Alternatively, the Court of Appeal erred in holding that the Judge's order dismissing the writ was appropriate, and should have held instead that he should have made no order on the writ.

"The Court of Appeal was wrong to allow the appeal on the basis that it was unknown at the time that the constitutional application was determined whether the Respondent was the person whose detention and deportation were referred to in the return to the writ. On the true reading of his judgment, the Judge held on the balance of probabilities that they were the same person.

Alternatively, the issue of the Respondent's

identity was, or should have been, resolved on appeal, including by virtue of the concession in that regard made by the Appellants.

"The Court of Appeal erred in holding that the Judge had insufficient evidence before him to determine the constitutional application. The Judge was entitled to rely on the affidavit of Clotilde Jean Charles and did so. In any event the judge was entitled to rely on the facts in the Return and they were sufficient to found relief. Alternatively, the Court of Appeal had sufficient evidence before it to determine the constitutional application in the Respondent's favour and should have done so.

"The Court of Appeal erred in allowing the appeal on the basis that the Appellants had an insufficient opportunity to respond to the constitutional appli-

cation. The Appellants did not have such an opportunity, did not respond, and/or waived any objection on that ground. Alternatively, any such defect should have been, and was, cured on appeal because the Appellants had the opportunity to, and did, respond fully in the course of the appeal in relation to the issues engaged by the Judge's ruling.

"The Court of Appeal erred in determining the appeal on matters that were not grounds of appeal.

"The learned Judge was correct to find that the Appellants had breached the Respondent's constitutional rights by virtue of the unlawful circumstances of his arrest, detention and deportation and that he lacked adequate alternative means of redress. The constitutional relief ordered by the Judge was appropriate and it was

within his powers to order it.

"In the alternative, the Court of Appeal was moved to and failed and thereby erred in failing to exercise their original and or concurrent Article 28 Constitutional jurisdiction to uphold the learned Judge's judgement and or to grant the same and or similar constitutional relief to the Respondent as was granted by the learned Judge, especially having regard to: the fact that there was no ground of appeal challenging the jurisdiction of the learned Judge to exercise the Supreme Court's Article 28 Constitutional jurisdiction in the circumstances that he did; the only ground of appeal was that the Respondent had alternative means of redress available to him and should have exhausted them first additional evidence that was

before the Court of Appeal and which was not before the learned Judge at trial," stated the filing for the appeal before the judicial committee of the Privy Council.

After the ruling of the Court of Appeal last month, Mr. Smith told this Journal that the Justices, led by Sir Michael Barnett, did not deal with the constitutional issues in the case.

He said the question was about a person born in the Bahamas, whether they can or cannot be legally deported or expelled and whether or not the Supreme Court has the power to order the government to release somebody, or whether or not the Immigration Department does or does not have the power to detain people who were born in the Bahamas who are citizens in waiting remains unresolved.

Agreement To Limit Damage In Financial Sector

Continued from / PAGE 1...

essary to address the challenges being faced by the industry, caused by the increasing demand of international organization.

Both sides also agreed to ensure the preservation of a vital sector of a diversified Bahamian economy.

This joint effort comes just two days after Mr. Cooper in a press release said that the PLP is prepared to work with the government to help save the financial sector.

He noted the outcome of the recent financial action task force plenary in Paris

where The Bahamas is listed in its compliance document with implied threats of further action.

Mr. Cooper added that the PLP looks forward to speaking with the government inside and outside of parliament to address the complexities inherent with the proposed legislation.

Therefore, he said, "the protectionist nature of the punitive measures taken against international financial centers such as The Bahamas is compounded by the fact that most of the countries subjected to punitive measures are non-members of the OECD, despite

The Bahamas in particular having been responsive in addressing these threats against our sovereignty for years on end."

The PLP's Deputy Leader added, "we must continue to act, and we must do so hastily and prudently. The action plan adopted by the plenary calls for The Bahamas to produce implementation of the vigorous measures taken to address AML/CTF threats."

He said that the PLP looks forward to speaking with the government inside and outside of parliament to address the complexities inherent with the proposed legislation.

