



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Disturbed at the Looming Uncertainty following meeting of the Minister and Commissioner of Police

Unfortunately, following what should have been a session to demonstrate unification and leadership among the leaders of the Ministry of National Security, the country is now left more concerned about the management of law and order within the country.

The new year began with the hapless circumstances of the blocking of traffic to the Norman Manley International Airport. Minister Montague publicly requested a report and we eagerly anticipated the findings of this report as we believe that a fair assessment must be conducted and the country advised. More so, we need to be assured that the proper directives would be in place to protect our National Airport; locals and visitors would never experience such great inconvenience again and restore confidence in the people of Jamaica that forward planning and leadership still exists among our national administrators.

Today, eight (8) days into the New Year we are boasting approximately thirty-eight (38) murders and unfortunate rumour and uncertainty prevails regarding the continued employment of Commissioner Quallo. The apparent division between the Minister and the Commissioner of police communicates negatively to the business community and wider citizens. The PSOJ deplors the uncertainty and apparent absence of an effective and strategic crime fighting plan; and the emergence of the ugly spectre of political interference which we thought had been left behind us

thirty 30 years ago. We are of the view that both the government and opposition should avoid political scoring and divisive undermining of each other's position and settle on a clear and coherent National direction to protect the security of our country.

If there is a question of the performance of the incumbent Commissioner of Police, we need to know that due process is being observed and that the established professional channels for action are being pursued.

We look forward to receiving an update on the issues referred to above from the Ministry of National Security. There needs to be urgent and clear communication to the public of a stable leadership which has the safety and security of the public as its primary concern. The rumours and uncertainty do not allow for increased confidence in the management of the Nation's Security at this time.

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