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# The Bahama Journal

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# CONFUSION IN CARICOM

## Minnis Stands Firm After Meeting Trump

The Bahamas was one of the targets of derision by many leaders of the Caribbean this past weekend, following a meeting between Prime Minister Doctor Hubert Minnis, three other Caricom leaders and US President Donald Trump in Florida.

The brunt of the criticism came from the Prime Minister of Trinidad and Tobago Doctor Keith Rowley



▶ PM, the Hon. Dr. Hubert Minnis



▶ PM of Trinidad and Tobago, the Hon. Dr. Keith Rowley



▶ PM of St. Vincent and the Grenadines, the Hon. Dr. Ralph Gonsalves

■ See page 2...

### PLP: MEETING WITH TRUMP COVERED NO NEW GROUND

BY LEAH COOPER  
 Journal Staff Writer

Progressive Liberal Party Chairman (PLP) Fred Mitchell yesterday expressed that the Prime Minister's multilateral meeting with U.S. President Donald Trump covered no new ground with no benefit to The Bahamas.

Mr. Mitchell also boasted in the Opposition taking "the correct and principled stand" when opposing to the Minnis-Administration's decision for the country to support ousting Nicolas Maduro as President of Venezuela.

Back in January, that country's Opposition Leader Juan Guaido declared

■ See page 2...

## BPL INVESTIGATES FAKE ENERGY SAVING DEVICES

BY LEAH COOPER  
 Journal Staff Writer

Bahamas Power and Light Company (BPL) yesterday indicated that they are investigating "whether

and to what extent" its clients have employed alleged fake energy saving devices to lower their electricity bills.

In a news release, BPL confirmed receiving

queries concerning whether so-called legitimate energy saving devices are being targeted by BPL in an effort to secure revenues and profits.

The company said, "BPL wishes to emphasize that energy saving methods and renewables are not in question; rather,

■ See page 4...

## NURSES AND GOV'T AT IMPASSE

BY LISA KNOWLES  
 Journal Staff Writer

The President of The Bahamas Nurses Union Amancha Williams last Friday said that the Union and the Princess Margaret

Hospital are at an impasse in their negotiations with the government.

Back in October, the Union indicated that it was not satisfied with the shift system that was

expected to be implemented on December 10th, 2018.

The new shift system would have established a 40-hour work week and an 8 day daily shift, as opposed to the current 10

hour shift for Night Duty Nurses.

After a few months of friction, the Union eventually received their strike certificate last December.

■ See page 4...

## Teachers Union Demands Talks



▶ B.U.T. President, Belinda Wilson

BY LICEC BASTIAN  
 Journal Staff Writer

Bahamas Union of Teachers (BUT) President, Belinda Wilson's demanding a meeting with Educational officials as she said the BUT is stalled in negotiations.

This past weekend,

the BUT president promised that today, Educational Officials will be sent a letter demanding that talks for the Union's new industrial agreement begin, adding that the Ministry of Education fails to communicate.

■ See page 4...

## Bishops Want Action On Guns

BY LEAH COOPER  
 Journal Staff Writer

A group of local bishops yesterday indicated that they are standing together in their fight against gun violence.

In a press release, the group consisting of Bishops Simeon Hall, Victor Cooper, Greg Minnis, J. Carl Rahming, and Ross

Davis, said that most of the senseless killings in recent times are being committed by persons illegally in possession of guns.

Since guns are not manufactured in The Bahamas; the group suggested that those found illegally importing guns should face the "stiffest

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# BUT Calls for Health Protocol

BY BERTHONY MCDERMOTT  
Journal Staff Writer

Additional confirmed cases of tuberculosis in the AF Adderley and the Government High schools are begging the need for some type of protocol when it comes to dealing with such matters.

According to Bahamas Union of Teachers President

Belinda Wilson there is the need for this, considering the union is always left to take the lead.

“I’m hoping that moving forward, a protocol will be put in place from the Ministry’s perspective.

“So that whenever things of this nature happen like tuberculosis or scabies or any communicable disease, then

everyone is not running around trying to figure out what to do; but you would have the protocol in place on how it is that we would resolve it,” she said.

Mrs. Wilson said so far, she’s spoken to union representatives on both school campuses.

She said, “teachers have been identified. What is going to happen now is they will take x-

rays and based on the results of the x-rays which will take 14 days to get clearance, they will determine whether they are positive and if they need to do the six-month treatment.”

The BUT President added that if there is a need for the treatment, she would ask the Health Minister to identify a specific clinic and time teachers can go.

On March 9th Health Minister Dr. Duane Sands confirmed two cases of TB on the island. He said one was at A.F Adderly Junior High School and the other at The Government High School.

At the time the Health Minister affirmed that the appropriate screening of contacts was set to begin to see who if anyone else had been infect-

ed with the disease.

Tuberculosis is an infectious disease of the lungs and is spread through the lungs.

Symptoms of tuberculosis include a cough that lasts at minimum three weeks, chest pains, coughing up blood or phlegm, weakness, fatigue, weight loss, no appetite, chills, fever and obsessive sweating.

# Minnis Stands Firm After Meeting Trump

Continued from / PAGE 1...

who said Caricom called on the United Nations “to pay attention to us in Caricom, who have been totally ignored in the decision making of the Lima Group, except for the few who could not see the pitfall, signed on to it, and then discover what the outcome was after.”

He said if Trinidad and Tobago was snubbed by the US for steadfastly adhering to the principles of the United Nations’ Charter, then history will absolve us.

Dr. Rowley made the statement at yesterday’s Post-Cabinet Media briefing in response to President Trump’s invitation to five Caribbean leaders to his private resort at Mar-a-Lago to discuss the Venezuelan crisis and China trade practices.

Dr. Rowley said, “there are some who believe that Trinidad was somewhat diminished by not having been invited.”

He said, “we have never stood taller, we have never stood prouder.” The Prime Minister of Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Doctor Ralph Gonsalves speaking with reporters in his country said, “we in Caricom have to be alive to the mischief that some people are using to seek to divide us.

“Part of the value of Caricom is that we always seek to hold a common position and to prevent a division and weakening of Caricom.

In February, Caricom issued a statement to emphasize the non-interference in the affairs of Venezuela. We reaffirmed our support to democracy and human rights.”

He said none of the four Caricom leaders attending the meeting with Mr. Trump were authorized to speak for Caricom.

“Those Prime Ministers could only speak for themselves, as the Caricom Committee on

Venezuela is comprised of the Prime Ministers of Saint Kitts, Trinidad and Barbados, who were not invited.”

Dr. Gonsalves said the sanctions by the United States against Venezuela are illegal and exacerbated a difficult situation.

He said “the United States is carrying out a creeping coup-de-tat against the legitimate government in Venezuela.”