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GOT NEWS?
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Defence Force Wins Public Service Fun, Run, Walk



► Senior Lieutenant Elvis Bullard, RBDF Public Service Liaison Office, Lieutenant Elizabeth Simms, Training Executive Officer, Able Seaman Ryan Ferguson, Able Woman Marine Aniska Bonaby, Commodore Tellis Bethel, Leading Woman Marine Denise Oliver, Leading Seaman Devon Sands, Woman Marine Erica Longley, Force Chief Petty Officer Oral Wood, Command Force Chief, and RBDF Training Officer (Acting), Senior Lieutenant Origin Deleveaux. (RBDF Photo by Marine Seaman Michael Turner)

At a special presentation at the Coral Harbour Base, RBDF organizers and team members who participated in the inaugural 18th Annual National Public Service Week Fun, Run Walk and Health Screening Day event presented Commodore Tellis Bethel, Commander Defence Force, with the coveted

Floating Trophy for having the most participants and winning the most medals. The inaugural event was one of many activities being coordinated by the 18th National Public Service Week Committee in recognition of those persons, who have retired from the Public Service within the past year.

The 6-mile race commenced at the Botanical Gardens and culminated near Melia Resort Hotel, Cable Beach. Other groups and organizations from various government and non-government agencies throughout the island participated in this event. Participants from the RBDF included Marine

Seaman Troy Seymour and Able Seaman Ryan Ferguson who placed 2nd and 3rd respectively in the Male Under-30 category; Leading Seaman Devon Sands won the Male 30-49 category; and Able Woman Marine Aniska Bonaby and Leading Woman Marine Denise Oliver finished 1st and 2nd in the

Female 30-49 category. Able Woman Marine Stephanie Darville came 1st in the Female 50 and Over walk category. Commodore Bethel commended Senior Lieutenant Origin Deleveaux, RBDF Sporting Officer and Senior Lieutenant Elvis Bullard, RBDF Liaison Officer, Chief

Petty Officer James Darling, Director of the RBDF Fitness Training School and a key coordinator for the activities, Leading Seaman Devon Sands, a key coordinator for the event, and members of the wider Force for their invaluable contributions to the Public Service Week of activities.

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**COMMONWEALTH OF THE BAHAMAS
IN THE INDUSTRIAL TRIBUNAL**

NOTICE OF CALL OVER

TAKE NOTICE that the following Industrial Tribunal Matters have been set for call over in the Industrial Tribunal in the City of Nassau before the Honourable Indra Demeritte-Francis, President of the Industrial Tribunal, at 10am on Wednesday 21st of November 2018.

	YEAR	NO.	APPLICANT	RESPONDENT	ATTORNEY/ REPRESENTATIVE	APPLICANT'S ADDRESS
1.	2018	NES/120	OMALATESHA DEAN	BAHAMAR (SKY WARRIOR LTD)		FIRE TRAIL ROAD EAST
2.	2018	NES/56	CLARICE MURPHY	LITTLE LEARNING CHRISTIAN ACADEMY & BARBER WORLD		SUMNOR STREET OFF SOLDIER ROAD
3.	2018	NES/106	JAROME JOHNSON	BET VEGAS CASINOS		FOX DDAIL CANDIA CREST
4.	2018	NES/130	FREDRICK HEILD	OAKES FIELD SHOPPING PLAZA		EAST STREET SOUTH

Miller Speaks Out On Proposed LNG Plant

Continued from / PAGE 1...

Bahamas Power and Light (BPL) announced that Shell North America will construct the plant and sell the generated power to BPL.

Mr. Miller said some years ago when the Christie Administration considered the construction of an LNG Plant at Ocean Cay, near Bimini, the environmentalists had major objections. He weighed in on the government's decision to introduce liquified natural gas or LNG to The Bahamas, a move he has pushed for years, particularly when he held the position of Chairman of Bahamas

Electricity Company (BEC) now Bahamas Power and Light (BPL).

Appearing as a guest on Love 97's afternoon talk show On Point with host Wendall Jones, Miller explained why the deal at the time fell through.

"We had a 20-year contract with AES, that contract called for the people of The Bahamas to receive \$1.2 billion dollars in revenues over 20 years," he said.

