



10 August 2026

STATEMENT BY THE REGIONAL JUDICIAL AND LEGAL SERVICES COMMISSION

The Regional Judicial and Legal Services Commission (RJLSC/Commission) is aware of the recent allegations concerning the administration of the Caribbean Court of Justice (Court) and the independence of its Judges. The Commission recognises the seriousness of these matters and the importance of addressing them in a manner that protects public trust and confidence in the Court and the broader administration of justice throughout the Caribbean. As a result, the RJLSC believes that these concerns are best addressed through the established internal governance mechanisms of the Court and the Commission, and through a transparent and independent review undertaken in the best interest of the Region.

Established on 23 July 2003, the Commission is an independent, non-political body constituted under the [Agreement Establishing the Caribbean Court of Justice](#). It brings together distinguished legal professionals, public service leaders, and civil society representatives from across the Caribbean to serve as Commissioners*. The Commission comprises a diverse membership with decades of expertise and a shared commitment to integrity, transparency, and excellence in judicial governance and institutional oversight.

The Commission is responsible for the appointment of the Judges and staff of the Caribbean Court of Justice, sets their work terms, allowances, oversees disciplinary action and protects the court from political interference. The Commission maintains an “open door policy” for all members of staff and Judges, to address concerns and seek resolution on any matter relating to the execution of their functions and overall wellbeing.

In the twenty-three years since the establishment of the Commission, the RJLSC has enjoyed fruitful working relationships with the Court. In these two decades, Commissioners have operated independently, without interference or influence - neither from the Court nor external actors.

The Commissioners remain confident in this storied history of autonomy enjoyed under the leadership of all of the Court’s Presidents as Chairs of the Commission, past and present. At the same time, it emphasises that no conclusions should be drawn about the allegations until they have been examined fairly and objectively. The RJLSC remains committed to continuing its independent operations and service to Member States for years to come.

Members of the public are encouraged to learn more about the Commission’s history, roles, functions and Commissioners by visiting [www/ https://rjlsc.org/](https://rjlsc.org/).

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***_ARTICLE V ESTABLISHMENT OF THE REGIONAL JUDICIAL AND LEGAL SERVICES COMMISSION**

1. There is hereby established a Regional Judicial and Legal Services Commission which shall consist of the following persons:

(a) the President who shall be the Chairman of the Commission; (b) two persons nominated jointly by the Organisation of the Commonwealth Caribbean Bar Association (OCCBA) and the Organisation of Eastern Caribbean States (OECS) Bar Association; (c) one chairman of the Judicial Services Commission of a Contracting Party selected in rotation in the English alphabetical order for a period of three years; (d) the Chairman of a Public Service Commission of a Contracting Party selected in rotation in the reverse English alphabetical order for a period of three years; (e) two persons from civil society nominated jointly by the Secretary-General of the Community and the Director General of the OECS for a period of three years following consultations with regional non-governmental organisations; (f) two distinguished jurists nominated jointly by the Dean of the Faculty of Law of the University of the West Indies, the Deans of the Faculties of Law of any of the Contracting Parties and the Chairman of the Council of Legal Education; and (g) two persons nominated jointly by the Bar or Law Associations of the Contracting Parties

About the Regional Judicial and Legal Services Commission (RJLSC)

The Regional Judicial and Legal Services Commission was established pursuant to Article V(1) of the Agreement Establishing the Caribbean Court of Justice (“the Agreement”) executed by the Heads of Government of the Caribbean Community on the 14th day of February 2001. By virtue of the deposit of Instruments of Ratification or Accession in accordance with Article XXXIV, by three Member States of the Caribbean Community, this Agreement entered into force on the 23rd day of July 2003.

We are a dedicated Commission established under the Agreement Establishing the Caribbean Court of Justice, bringing together distinguished legal professionals, public service leaders, and civil society representatives. Our diverse membership embodies decades of expertise and a shared commitment to integrity, transparency, and excellence in judicial governance and institutional oversight.

The Regional Judicial and Legal Services Commission (RJLSC) is responsible for ensuring the independent and effective administration of the Caribbean Court of Justice (CCJ). Its core functions include appointing Judges (other than the President) and Court staff, determining their terms and conditions of service, remuneration, and benefits, exercising disciplinary oversight, and terminating appointments in accordance with the Agreement.

For more information please contact:

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