The Bahamas is standing firm in its decision to support Venezuela’s opposition leader Juan Guaido as interim president of that country, according to Prime Minister Mr. Hubert Minnis.

Off the heels of that multilateral meeting with President Trump in Palm Beach Florida, the prime minister said that The Organization Of American States (OAS) categorically indicated that the election in that country was an illegitimate election.

He said, “our argument was that if the election is illegitimate, that means that the government is illegitimate.”

He added, “if the government is illegitimate, we are a democratic society that believes in democracy; both us and America, which means you must have new elections, and that must be done as quickly as possible.”

When asked if there was any pressure from the U.S. to change the country’s relationship with china in the midst of their ongoing trade war, Dr. Minnis said “absolutely not.”

The other leaders attending the meeting with President Trump were the Prime Minister of Jamaica, the Prime Minister of Saint Lucia, the President of Haiti and the President of the Dominican Republic.

Last week, however, the White House issued a statement indicating that the purpose of last week’s meeting was to strengthen the United States’ “security cooperation and counter china’s predatory eco-

nom ic practices” as well as address the situation in Venezuela.

Prime Minister Minnis also told reporters that there was no discussion or suggestion held at the meeting to have the United States fill in where China is currently investing in The Bahamas.

The two superpowers, China and the United States, have been embroiled in a trade war since September of 2011.

The US slapped tariffs on \$250 billion worth of Chinese products while threatening on \$267 billion more.

China has since retaliated by setting \$110 billion worth of US goods, threatening “quantitative and qualitative measures” affecting US businesses functioning in China.

Last week, Haigang Yin, Charge d’affaires of The People’s Republic China to The Bahamas, called those U.S. accusations “fabricated lies and irresponsible accusations” which are “completely baseless, unreasonable and contradictory to the facts”.

U.S. Embassy to Nassau Charge d’Affaires Stephanie Bowers has since responded advising all leaders to “choose high-quality, transparent, and inclusive foreign investment” in an effort to ensure that development financing avoids unsustainable debt.

Seeking to solidify its position between the two countries, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, this past Thursday, issued a statement stating that The Bahamas enjoys a long-standing, excellent diplomatic and trade relations with both countries — the United States and the People’s Republic of China.

The Bahamas established Diplomatic relations with the United States in 1973 and with the People’s Republic of China in 1997.

matter, which is “the principle of noninterference in the internal affairs of another country”.

He added, “the Prime Minister’s combative and evasive answers to the press upon his return did not inspire confidence that

there was any substantive benefit to The Bahamas.

“Our country should always stand on the foundations upon which our state was created and chief amongst these is the non-interference in the affairs of another state.”, he said.



## GOVERNMENT NOTICES

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ROAD TRAFFIC DEPARTMENT

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THOMAS A. ROBINSON NATIONAL STADIUM

NASSAU, N.P. BAHAMAS

The Public Sitting of the Road Traffic Authority Board Will be held at Thomas A Robinson National Stadium, Off University Drive on the 26<sup>th</sup> March 2019 at 10 am.

The Board will be considering applications for the grant of Self Drive Cars/Scooters, Private Schedule Omnibus Franchises and Variations in accordance with the Road Traffic Act, Chapter 220.

Further, in accordance with the provisions of Road Traffic Act Chapter 220, any person is entitled to object to the grant of any franchise, however a person who would wish to be heard as an objector should within fourteen (14) days of the date of this publication lodge in writing, two (2) copies of his/her objection, setting out therein, all the grounds of his/her objection(s).

The under-mentioned persons or their representatives are required to attend:

SELF DRIVE CARS		
	NAME/ADDRESS	AMOUNT REQUESTING
1.	Schivano L. Saunders Anguilla Ave Nassau Bahamas	2 SD Cars
2.	Kirk A. Bastian Elizabeth Estates Nassau Bahamas	10 SD Cars
3.	Lawar Mcneil Carmichael Road Nassau Bahamas	20 SD Cars
4.	Shanique Missick/Kamal Scott Nassau Village	2 SD Cars
5.	Bryantino Rahming Paradise Island Drive Nassau Bahamas	10 SD Cars
6.	Thomas Forbes Adelaide Road Nassau Bahamas	5 SD Cars
7.	Duran Stubbs Pinewood Gardens Nassau, Bahamas	10 SD Cars
8.	Nerlie Dorvieux Family Street Nassau Bahamas	10 SD Cars
9.	Keisa Cox Farrington Road Nassau Bahamas	6 SD Cars
10.	Calvin Higgs Faith Avenue Nassau Bahamas	5 SD Cars

11	Kimely Bain P.O. Box SB 50629 Hope Gardens Nassau Bahamas	5 SD CARS
12	Alextine Daxon Stapledon Gardens FH14083 Nassau Bahamas	5 SD Cars
13	Sidney Mckenzie Sidmac Car Rentals Ltd.. P.O. Box N-1603 Nassau Bahamas	10 SD Cars
14	Frank Burrows Sir Lynden Pindling Estates Nassau Bahamas	5 SD Cars
15	Annette Thomas-Longley Winton Meadows III Nassau Bahamas	5 SD Cars
16	Valentino Farquharson Prince Charles Nassau Bahamas	3 SD Cars
17	Bertram Sears Wellington Lane Nassau Bahamas	10 SD Cars
18	Alexander Johnson Clairidge Road Nassau Bahamas	3 SD CARS
19	Fred Rahming Hope Garden Nassau Bahamas	5 SD Cars
20	Glenda Roker Pride Estates Nassau Bahamas	5 SD CARS
21	Marvin Comarcho Jr. Fox Hill Road Nassau Bahamas	10 SD Cars
22	Lerone Hanna Marathon Road Nassau Bahamas	5 SD Cars
23	Cyril Greenslade/Gloria Greenslade Carmichael Road Nassau Bahamas	20 SD Cars
24	Olevia B. Anderson Pride Estates Nassau Bahamas	5 SD Cars
25	Santino Evans Shrimp and Hamster Street Nassau Bahamas	5 SD CARS
26	Dirk Simmons & Stephen Sweeting Skyline Lakes Nassau Bahamas	30 SD Cars
27	Miranda Adderley Harmony Hill Road Nassau Bahamas	10 SD CARS
28	Marvin Comarcho Sr. Oakes Field Nassau Bahamas	12 SD Cars
29	Michael Jeudi Minni Street Nassau Bahamas	15 SD Cars
30	Eric Whitely Jr. Dunmoe Drive Nassau Bahamas	20 SD CARS
31	Shanique Bodie Silver Pine Close Nassau Bahamas	10 SD Cars
32	Sypron Brice Flamingo Gardens	15 SD Cars

# PLP: MEETING WITH TRUMP COVERED NO NEW GROUND

Continued from / PAGE 1...

himself Interim President following years of economic crisis.