"In addition to that they were going retro-fit 65 per cent of BEC's apparatus at Clifton to enable us to use lng," he added.

"They were also getting a tug, which is now used in

Haiti, to assist us with getting the LNG from the Cay to bring here to New Providence, right we had it made.

"They were also going to put in a quarter million dollars every year into BTVI, this was the thing, now 100 houses in North Bimini, and the average salary of that plant was going to be \$40,000 a year and above," he said.

"The government which I was apart of, the former prime minister, allowed one or two people of colour in this country to just scuttle the whole thing.

"Because they went on the internet and came up

with a bunch of garbage of what was supposed to blow up, the loss of life and everything else and all it was, was just lies after lies after lies," he added.

"But because of their color, the Bahamian people bought into it and that program we will never see the likes of that again as long as we live."

Mr. Miller in pushing for LNG to be introduced in The Bahamas, touted the millions of dollars in revenue The Bahamas could pull in.

Three companies – had even submitted preliminary proposals.

Just recently Bahamas

Power and Light executives revealed that it has signed a memorandum of understanding with Shell North America- said to help reduce the cost of power bills and reduce power outages.

Last week BPL Chairman, Donavan Moxey told reporters that the move marks the culmination of efforts over the years to improve the reliability of electricity in New Providence.

There's also the renewed promise of a decrease in power costs – a longstanding vexing issue for its consumers.

BPL's partnership with

Shell North America is also expected to lead to little to no blackouts.

According to BPL CEO, Whitney Heastie, that new power plant will use liquified natural gas which he says has no greater risk than fuels used every day like gasoline and diesel, but it does, he said, provide a number of advantages.

Shell North America will construct a new gas fired power plant in the Clifton Pier area.

The expected completion date is 2020.

As for BPL's deal with Shell, Mr. Miller several months ago said it was bad for the country.

Dr. Lester Gittens Public Service Officer of the Year

Continued from / PAGE 1...

Ministry of Agriculture and Marine Resources Fisheries Officer, Dr. Lester Gittens was chosen 'Public Service Officer of the Year

2018/2019' at the 18th Annual National Public Service Week Awards Luncheon and National Public Service Officer of the Year ceremonies on Sunday, November 4, 2018

in the Imperial Ballroom of Atlantis, Paradise Island.

Dr. Gittens is currently Supervisor of the Science and Conservation Unit of the Ministry of Agriculture and Marine

Resources. His very specialized training in Natural Resource Management and Ecological Sciences have been valuable to his keen interest in Bahamian spiny lobster fishery -- its con-

servation and marketability.

The luncheon event was a culmination of myriad activities for Public Service Week this year that included Fun Run, Walk

and Health Screening; Annual Church Service; Parliament Training Session; Retirees' Recognition and Awards Ceremony at Government House; and Float Parade.

National Health Insurance Authority Town Meeting

SEAGRAPE, Grand Bahama – National Health Insurance Authority (NHIA) heads are in Grand Bahama to meet with stakeholders to discuss changes proposed to the National Health Insurance Programme.

The NHIA held a Town

Meeting in Seagrape, Eight Mile Rock, on Monday, November 5, 2018 at which residents were informed of the benefits of National Health Insurance, its costs and functions – and also had the opportunity to register for the plan.

Dr. Robin Roberts, Chairman of the NHIA Board, led the discussion and rather than wait for the question/answer period at the end of his presentation, engaged residents which turned the forum into an open discussion.

Dr. Roberts was accompanied by NHIA Managing Director, Graham Whitmarsh, and also present was Mick Holding, president of the Grand Bahama Chamber of Commerce. A second Town Meeting will be held on this evening, November 6, at the

Church of the Ascension in Freeport.

Meetings will also be held in Abaco, Eleuthera, Exuma, Long Island and New Providence, and following the feedback from residents, the findings will be presented to the Cabinet of The Bahamas.

On Monday morning, November 5, Dr. Roberts explained the steps the Authority is taking at a press briefing and in meetings with Grand Bahama's business community at the Grand Bahama Chamber of Commerce in Freeport.