In a statement, Mr. Mitchell said the party stands with the CARICOM consensus on this

# PM DEBUNKS OPPOSITION'S CLAIMS

BY LEAH COOPER  
Journal Staff Writer

Prime Minister Dr. Hubert Minnis this past weekend fought off claims from the Opposition that his frequent trips to the Family Islands is campaigning on the public's purse.

Dr. Minnis told reporters his visits to the Family Islands are in

keeping with a campaign promise.

He said, "when we came in, I made a solemn commitment to the Bahamian populace that when there are national events, or any matters that are of concern to The Bahamas; we are not Nassau-centric."

"It's essential that the Family Islands know too, and I will go through the

various islands explaining those particular national issues; how we came to those decisions, how we spend their money, etc.," he added.

Adding to his case, the Prime Minister reasoned that many think when he speaks in the capital, all the family islands are tuned in, but that is not the case.

He said, "when you go

there, you'd be surprised that they don't have the proper communication. You'd be surprised that Cable Bahamas is not shown in that particular area or settlement, or on that island or that they don't have ZNS."

He added, "so, going through, they are more than happy to welcome their Prime Minister who comes through and is

showing an interest and explaining what is happening throughout The Bahamas."

The Prime Minister also indicated that he will continue with these trips and added that the Opposition is simply not accustomed to doing such tasks.

"Now when it comes to election, whenever we call election, we will see

what campaigning's all about.," he said.

Dr. Minnis' comments came during a press briefing following his return to the capital Saturday after a meeting with U.S. President Donald Trump in Palm Beach, Florida.

The leaders of Haiti, the Dominican Republic, St Lucia and Jamaica were also invited.

## Bishops Want Action On Guns

Continued from / PAGE 1...

penalty of the law".

They added that guns are too easily available to "criminals, gang members, and others involved in nefarious activities".

The group also called on National Security Minister Marvin Dames to "lead the war on guns by leading efforts to amend relevant legislation which would significantly increase the present penalty for the

illegal gun possession".

They further encouraged concerned and responsible parents to play an active role in this war by deciding to not harbor children engaged in criminality or benefit from their criminal activities.

The group also said that efforts to drastically reduce crime "must be led by the government", but they also urged every Bahamian citizen and resident to participate in this war.

### GOVERNOR GENERAL INSPECTED THE GUARDS AT HMBS CORAL HARBOUR



► Her Excellency the Most Hon. Dame Marguerite Pindling bought remarks and inspected the guards during the Royal Bahamas Defence Force Governor General's Divisions Ceremony at HMBS Coral Harbour on Thursday, March 21, 2019. The occasion is a military tradition that allows the Governor General as the Commander-in-Chief to meet, inspect and address her troops on parade in ceremonial fashion. (BIS Photos/Letisha Henderson)

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33	Nassau Bahamas Deborah Mortimer Soldier Road Nassau Bahamas	3 SD Cars
34	Denard Dean Big Pond Nassau Bahamas	15 SD Cars
35	Laramie Woodside Mackey Street Nassau Bahamas	3 SD Cars
36	Kevin Duncombe # Dignity Gardens Nassau Bahamas	10 SD Cars
37	Julie Johnson Jubilee Gardens Nassau Bahamas	10 SD Cars
38	Samatha Bain Sugar Apple Street Nassau Bahamas	15 SD Cars
39	Marisa Darling Chippingham Nassau Bahamas	10 SD Cars
40	Edward Johnson St Vincent Road Nassau Bahamas	10 SD Cars
41	Jewel Sands Prince Charles Drive Nassau Bahamas	35 Plates
42	Anthony Duvalier Garden View Estate Nassau Bahamas	20 SD Cars
43	Lelia J. Beneby Sanford Drive Nassau Bahamas	5 SD Cars
44	Kevin Duncombe Dignity Gardens Nassau Bahamas	10 SD Cars
45	Monique Taylor Fox Hill Nassau Bahamas	20 SD Cars
46	Curtis Gray and Dana Munnings Coral Heights East Nassau Bahamas	5 SD Cars
47	Aniska P. Johnson Carmichael Road Nassau Bahamas	4 SD Cars
48	Tomico Horton Big Pond Nassau Bahamas	2 SD Cars
49	Tamara Francis Windsor Fields Nassau Bahamas	15 SD Cars
50	Christo D. Edgecombe Lancaster Road Nassau Bahamas	5 SD Cars
51	Stanley Forbes Montague Nassau Bahamas	3 SD Cars
52	Carlisa Armbrster & Colin Mckenzie Teal Street Nassau Bahamas	15 SD Cars
53	Rudolph V.D. Bowe Love Beach Estates Nassau Bahamas	4 SD Cars
54	Keithian D. Gray Claridge Road P.O. Box CR-56173	5 SD Cars



55	Nassau Bahamas Cindy Kelly Wulff Road P.O. Box N-1333 Nassau Bahamas	5 SD CARS
56	Wellington Richards Cowpen Road Nassau Bahamas	6 SD CARS
57	Julian Rolle Stapleton Gardens Nassau Bahamas	5 SD CARS
58	Laverna Baker Skyline Lakes Nassau Bahamas	10 SD CARS
59	Jerome Johnson Minnie Street Nassau Bahamas	10 SD Cars
60	Nathaniel Ferguson Jr. Collins Avenue Nassau Bahamas	15 SD Cars
61	Burshall Lebron Bain Yamacraw Hill Road Nassau, Bahamas	15 SD Cars
62	Dwight R. Longley Sandilands Village Nassau Bahamas	15 SD Cars
63	Dexter Kerr Jr. West Bay Street Nassau Bahamas	20 SD Cars
64	Carvison and Philippa Pratt Sea breeze Lane Nassau Bahamas	5 SD Cars
65	Henry Bain Opulent Drive Nassau Bahamas	30 SD Cars
66	Bancroft Thompson Jr. Malcolm Road Nassau, Bahamas	5 SD Cars
67	Sherrell McSweeney/Harvey Johnson Oakes Field Nassau Bahamas	10 SD Cars
68	William Mccartney Mount Royal Avenue Nassau, Bahamas	12 SD Cars
69	Giovanni Thompson Yamacraw Shores Nassau Bahamas	5 SD Cars
70	Brian Newbold Pinewood Gardens Nassau Bahamas	2 SD Cars
71	Javon Saunders Montague Villas Nassau Bahamas	10 SD Cars
72	Sherese Hamilton Winton Estate Nassau Bahamas	10 SD Cars
73	Hesley Walkine West Bay Street Nassau Bahamas	10 SD Cars
74	Wayde Seymour Marathon Estates Nassau Bahamas	5 SD Cars
75	Newell Bullard Graham Drive Nassau Bahamas	6 SD Cars
76	Coolie Johnson-McDonald Nassau Village Nassau Bahamas	2 SD Cars

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# BPL INVESTIGATES FAKE ENERGY SAVING DEVICES

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the concern being raised relates to the illegal diversion of energy in a potentially unsafe manner.”

It added, “given that

the devices are installed on the power company side of the meter, there is no way for customers to disconnect power without engaging BPL or trying to remove the device with

‘live’ power.”

The company also advised customers that if they are concerned that they may have unknowingly participated in tampering with or diverting

the energy supply, to report the matter as soon as possible.

The power company also indicated that it wishes to strongly caution consumers to report the

installation of these devices voluntarily so that they may be safely removed.

The company added, “BPL will not prosecute, but the customer must

come in and report their suspicions before it is discovered by BPL. Should BPL discover the tampering or diversion, and the customer has not reported it, BPL will prosecute.”

# NURSES AND GOV'T AT IMPASSE

Continued from / PAGE 1...

As for now, the Union President says they have other issues to tend to:

Speaking on the sidelines of the National Tripartite Council

General Assembly,

Union President Ms. Williams

said, “we are now in a state where we are trying

to retain and recruit nurses.

We have a shortage which is causing the

Public Hospitals Authority, specifically the

Princess Margaret Hospital, to run at a deficit.

We’ve had issues such as overtime not being

paid, rather said, it has

been said that overtime is not going to be paid, which causes an imbalance in the Healthcare System. Overtime is to be paid in a timely fashion.

“We realise we want to keep our Bahamian Nurses in the Bahamas, not have them go to Canada or the United States; so we have a challenge, because we have no money, but the question to our government is, if you want to recruit foreign workers, where are you going to find the money, if you cannot pay overtime to the Bahamian Nurses that are presently employed?”

An agreement still has

not been reached by the Government and the Union and the BNU President said the government still wants to pay \$1.75 for a shift change.

“We cannot agree to that. You have to be competitive and, when you come to the bargaining table, you cannot stay at \$1.75, you must see that you have some interest in the worker, and to move to at least \$3.00, they are not going to accept \$1.75.”, she said.

Mr. Jullian Mullings, Secretary General of Union said, “what the BNU has said from the very beginning is that there

is a process that is involved and the BNU would like the government to follow the process that is out in the IRA and the Industrial Agreement, that is all we are asking, is to respect the documents that were agreed upon, if you cannot respect the process that we agreed upon, how can we trust you to apply the process in an unbiased manner?”

“The Public Hospital Authority attitude right now, we have never seen it like this before, and the BNU has dismissed the presence of the Union in negotiating with the Union. We do not want to

meet with persons who cannot make decisions, for the betterment of both parties. Apply the process in an unbiased manner.”, he added.

“There is a shortage of nurses worldwide, also including the Bahamas. There is overcrowding in the Public Hospitals Authority, and the Princess Margaret, in particular.”, Mr. Mullings said.

He also said that the hospital has a very large border population.

“We do not have bed space to take care of the patients, who need to be in hospital.

“A strategy must be in place to reduce that bed shortage, to repair the bed units on a timely basis at the Princess Margaret Hospital.

“The Male Surgical Ward has been out of commission for 5 years, and that is space that can be utilized. The bed units need to be repaired in a timely manner,”he said.

The Union President said “improve the motivation factor, for the employees as well, in particular the Nurses.

“Accident and Emergency needs to be adequately running, to have 15 nurses per shift.

# Teachers Union Demands Talks

Continued from / PAGE 1...

“I wonder when the negotiations started, and I want to say that a lot of times ministers or persons from the other side would give information that is incorrect.

“The Bahamas Union of Teachers presented an

agreement to the government of the Commonwealth of The Bahamas through the Minister of Education June 20, 2018. To date, I do not have a counter proposal, I do not have any information from education as to who are the members of their

team and we do not have a counter proposal.

However I promise you they will get a letter by Monday [today], and they are going to be given seven days for us to get to the table, because our agreement would have expired from June 30, 2018,” Mrs. Wilson said.

Mrs. Wilson added should education officials stench, then the Union would have to file a trade dispute.

“I’m saying it’s sickening that we cannot follow the policies or the laws that are presently in place. And what is even worse is when Education

or the government does not communicate with you.

“If you presented them with a document nine months ago, and they’re having a challenge getting us a counter proposal, then write to us formally, we wrote to you formally. We presented a

draft proposal to you formally, so write to us.

“February 7 was the deadline for them to present their counter proposal to us, but it’s almost April 7.

“So, if you’re having a challenge, just communicate to us,” Mrs. Wilson said.

Continued from / PAGE 3



77	Bernard Bodie Sunset Park Nassau, Bahamas	15 SD Cars
78	Richena Bain Garden Hills Nassau Bahamas	10 SD Cars
79	Marlon Wood Yamacraw Beach Nassau Bahamas	10 SD Cars
80	Theotis Taylor Golden Gates Nassau Bahamas	15 SD Cars
81	Shantelle Seymour Marshall Road Nassau Bahamas	8 SD Cars
82	Treca Whymns & Dion Thompson Pine Cone Ave Nassau Bahamas	15 SD Cars
83	Joydawn Roberts Prince Charles Drive Nassau Bahamas	10 SD Cars
84	Basil Moss Jubilee Gardens Nassau Bahamas	15 SD Cars
85	Darcia Carey Pinewood Gardens Nassau Bahamas	3 SD Cars
86	Lenny Rolle Sunset Meadows Nassau Bahamas	SD Cars 3
87	Amber Johnson Cowpen Road Nassau Bahamas	SD Cars 15
88	Karen Moss-Timothy Tower Heights Nassau Bahamas	SD Cars 2
89	Kemico Sands Nassau East South Nassau Bahamas	SD Cars 2
90	Dario Campbell Fire Trail Road Nassau Bahamas	SD Cars 3
91	Jared Forbes Emmanuel Drive Nassau Bahamas	15 SD Cars
92	Berkley Newton Fire Trail Road Nassau Bahamas	15 SD Cars
93	Aaliyah Rahming Marshall Road Nassau Bahamas	2 SD Cars
94	Dania Ferguson High vista Nassau Bahamas	3 SD Cars
95	Jem Roberts Sea Breeze Estates Nassau Bahamas	10 SD Cars
96	Don Delancy Joe Farrington Road Nassau Bahamas	3 SD Cars
97	Karen Belle Flamingo Gardens Nassau Bahamas	3 SD Cars
98	Arnette Baker Pinewood Gardens Nassau Bahamas	10 SD Cars



99	Amber Johnson Cowpen Road West Nassau Bahamas	15 SD Cars
101	Daniel Stubbs Fleming Street Nassau Bahamas	10 SD Cars
102	Edward Demeritte Mermaid Blvd Nassau Bahamas	13 SD Cars