NHIA Chairman, Dr. Robin Roberts (BIS Photo/Lisa Davis)



NHI – Registration Process. (BIS Photo/Lisa Davis)

WARNING *SHOT*



By Jerry Hutchinson

Punishing the Poor, For Being Poor

“In a sane, civil, intelligent and moral society, you don’t blame the poor for being poor.” --**Andrew Young**

Any article in the local papers which start out by referencing a well-respected, prominent, well regarded, legal expert source etc, always raises my suspicion on the writer’s motivation. This is because whilst the personage gets a short quote, what invariably follows is an opinion piece; not news. So, I am instinctively suspicious of any pronouncement which opens by saying “jurisdictional research indicates that sin taxes on particularly unhealthy products such as sugary drinks, alcohol and cigarettes are effective revenue sources and create an economic and social incentive to reduce consumption,” as stated recently by the Minister of Health. It leaves one to try and figure out which jurisdictions conducted the research, their methodology and whether the research alone should form the basis for a 2% tax hike to fund NHI.

More importantly, why use such emotive language as a “sin tax” when in its truest sense, a sin tax covers not only sugary drinks, but also certain goods deemed harmful to society, for example alcohol and tobacco, candies, drugs, fast foods, coffee, sugar, gambling and pornography? No sign so far of tax hikes on other than the usual suspects i.e. sugary fizzy drinks, alcohol and cigarettes, although increased gambling taxes are being contemplated.

To find the answers to these questions we must look elsewhere. Specifically, the World Health Organization (WHO) report dated 11th October, 2016 in which the WHO recommended: “A tax on sugary drinks to increase the retail price by 20 per cent or more would lower consumption and reduce obesity and other illnesses, according to a new report from the World Health Organization. On Tuesday, the United Nations health agency called on governments to slap an excise tax on sugar-sweetened beverages such as soda, fruit drinks, sports drinks, energy and vitamin water drinks, sweetened iced tea and lemonade. Drinking less of the sweet drinks is the best way to curb excessive weight and prevent chronic diseases such as Type 2 diabetes, although fat and salt in processed foods are also at fault, WHO officials said.”

What is important to note here is what the WHO considered to be sugary drinks and compare them to what the Minister of Health is suggesting are the main culprits. Then, you will see why I am suspicious of the “jurisdictional research” which appears to be driving our decision making. As the Bahamas is a member of the WHO, will we comply and increase our list of unhealthy foods?

I am not making light here of the very real consequences of unhealthy diets which include in the main daily consumption of colas, fats, empty calories and excessive carbohydrates, etc. We know either from personal experience or observation that uncontrolled consumption of sugars causes diabetes. Persons with diabetes suffer strokes, heart attacks, and some suffer kidney failure requiring dialysis and in many cases of diabetes, non-traumatic amputations.

What I am suggesting is that Bahamian parents are doing the best they can with the limited financial resources that they have to feed and clothe their families. Unfortunately, scarcity of funds drives their food choices and, in many cases, sugary drinks and sugar laden cereals, chips and other unhealthy foods are all they can afford, and they buy unhealthy foods in bulk. The poorer of us are literally prisoners of the limitations of “bread basket items”. These items in themselves pose challenges to poor persons achieving a modicum to a healthy life style. These VAT free items are laden with salt, sugars and fats. In other cases, rather than prepare their children’s lunches, children are given money for lunch and make their own food choices which usually include fizzy drinks and fattening foods like chips, hot dogs, etc.

But, if we proceed on the basis that a sin tax

may be a panacea for obesity and its associated health issues, will it accomplish this aim? Let’s look at the UK experience and what they discovered.

Research finding indicated that: “A sugar tax levied on soft drinks might have the unintended consequence of driving up alcohol consumption, but the picture is mixed, according to new research published in the Journal of Epidemiology & Community Health.

As many alcoholic drinks contain similar or greater amounts of sugar (43 kcals/100 ml for beer; 85 kcals for wine; 40 kcals for cola) and have other well-known harms, a more nuanced approach across a range of beverages may be more effective than a single tax on sugary drinks, say the researchers from the London School of Hygiene & Tropical Medicine, the University of Oxford and the University of Cambridge. So, an unintended consequence of taxes on sugary, sweet drinks may be an increase in alcohol consumption!