  

SELF DRIVE SCOOTERS	
NAME/ADDRESS	AMOUNT REQUESTING
1 Rino King Country Club Estates Nassau Bahamas	25 SD Scooter
2 Erica Chea Poets Drive Nassau Bahamas	30 SD Scooter

  

PRIVATE SCHEDULE OMNIBUS	
NAME/ADDRESS	AMOUNT REQUESTING
1 Kristin Archer Garden Hills Nassau Bahamas	1 Private Schedule Plates
2 Gregory Munnings Clifton Heritage Authority Nassau Bahamas	3 Private Schedule Plates
3 Henry Forbes South Beach Nassau Bahamas	4 Private Schedule Plates
4 Geralle Gabriel Joe Farrington Road Nassau Bahamas	1 Private Schedule Plates
5 Barrett Smith Coral Harbour Nassau Bahamas	2 Private Schedule Plates
6 Danny Gibson West Bay Street Nassau Bahamas	5 Private Schedule Plates
7 Nicole Matecki Sweeting Lane Nassau Bahamas	3 Private Schedule Plates
8 Daniel Moss Mark Ave, Buttonwood Nassau Bahamas	3 Private Schedule Plates
9 Shavane Turnquest Big Flower Invest. Ltd. Cable Beach Nassau Bahamas	3 Private Schedule Plates
10 Elroy Knowles Bel Air Estate Nassau Bahamas	2 Private Schedule Plates
11 Joseph Wemyss Honeysuckle LN Nassau Bahamas	5 Private Schedule Plates
12 Tamara Francis Winsor Field Road Nassau Bahamas	3 Private Schedule Plates

Continues on / page 6...

# PASSPORT WOES, PART 2

## Letter to the Editor

Dear Editor:

Day 2 – With a positive mind, I arrived at the Passport office just after 7am the following day to find that the crowd was already forming. There was a gentleman in charge of the ‘sign in’ list and since he knew nothing about yesterday’s promised pre-booked list, as a precaution I added my name to his list which he had numbered (he was already up to the 90s). Apparently (and I stand to be corrected) the task of ‘holding the list’ is allocated to a selected customer waiting on the outside by an early morning member of the office staff – that shows some initiative!

By 7.30am an office member came on the outside to explain the procedure to the crowd, i.e. the overflow from yesterday would be seen first, followed by that morning’s new arrivals. Another ‘lo and behold moment’ occurred as our names from yesterday were called, we were issued a number, let into the sanctum of the freezing cold interior, and directed to our section seats! I was impressed with this manoeuvre - it appeared that things were moving smoothly and we would be served quickly.

I was certainly grateful to have a proper seat today. As we sat and waited, I did a cursory count of the seats arranged in the two sections which numbered around 50, there were 6 properly numbered service cubicles, and an electronic Qmatic numbering monitor on display. I was also impressed to hear, as other persons (starting with the first time babies and parent/s) were let inside to fill the seats, that only those persons who were there for processing would be allowed to take a seat, i.e. if you were not legitimately accompanying a minor, or were an adult tagging along with your family or friend to hog up a seat in comfort and soak up the air-condo, forget it – you were banished to the uncomfortable outer limits! Today the passport office seemed to be ‘cookin’ with gas’!

Eventually we were called by rows to a desk where we showed our passport and NIB card, were given a slip of paper (with no explanation of what it was for), and sat back down to wait, and wait as the service cubicles remained empty, with only one gentleman at work. My high spirits began to lag.

During this time a customer made it known that the cashier had arrived, and that the slip of paper we had been given was supposed to be taken to the window on the other side of the room for payment. A group of us made our way to that area to line up for service. This, however, resulted in a stern reprimand from office staff as well as the defence force officer who appeared on the scene to ask us not to block the area and to return to our seats, still without providing any explanation of what was supposed to happen next.

As we continued to sit, the service cubicle staff members arrived and number D1 (The letter ‘D’ is apparently for renewals) appeared on the electronic board – finally there was action! Well number one was a lonely number that morning, because it was quite a while before another number was called. Some of our group from the day before struck up a conversation about yesterday’s debacle and today’s slow start. We decided to take some initiative, instead of just sitting there doing nothing, and began to make our way over to the cashier in small groups to pay, get our receipt, and sit back down to wait.

All of a sudden the numbering system seemed to go haywire with several numbers changing rapidly from D5 to 11 and directing everyone to cubicle 6 which was already serving a customer. The next number waiting to be served was 6, and although I was number 9, office staff came from behind the counter to demand that I attend their cubicle, in spite of us trying to explain how to count! I presented my documents as outlined on the information form and was told that my original birth and marriage certificates were not acceptable. I pointed out that the information pamphlet said otherwise, and was told in a condescending tone that the information pamphlet was incorrect and “I am telling you what to do!” Well, excuse me for trying to follow the rules as written on your pamphlet, that apparently are really no

longer the rules because you did not bother to correct them before telling me to follow them – too bad, too sad! Is this customer service?

I was told to check my information as entered and was given my receipt which indicated the date I should return at the end of the month for collection at the front office and I intend to let the public know when it is in hand. My processing took less than 10 minutes – I had waited for almost 3 hours! Is this efficient?

I left the passport office after 10am and headed to the Registry on Shirley Street to request and pay for ‘certified copies’ of my documents to take back to the passport office. The Registry process was smoother and quicker but ‘older’ persons should be aware that their documents cannot be processed on the spot because they are not ‘in the computer system’ - you will have to make a return trip after a few hours for pick up! Also, as an important sidebar, these new birth certificates for us older persons do not contain accurate information with respect to a person’s siblings – the Registry needs to address this matter.

It is in the spirit of constructive criticism, therefore, that I offer the following suggestions for consideration by whomsoever it may concern, in the hopes that the passport office experience might become a more efficient and effective one in a more pleasant environment for the customers of 21st century Bahamas:

### 1) PREPARATION:

a) The website for the passport office (and all other government offices) should contain accurate information at all times, and be maintained and updated on a regular basis. Trained Bahamian graphic artists should be hired to design aesthetically pleasing online sites for public use.

b) The General Information pamphlet should not be distributed to the public with incorrect information. The pamphlet should be updated immediately if any changes are made to the process and procedures, which should be pointed out to recipients. It is a photocopied sheet that is easily produced. The registration procedure (i.e. arrival on the outside) is not presently addressed in the pamphlet, and it should be.

c) Bahamian citizens no doubt attempt to obtain information by telephoning the office. It is hoped that the 3 telephone numbers listed on the Information pamphlet and in the telephone directory are operational, and the numbers are answered by knowledgeable, helpful staff.

### 2) COMFORT:

a) The Bahamian public is grateful for the awning that is erected outside for protection from the sun and rain. I expect that this is not adequate to shade larger crowds during the hotter summer months and rainy season, therefore an additional canopy area should be considered.

b) There is certainly no reason why persons should be standing up on the outside in such a haphazard manner. The current benches are a disgrace, and should be replaced by groups of chairs similar to those inside, placed and bolted to the ground in an east to west orientation facing south in order to accommodate many more people under the awning. Several chairs can also be placed facing west in front of the a/c units to the south of the door. Several chairs should also be designated for senior citizens.

3) INFORMATION GRAPHICS - The empty cabinet on the wall outside should be removed and attractive signage (designed by a graphic artist) listing the documentation required for the various categories, as well as the application procedures (which are listed on the information pamphlet) should be placed on the entire western wall for all to see and refer to. Proper procedural/information signage should also be placed on the inside.

4) REGISTRATION ORDER – I make no apology to those in charge of the passport office for having the audacity to be “telling people how to do their job.” Since you, yourselves, do not have to ‘tow the line for service’ it may come as a shock to realize that continually disgruntled customers (that’s us, the Bahamian people, whom you are obligated to serve - do not

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The Bahama  
**Journal**  
Quo Vadis, Bahamas?

Wendall K. Jones  
Publisher/Chief Executive Officer

Kimale P. Jones  
Vice President/Operations

## E D I T O R I A L

# Bahamas Caught-Up in Shame

Throughout the Caribbean Newspaper Editorials are commenting on the meeting between U.S. President Donald Trump and five Caribbean leaders. The meeting really came about due to the support of these countries, including the Bahamas, of the initiative of the American government to support the installation of the Opposition leader in Venezuela to lead that south American nation.

Some months ago, we took the position that our government broke the foreign policy of our nation to interfere in the internal affairs of another sovereign state. Since our independence in 1973, successive governments made this the firm stance of the Bahamian government over the years. Now, the Minnis administration has opened our country to ridicule and derision by Caricom and other countries and entities around the world.

While it is known that the US is our closest neighbour and that we will always want friendly relations with the Americans, it appears that we are afraid of offending the US, or afraid that if the Bahamas did not support the US, then our country would have been victimized by a vindictive Trump administration.

The Bahamas should have stood on the principle established more than 45 years ago. If not, then we should have abstained on the matter.

In Editorial from News Americas in New York City yesterday stated: “Every Caribbean national – whether you live in the Caribbean or the US’ Caribbean Diaspora, should be bowing their heads in shame at this picture.

Here are five of the region’s leaders – Allen Michael Chastanet, Prime Minister of Saint Lucia; Danilo Medina Sánchez, President of the Dominican Republic; Andrew Holness, Prime Minister of Jamaica; Jovenel Moïse, President of the Republic of Haiti; and Hubert A. Minnis, Prime Minister of the Bahamas – representing nations that Donald Trump thinks

of as largely “s-hole” nations, posing with him and Melania and brown-nosing in their comments following a private meeting at 45’s private resort at Mar-a-Lago, Palm Beach, Florida.

“So why would Donald Trump meet with five handpicked leaders and not the entire Caribbean Community (Caricom)? And why would he meet with them at his private resort and not at the White House?

“Those are questions that need to be asked of the five by the taxpayers of their countries paying for the trip, especially since they were quick to heap praise on the most racist, xenophobic, vacuous, petty, dictatorial bully that has ever occupied the office of President of America.

Donald Trump’s agenda was clear – to get the five he believes will support him in his quest to oust the current leadership in Venezuela. So what’s in it for the ‘Fab-Five’?

“It’s left to be seen what pieces of silver they are selling their souls for to the man who put children in cages; who has ramped up deportation of immigrants including from the Caribbean; who continues his racist agenda to scapegoat immigrants; who has ended TPS for Haitians and wants them out; whose rhetoric in support of white nationalism has led to a global rise of hate and hate crimes; who has trampled on American democracy and who continues daily to bully any and everyone, including the media, he feels is critical of him.

“It is shocking to hear the Prime Minister of Jamaica, Andrew Holness, state: “The message from this meeting was that the United States wants to encourage and promote a stronger relationship with the region. We’re very happy with that message. We feel that it’s a message that is long in coming. ... We’re satisfied that there will be instrumental action with that message.”

Really? What action is that? More deportation of Jamaicans from the US?

# BUT's Gives Ministry Seven Days For Counter Proposal

BY BERTHONY MCDERMOTT  
Journal Staff Writer

Bahamas Union of Teacher President Belinda Wilson said she is wondering when negotiation on the new industrial agreement between the union and The Ministry of Education will begin.

Her comments come just a few weeks after Education Minister Jeffrey Lloyd told reporters outside cabinet the negotiations had begun.

Sounding off on the

issue, Mrs. Wilson said that a lot of times Ministers would present information that is not correct.

"The Bahamas Union of Teachers presented an agreement to the government of The Bahamas through the Minister of Education on June 20th, 2018.

"To date, I do not have a counter proposal. I do not have any information from education as to who are the members of their team and we do not have a counter proposal.

"However, I can promise you that they will get a letter by Monday and will be given seven days to come to the table," she said.

The Union's trade agreement expired on June 30th 2018. If the Ministry does not come to the table within the seven days, that will be indicated in the letter, Mrs. Wilson said they will have to file a trade dispute.

"It's sickening that we cannot follow the policies or the laws that are

presently in place and what is even worse is when education or the government does not communicate with you.

"If you presented them with a document nine months ago and they are having a challenge getting us a counter proposal, then write to us formally as we wrote to you formally and we presented a draft proposal to you formally.

"So, write to us and say because February 7th was the deadline for them to present to the counter

proposal to use, but it's almost April 7th," she said.

Mrs. Wilson added that the issue with the Ministry of Education is not communication with the Minister, but the problem she said is with persons under the Minister who do not do their work in an effective manner.

She said, "a lot of times the technocrats get off of the hook because we focus so much on if the President and the Minister are speaking, they don't need to speak

to me.

"What I need is that when there is a problem concerning our members, it is dealt with in a timely and efficient manner.

"What I need is, if there are monies owed to our members, then make sure it placed in the budget and they are paid.

"What I need is when we give them recommendations that make sense based on a policy that they may send to us, then sit with us, go through our recommendations," said Mrs. Wilson.

# PM Says He Has Confidence In Top COP

BY LICEC BASTIAN  
Journal Staff Writer

In the face of heavy public criticism after five high ranking officers of the Royal Bahamas Police Force were added to a list of officers who previously received letters that demanded they take vacation leave with immediate effect, Prime Minister, Dr. Hubert Minnis said he has full confidence in Commissioner of Police

Anthony Ferguson. "We have a very astute, organized Commissioner of Police. The Commissioner will not do anything to endanger the lives [or] the safety of The Bahamas.