It also had a word of caution for policymakers: “This study indicates varied responses in alcohol purchases for at-home consumption if prices of soft drinks change. Particularly the study finds a strong case in ensuring that diet drinks are excluded from price increases to avoid increases in alcohol purchases. Although the study design does not allow us to disentangle the reasons for such associations, the evaluations of fiscal interventions should carefully monitor changes in wider outcomes, not just immediate substitutes among non-taxed beverages such as water or fruit juice.”

So, what are we to do? We know that taxes on sugary drinks like sodas and juices decreases their consumption over time as prices are increased; these taxes also raise revenue. In recent years, supporters of such measures have pointed to reports that link the consumption of sugary drinks to diabetes and obesity. “Now, supporters are using the newest set of studies, released last month in the National Bureau of Economic Research, to make an economic case for a sugary drink tax as well”.

Recent research by Drexel University bears this out. It noted: “Overall, residents drank about 30 percent fewer sugary drinks, researchers found, in line with a Drexel University study that predicted Philadelphians would drink about 40 percent fewer sugary drinks once the tax went into effect.”

Research also indicates that the tax is regressive, putting most of the financial burden on low-income individuals who are less likely to be able to afford the price increase on sodas and other beverages.

The government is onto something here. The credible research on the dire health effects supports this initiative. But, the government’s presentation needs a bit of work to sell it to the Bahamian people. Public education and meetings are an important element if the benefits of the proposed taxes are to be realised. It may also wish to consider the possible economic impact on businesses and soda manufacturers once the tax hike is implemented. Simply put, reduced sales mean reduced VAT revenues. Having said this, it would be difficult to conceive a case where Bahamians of all stripes will reject this proposal which seeks to improve and save Bahamian lives for generations to come.

But this will take extraordinary political will. I foresee numerous businesses complaining about the financial impact on them. No surprise here; when it comes to choosing between financial benefits and humanity, humanity runs a very poor second.

In the long term we must address and correct the public health crisis of obesity and diabetes created over decades by the neglect of our primary health care system.

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The Bahama
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Quo Vadis, Bahamas?

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E D I T O R I A L

Being & Doing-Better

Today we comment on certain ongoing legally contentious matters which –in the fullness of time-might prove not only embarrassing to the current administration, but which might also prove very costly to the Bahamian people at large.

At the centre of this matter we find a slew of troubles which pivot on our continuing failure to deal in a fair and just manner with the thousands of men, women and children of Haitian descent who live here, work here and who do make a substantial contribution to this country.

With this in mind, please note that: Attorney Fred Smith QC makes the news again.

This time around, the word in the wind shouts: “...ATTORNEYS for 15 former detainees are suing the government for damages that could cost taxpayers millions...”

Whilst seen by some of his detractors as a most annoying thorn in the side of the administration, there are untold thousands of Bahamians –some of them of the hyphenated variety as in so-called ‘Haitian’-Bahamians who view this savvy lawyer and his team as one of their most valued legal allies.

Indeed, the evidence is abundant that had Smith and his team not done what they have done, many who had been arbitrarily locked up would today remain in those fetid jail conditions where some detained people rot and where others are driven mad!

Bad scenes like these are not good for a Bahamas that prides itself on being kind, loving and attentive to people on tour whilst putting so very many others in harm’s way.

This is naught but a display of hyper-hypocrisy riding high on the hoof.

Surely, we can do and be better than that.

This ‘doing better’ is precisely what Smith and his team seem to be about in these times as our Bahamas struggles to get up from under the damage which has been tolerated for what seems a near eternity.

At the core of that vortex of delinquency and abuse we now wake to find damage done to men and women who are deemed somehow ‘defective’ because of their perceived ‘illegal’ presence in The Bahamas.

For our part, what we would venture is that Smith is surely to be praised for the yeoman’s work he has done [and continues to do] on behalf of many aggrieved who would have gone unnoticed and uncared for had it not been for his legal interventions.