"Just as I have confidence in the Commissioner, to send individuals off on vacation, you should have confidence.

"He and his team have already cut crime down

dramatically. In the inner city alone.

"Murder has decreased by 40 percent, when we look at the rates. Armed robbery has decreased by 24 percent. So, if I trust him, and the Bahamian people trust him, I would hope that the press do," Dr. Minnis said.

When asked by reporters, following his recent trip to Mar-a-lago Florida, about the move to have in total eight high

ranking officers put on vacation, Dr. Minnis brushed off concerns adding that "they are entitled to vacation".

"What's wrong with asking individuals to go on vacation? They were asked to take vacation. What's wrong with that.

"When we came in, we initiated a policy, the government initiated a policy. We asked individuals who have long vacation leave, to go on vacation, because this government will not pay you for it. That was a problem of the past. We are watching the Bahamian money," Dr. Minnis said.

He further noted that this action, of sending per-

sons with an extreme number of vacation accrued, has been going on across the board in the civil service.

"I'm not saying it's happening with the police, don't get me wrong. I worked in the public service, I came up through the public service, and it was not unusual that individuals employed in the health sector would have taken their leave but not record it, and then at the end coming near their retirement they would have three four years pay vacation.

"I am not saying that's what happen with the police," Dr. Minnis said.

When asked who would

be named as a replacement for vacant Deputy Commissioner of Police positions, the prime minister reiterated his confidence in the police Commissioner of police.

"The police force is running very well, the Commissioner will decide what he [wants] to put forth, how he wants to rearrange his force," Dr. Minnis said.

The latest of top cops to be put on leave include five Assistant Commissioners of Police, ACP Clayton Fernander, ACP Ashton Greeneslade, ACP Ken Strachan, ACP Leamond Deleveaux, and ACP Theophilus Cunningham.

## BAIC Announces Saturday's Mega Market and partnership with MOE&H to eliminate single-use plastics

The Bahamas Agricultural & Industrial Corporation (BAIC) will hold a Mega Market, Saturday, March 23, 2019 on Gladstone Road in honour of the corporation's 37th year said Chairman, Bishop Gregory Collie at the corporation's headquarters on Friday.

The chairman also announced the corporation will partner with the Ministry of the Environment and Housing to help prepare the country for the elimination of single-use plastics and Styrofoam containers for food and beverage, by 2020 -- adding that some of the items

that will be banned in two years will be shopping bags, straws, utensils and Styrofoam containers. Environment Ministry officials will be at Saturday's market to educate the public as well as pass out reusable bags.

Bishop Collie revealed that the corporation has partnered with BTC in their 'Neighbourhood Connect' program. BTC's brand ambassadors such as MMac, Dyson Knight, MDeez and Najee Dunn will make an appearance at Saturday's 'Mega Market.'

Artisans from around New Providence will be

at the market, which will be open for extended hours from 8:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m.

Bishop Collie noted, "BAIC looks forward to the day when the harvest yields can increase substantially. The only way this can be accomplished is if we can encourage younger persons to get into the business of farming. More farmers means more product."

He added, "The gains for the farmers have been exceptional and we look forward to farmer's markets popping up all over the country as they have begun in Long Island, Grand Bahama, and Eleuthera."

Continued from / PAGE 4



VARIATION		
1	Carlean Moss Marshall Road Nassau Bahamas	Request Public Schedule Omnibus Routes Change
2	Johnathan Woodside East Street South Nassau Bahamas	Request Public Schedule Omnibus Route Change
3	Oscar Saunders Soldier Road Nassau Bahamas	Request Public Schedule Omnibus Route Change
4	Doris Gibson Dowdeswell & Deveaux Street Nassau Bahamas	Request Public Schedule Omnibus transfer
5	Margarette Thompson-Bain Sunset Park Nassau Bahamas	Request Public Schedule Omnibus Transfer
6	Basil Woodside Garden Hills Nassau Bahamas	Request Public schedule Omnibus Route Change
7	Clarence Higgs Prince Higgs Nassau Bahamas	Request Company name change
8	Shandy Higgs Blue Hill Road Nassau Bahamad	Variation of Tour and Self Drive Plates
9	Joseph Bridgewater Coral Height East Nassau Bahamas	Request Tour Plate Transfer
10	Raymond Johnson Southwind Gardens Nassau Bahamas	Request Public Schedule Omnibus Routes Change
11	Rudolph Taylor Sr. Ritz Lane Nassau Bahamas	Request Public schedule Omnibus Route Change
12	Saspress Rolle Palm Beach Street Nassau Bahamas	Request Public schedule Omnibus Routes Change
13	George, Keva and Ricardo Hamilton Malcolm Allotment Nassau Bahamas	Request Self Drive Company Name Change
14	Happy Tour Ltd Nassau Bahamas	Request Company name change
15	Ali Zubair Nassau Bahamas	Request Public Schedule Omnibus Transfer
16	Craig Knowles Hunt and Ramsay Street Nassau Bahamas	Request Public Schedule Omnibus Route Change
17	James Lewis Big Lou Bus Service Nassau Bahamas	Request Public Schedule Omnibus Routes Change
18	Otto Gibbs Winton Meadows Nassau Bahamas	Request Public Schedule Omnibus Transfer
19	Aaron Woodside Venice Bay Blvd Nassau Bahamas	Request Public Schedule Omnibus Routes Change
20	Nassau Transport Company Ltd. Davis Street Nassau Bahamas	Request Self Drive Cars Transfer

END



BAIC Chairman Bishop Gregory Collie announced at Friday's press conference at BAIC headquarters that the corporation will hold a Mega Market, Saturday, March 23, 2019, in honour of its 37th year on Gladstone Road. Also pictured is Ministry of the Environment & Housing/Environment Officer Kendria Ferguson. (BIS Photo/Lionella Gilbert)

# D'Aguilar challenges 'Team Tourism' to continue to excel

Minister of Tourism and Aviation, the Hon. Dionisio D'Aguilar, Wednesday challenged members of Team Tourism to "continuously up its game."

"In our tourism endeavour, we are guided by a powerful mantra: 'It's Better in The Bahamas.' More so than describing a current state of reality, this mantra, is aspirational, urging, propelling, each of us ever onward, to improve the tourism product so that it indeed becomes better in The Bahamas, and The Bahamas becomes the go-to place of rejuvenation for travelers the world over," Minister D'Aguilar said.

"Let us collectively commit to continuously up our game so that The Bahamas becomes a place those of us call home can have a better, more equitable life, and a greater stake in an industry to which two-thirds of our population gives its labour and energy."

Minister D'Aguilar's comments came during a Press Conference

(Wednesday, March 20, 2019) where he announced Tourism's record-breaking performance over the course of 2018.

Mr. D'Aguilar said all indicators project that the upward trend will continue throughout 2019. He applauded "Team Tourism" for the role their collective efforts played in ensuring a record-breaking 2018.

"Tourism is a team effort. Ours is an all-encompassing team that includes me, the Minister of Tourism and Aviation, and my tourism team throughout The Bahamas and overseas, our promotion boards, our hotels, large and small, our contracted marketing and advertising agencies, cruise operators, airlines, our network of travel professionals, every local tourism related operation, each and every Bahamian who works in the industry throughout the length and breadth of The Bahamas.

"As the CEO leading the tourism enterprise, it gives me great pleasure

and pride this afternoon to report that in 2018, our collective effort has yielded results that are record breaking. Our tourism numbers are up by 16.9%. All indicators project that this trend will continue throughout 2019. It will take all of us, united in effort and purpose, to sustain the growth in tourism that we have achieved over the past 12 months."

Minister D'Aguilar said the industry's record-breaking performance in foreign air and sea visitor arrivals to The Bahamas, can be attributed to the collective efforts of Team Tourism and the successful elevation of the awareness and visibility of The Bahamas' brand, that was accomplished via the use of a robust, marketing strategy.

The Bahamas received far more visitors to its shores in 2018 -- 6.6 million -- than in any previous year in its "entire history of being engaged" in the tourism business. The increase in 2018 was experienced nationwide --

Nassau/ Paradise Island, Grand Bahama and in the major Family Islands.

Mr. D'Aguilar also announced that the major hotels on Nassau and Paradise Island recorded a 34% increase in room revenues during 2018, gains not experienced in the past ten years.

The Ministry's robust marketing efforts, Mr. D'Aguilar said, also helped to earn the country a number of prestigious regional and international awards: "To name a few: Caribbean Travel

Journal, the largest website covering Caribbean tourism, bestowed on The Bahamas, awards for Best Caribbean Destination and Best Caribbean Tourism Minister. Of course, for personal reasons, the latter award makes me smile.

"The Bahamas Ministry of Tourism and Aviation received three awards for outstanding travel marketing at the Hospitality Sales & Marketing Association International (HSMAI),

the largest and most prestigious global travel marketing competition.

"In the Public Relations category, the Ministry was honoured with a Gold Adrian Award for excellence in influencer marketing and a Bronze Adrian Award for its communications campaign. In the Advertising category, the Ministry was recognized for advertising innovation for its unique 16-island marketing strategy," Minister D'Aguilar added.

## PASSPORT WOES, PART 2

Continued from / PAGE 5...

appreciate having to waste precious hours, days and months back and forth - we also have a life to attend to) should always be a clear indicator that something is wrong: your system isn't working, and it's time to re-examine your process/procedures.

Grouchy staff members who appear burdened at their job, with no time to take a break or have lunch (as I was informed) are also a clear indication of either and/or not enjoying their work nor their work place; not having the tools or procedures in place to work efficiently and effectively; not being interested in having positive interaction with their customers, but rather use the power of their position against the customer, rather than for the customer's benefit. If you vex and we vex - what good will come of that? Let's work together to find positive solutions for everyone!

In this technological age, there is no need for persons to be standing outside in the wee hours of the morning in an attempt to get served. If the registration process is organized properly, persons can arrive at a sensible hour, be processed quickly, and leave within a reasonable timeframe.

a) There should be a registration desk on the outside with a numbered sheet for customers to sign as they arrive, then have a seat. At 8am a staff member, equipped with a portable waistband PA system, would man the desk with a lap top computer showing a numbered spreadsheet listing the various categories of applicants: new born babies, transfer from old passport to e-passport, e-passport renewals, and any others.

b) Customers would then approach the registration desk in number order when their names are called (using the microphone headset on the PA system instead of shouting), until everyone's name is entered in the appropriate category column, with any senior citizen/disabled persons in attendance being identified so that they can be seen first in their category. Since the passport office is aware of how many applicants they can process in a

day, once that quota is reached, any other applicant's name can be placed on the following day's roster (which should be limited to an additional 5 persons) and the applicant can then leave knowing they can return the following day and be seen, rather than having to wait for 4 hours before being turned away!

c) This registration process would not take long, and the list generated would be the working list for the day's activities. It should be uploaded on to a monitor inside so that applicants can see the progress of their group in real time (just like ordering pizza or waiting to be seen at the Cable office!)

4) PROCESSING LOGISTICS - Once inside, the various categories would then be directed systematically to other staff members' stations where they can have their documents checked to make sure they are in order. They will also receive their form to pay the cashier and get their receipt. Once their number is called for processing, their time spent at the counter would be minimized since their documentation would have already been checked. This method would allow many more persons to be processed in a day. If e-passport renewals require a mere 10-15 minute processing time, there should be one cubicle dedicated to renewals throughout the day so that more renewal applicants can be served.

5) FEEDBACK - A locked 'Suggestion Box' should be available for customers' use and it should be opened by someone at the Permanent Secretary level for weekly review. How many times do the 'higher ups' visit offices under their purview to observe what exactly is taking place and confer with staff on a regular basis for feedback?

These letters have taken quite a lot of effort to write, and it is hoped that they are received positively and will achieve mutually beneficial results for us all.

Yours sincerely,  
Pam Burnside



### PUBLIC NOTICE MINISTRY OF PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT OF PHYSICAL PLANNING

The public is hereby notified that the Town Planning Committee has scheduled a public meeting for interested persons and organizations to discuss the application on behalf of The Estate of the Late John F. Morley to rezone a tract of land, approximately twenty-three (23) acres in size, for commercial land use.

The subject property is zoned for low-density residential land use and is bounded on the north by John F. Kennedy Drive, bounded on the south by Munnings Road and immediately west of South Westridge Estates.

Please note that the meeting is scheduled to take place on Thursday, 14<sup>th</sup> March 2019 at 7:00 p.m. in the public meeting room of the Department of Physical Planning.

The file (PSA/139/2017) is available for viewing at the Department of Physical Planning, located in the Aventura Plaza on John F. Kennedy Drive, during normal working hours.

Interested persons and organisations are invited to review the information on file and provide written comments to the Acting Director of Physical Planning within twenty-one (21) days of the date of this notice.

Submissions should be made via P.O. Box N -1611 Nassau, Bahamas or fax (242) 328 - 3206.

Further inquiries should be made to the Acting Director via Tel: (242)322-7550/2 or (242)328-3202 or [CHARLESZONICLE@BAHAMAS.GOV.BS](mailto:CHARLESZONICLE@BAHAMAS.GOV.BS)

Signed

Charles B. Zonicle  
Acting Director of Physical Planning