Thus it follows that Fred Smith must be allowed to pursue his craft and calling.

This simple point we make against that mean backdrop that would have ignorant people castigate and vilify him and his team for doing what we consider the right thing.

Evidently, they who would condemn him for the work he does on behalf of so very many people just do not know how far off the mark they are and thus, they neither know or care for the vital part that respect for the law undergirds our fledgling democracy.

In addition, what is as clear as day is that Smith is on the money when he and his team take the Government to task on this or that legally contentious item.

When he does this, he helps the public understand that THE LAW is here for the benefit of each and every person in the Commonwealth of The Bahamas.

In this regard, take note that: “...The legal team, led by Fred Smith, QC, filed writs on Friday last week in the first round of legal action that could see claims from as many as 30 former detainees in separate cases...”

This is huge and for sure, this litigation can become very costly for the Government of The Bahamas.

Even more galling are those facts on the ground which attest as follows: Those costs must be borne by a populace which is already up to its gills in taxes and other Government-mandated impositions.



THE BAHAMAS

Sun, Sand, Sea and the

The Bahama Journal

NO BETTER READING

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Three Men Arraigned On Robbery Charges

Continued from / PAGE 1...

charged with one count of attempted murder.

It is alleged that on October 29th while at New Providence Morley did attempt to cause the death of Roobens Elusme.

He was not required to enter a plea and was remanded until December 11th for a voluntary bill of incitement.

Morley was also charged with robbing Ethan Grey of a Nissan Note valued at \$4,000, a watch valued at \$470, and \$4,000 cash. Bail was denied. He will return to court for this charge for a VBI on January 22nd, 2019.

In the second instance Alvin Morley, 19 year old Javis Smith and 21 year old Dion Giles were charged with two counts of armed robbery.

In the first case on the 30th of September allegedly robbed Britney Bethel of a

black Passo valued \$4,000, a Bahamian passport belonging to her valued \$50, \$200 in cash, a cell phone valued \$120 and a power pack valued \$170.

On September 18th they allegedly attempted to rob Pizza Hut on Prince Charles Drive.

The three accused were not required to enter a plea in any of the cases and will return to court for a VBI on December 11th.

In addition, Alvin Morley and Dion Giles were charged with two counts of possession of ammunition.

The two pleaded not guilty to both charges and were remanded until February 15th, 2019.

Smith and Giles were charged with robbing Toya Hall of a Silver Nissan Note valued at \$5,000 on October 14th.

The two also were charged with the October

29th robbery of Kenron Miller.

They allegedly robbed him of a black wallet valued \$40 containing \$3, an Iphone 6s plus valued \$500 and a Samsung s8 valued \$700.

They were also denied bail and will return to court for the charges on February 7th for a VBI.

The three boys informed the court that while at CDU they were beaten severely by police officers and denied their right to see a physician.

Morley said he was beaten on his buttocks and was unable to sit down.

Giles proceeded to show the court his chest which was swollen and his bruised eye.

Smith said he was beaten on his head, face and chest. The Chief Magistrate ordered the boys to be taken to Princes Margret Hospital before being admitted to The Bahamas Department of Correction.

BNU PRESIDENT TO PHA: WE WILL NOT BE BULLIED

BY LEAH COOPER
Journal Staff Writer

The meeting the Public Hospitals Authority (PHA) hoped to conduct with the Bahamas Nurses Union about concerns surrounding the newly implemented shift changes yesterday didn't happen on the account of a misunderstanding.

President of the Bahamas Nurses Union (BNU) Amancha Williams told The Journal that she had no knowledge of the follow-up meeting's deadline and "will not be bullied" while at the negotiation table.

She said, "The only thing that we acknowledged when

we left from the drawing board on Friday was that we were going to call them to let them know when we would be sending a letter in. That's it."

She added, "There's nothing else we agreed upon. What we left on the table was the obligation that BNU needed to meet. We met that."

Ms. Williams further explained that she called the PHA's Managing Director Catherine Weech to let her know that a letter would be sent this past Monday.

However, in a statement dated November 1st, 2018; the PHA gave the union until this past Friday to submit

their objections to the recent shift change.

The new shift change was the topic of much rebuke following the statement issued this past Thursday.

The shift change would require nurses under the PHA to work an 8-hour day as opposed to the current four hours on and four hours off scheduling.

In fact, at a demonstration following the release, Ms. Williams expressed that nurses rather quit than to "work slavery hours".

Ms. Williams added that the BNU is set to have a meeting with the Department of Labour this Friday at 11AM.



The Cabinet Office has announced that an Official Funeral will be held for the late **Mr. Bradley Roberts, former Cabinet Minister and Parliamentarian**, on Friday, 9th November, 2018 at 11:00 a.m. at St. Francis Xavier Cathedral, West Street. Interment will follow at the Western Cemetery, Nassau Street.

Further, the body will lie-in-state in the foyer of the House of Assembly, Parliament Square, from 9:00am on Thursday 8th November until the body departs for the church on Friday, 9th November, 2018.

Viewing for the general public will be from 1:00p.m - 7:00pm on Thursday, 8th November, 2018.

The general public is invited to attend.



REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL ISSUED BY THE GOVERNMENT OF THE BAHAMAS

Consultancy Services For A Project Pension Feasibility Study for Transition of Defined Benefit Scheme to Contribution Scheme in the Public Sector

Background

The Government of the Bahamas is seeking proposal to conduct a feasibility study for a transition of the defined benefit scheme to contribution scheme in the Public Sector. This study would assist government in a factual finding to support consideration of the Government's initiative for reduction in expenses for the public sector and a planned approach to achieve significant cost savings over time.

Procurement Method

The procurement of service will be conducted under a national competitive bid process.

All tenders will be published on the national press of The Bahamas and on the government website.

Successful firm(s) will be those who meet the standard requirements set out below and who meet the firm with the most competitive price.

Where there is a tie between firms on the specification and price the Ministry of Finance may choose to a firm based on the following criteria:

- Firm establishment (how long the firm has been in business in The Bahamas).
- Delivery timelines
- Ability to ensure service level agreement for service.

Requirement for Bidders

The Firm responding to this proposal must have a valid Bahamas business license. At the time of submission of bid all company tax and national insurance obligations must be current, this includes at the time of issue of this RFP, but is not exclusive to:

- Business license fee
- National insurance payments
- Company Profile
- Outline of qualifications and experiences

Firm must be of good standing, i.e. no impending or current legal actions against the company or the directors of the company which may have a significant impact on the ability of the firm to deliver the service.

OFFER FOR CONSULTANCY SERVICES AND PROPOSED DELIVERABLES

Deliverables should be as follows:

1. Researching and outlining current position with regard to the defined benefit pension liability of the public service and all government corporations and agencies
2. Creating a data base of key statistics including but not limited to the pension liability, number of employees, contribution amount, etc.
3. Researching and benchmarking information from similar ones that have jurisdictions and governments specifically including ones that have migrated defined benefit plans to contribution plans.
4. Outlining cost savings/ expenses associated with each plan.
5. Survey of selected plan participants in the public service s related to their perceived benefits and concerns.
6. Estimating and scenario planning out the economic impact of the plans on the government's budget.
7. Identify any legal operational and funding issues around the migration to a hybrid pension system i.e. defined benefit for older employees, contribution for newer employees.

Submission of Bids

Bid contents

Firm responding to this RFP must submit their offers using the deliverables set out in this document. Additional documentation concerning the submitting firm and the service on offer may be submitted at the description of the firm.

Method of Submission

Bids to this tender can be submitted via electronically via e-mail or posted/delivered in a sealed envelope. Electronic submissions must be made to athenamarche@bahamas.gov.bs with the subject of "Feasibility Study for Transition of Defined Benefit Scheme to Contribution Scheme in the Public Sector".

Paper submissions should be posted/delivered to the following address:

Tenders submissions
Ministry of Finance,
Cecil Wallace-Whitfield Centre,
West Bay Street,
Nassau,
New Providence.

The envelope must be identified with "Feasibility Study for Transition of Defined Benefit Scheme to Contribution Scheme in the Public Sector".

Submission Deadline

Responses to this tender must be submitted, using one of the submission methods described above, by 5.00pm November 2, 2018.

Submissions received after this date will not be considered.

Please note that the complete RFP can be accessed on line at: www.bahamas.gov.bs

Two Major Drug Busts

Continued from / PAGE 1...

21ft vessel a quarter mile south of New Providence.

The occupants ran the vessel on a sand bank, swam to land and from there, escaped.

A search of the vessel revealed 60 bags of suspected marijuana.

The estimated street value has been pegged at \$1.8 million.

After 1:00 yesterday morning a 15ft grey and

white skiff was intercepted 15 miles south of the capital.

Two men were on board. Upon spotting the officers, the men threw two crocus bags into the water.

Police said the marijuana weighed 90 pounds, a value of \$90,000.

The accused are expected to appear in court later this week.

Meantime, police over in Grand Bahama need your assistance locating 30-year-old, Dasha Larissa Flowers

of Freeport, Grand Bahama.

She is wanted by the central detective unit for alleged fraud.

Flowers is described as medium built with brown complexion.

Police are asking anyone with any information on Flowers whereabouts, to contact the central detective unit in Freeport, Grand Bahama at telephone number 350-3107 thru 12, 911/919 or call the nearest police station.

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GOT NEWS?

Please call The Bahama Journal's News TIP LINE at 356-7254 and let us know!

MINISTRY OF HEALTH

NOTICE

INVITATION TO BID

The Ministry of Health, Department of Public Health invites Tenders for bi-monthly ground maintenance services at the following New Providence Clinics:

NAME OF CLINIC
Adelaide Clinic
Adolescent Health Centre
Anne's Town Clinic
Blue Hill Road Clinic
Coconut Grove Clinic
Elizabeth Estates Clinic
Flamingo Gardens Clinic
Fleming Street Clinic
Fox Hill Clinic
Gambier Clinic
South Beach Health Centre

Interested persons can contact the Clinic Administrator or Nurse In Charge at the said facilities for permission to inspect the premises. Also, for additional information and a copy of the Scope of Work please contact telephone number 502-4700/4818 or 502-4831.

All Tender documents are to be placed in a sealed envelope marked; "To Tenders Board" Ground Maintenance services c/o Financial Secretary Ministry of Finance Cable Beach Nassau, Bahamas

Companies should submit bids no later than Monday, October 22, 2018. Only persons with a valid Business License, Tax Compliance letter, Registration Certificate and Letter from National Insurance (NIB) stating your company is in Good Standing need apply. Bids will be opened October 23, 2018. Bidders or Representatives will be requested to be in attendance.

GOVERNMENT NOTICES

MINISTRY OF TRANSPORT AND LOCAL GOVERNMENT

ROAD TRAFFIC DEPARTMENT

P.O BOX N-1615

THOMAS A. ROBINSON NATIONAL STADIUM

NASSAU, N.P. BAHAMAS

The Road Traffic Department would like to remind all Franchise Holders – Taxi, Tour, Public Schedule, Private Schedule, Private Charter, Livery, Self-Drive Cars and Scooters that we are now accepting registration documents for the Bi-annual inspection period of October 2018 to May 2019.

The Following documents are required:

1. Passport/Voters Card and N.I.B Card (for holders not registered in the new system)
2. Up to date Franchise Receipt
3. Up to date Business License
4. Inspection Slip/Copies of expired Inspection Discs
5. Completed Inspection Forms for Companies with five (5) or more Vehicles that require On-site Inspection (forms Can be picked up at the Road traffic Department Franchise Unit).
6. Up to date Insurance Certificates
7. Vehicle Color and right/left hand drive (for new vehicles)

All Franchise Holders with a fleet of five (5) or more vehicles are invited to submit their packages to the Road Traffic Department, Franchise Unit Section 3 Eastern Grandstand of the Thomas A. Robinson National Stadium. All Packages will be processed on a first come first serve basis.

Please note that the Department will only receive payments in the form of:

- a. Certified cheques payable to the Public Treasury (No personal or company cheques)
- b. Visa, Master, Debit, Credit Cards
- c. Cash

Control

Road Traffic Department