

GENERAL LEGAL COUNCIL
ANNUAL REPORT
APRIL 1, 2015 – MARCH 31, 2016

INTRODUCTION

The General Legal Council was established in January 1972 by the Legal Profession Act. Its statutory function is concerned with the legal profession and in particular the organization of legal education and the upholding of standards of professional conduct. By virtue of the Legal Education Act, the Council's function as the Legal Education Authority is vested in the Council of Legal Education which is established by Agreement among several Commonwealth Caribbean countries.

Apart from Law Officers of the Crown and legal officers of Government who are *ex officio* entitled to practise as such, no person can lawfully practise as an attorney who does not hold a practising certificate issued by the Council. Practising Certificates are issued annually on satisfying certain requirements, including the payment of an annual fee.

The Council is required to appoint from among its members or former members, Judges or retired Judges and attorneys of not less than ten (10) years standing, the Disciplinary Committee which adjudicates on complaints of misconduct by attorneys in any professional respect.

The Council is authorized to make rules prescribing the standards of professional etiquette and professional conduct for attorneys and to direct that any specified breaches of such rules constitute misconduct in a professional respect.

One of the most significant developments in 2013 was the implementation of mandatory Continuing Legal Professional Development pursuant to the amendments to the Legal Profession Act in the previous December.

In November 2013, the Minister of National Security executed the Proceeds of Crime (Designated Non-Financial Institution) (Attorneys-at-Law) Order. Effective June 1, 2014, attorneys-at-law in various areas of practice, including those who practise

conveyancing, will be brought within the “regulated sector” for the purposes of the Proceeds of Crime Act. However, the operation of the order has been stayed by an order of the court, pending the completion of proceedings brought by the Jamaican Bar Association.

The Council maintains a website at <http://www.generallegalcouncil.org/>.

The following is a report on the activities of the Council and the Disciplinary Committee during the twelve months ending on March 31, 2016.

GENERAL LEGAL COUNCIL

a. MEMBERSHIP (ending February 24, 2016)

The Hon. B. St. Michael Hylton, O.J. Q.C. - Chairman	
Mr. Richard Ayoub	Mrs. Denise Kitson, Q.C.
Mr. Maurice Bailey	Mr. N. Patrick McDonald
Dr. the Hon. Lloyd Barnett	Ms. Carlene McFarlane
Mrs. Pamela Benka-Coker, Q.C.	Mr. Lowel Morgan
Mr. Ransford Braham, Q.C.	The Hon. Justice C.D. Morrison
Miss Saverna Chambers	Miss Hilary Reid
Mrs. Michele Champagnie	Mrs. Jeanne Robinson-Foster, C.D.
Mrs. Nicole Foster-Pusey, Q.C.	Mrs. Donna Scott-Mottley
Ms. Gillian Johns	Mr. Allan Wood, Q.C.

Ms. Gillian Johns was appointed to the Council in May 2015. She resigned and Mr. N. Patrick McDonald was subsequently appointed in September.

The term of the Council ended on February 24, 2016 and Mr. Allan Wood Q.C. was elected Chairman of the General Legal Council. The membership of the new Council is as follows:

Mr. Allan Wood, Q.C. - Chairman	
Mr. Richard Ayoub	Mrs. Denise Kitson, Q.C.
Mrs. Pamela Benka-Coker, Q.C.	Mr. N. Patrick McDonald

Mr. Ransford Braham, Q.C.	Mr. Lowel Morgan
Hon Mr. Justice Patrick Brooks, C.D.	Mrs. Janet Morrison
Miss Saverna Chambers	Miss Hilary Reid
Mr. Adley George Duncan, Snr.	Mrs. Jeanne Robinson-Foster, C.D.
Mrs. Nicole Foster-Pusey, Q.C.	Mr. Walter Scott, Q.C.
Mr. Linton P. Gordon	Mrs. Donna Scott-Mottley
The Hon. B. St. Michael Hylton, O.J. Q.C.	

b. MEETINGS

During the period April 1, 2015 to March 31, 2016, a total of ten (10) regular monthly meetings were held as follows:-

2015: April 22, June 24, July 22, September 23, October 25, November 25 and December 16

2016: January 27, March 2 and March 23

The Council also held a planning retreat on May 23, 2015.

ATTENDANCE OF MEMBERS AT MEETINGS:

NAMES	Times Possible	Times Present	Times Absent	Apologies Tendered
The Hon. B. St. Michael Hylton, O.J., Q.C.	10	9	1	1
Mr. Richard Ayoub	10	9	1	1
Dr. The Hon. Lloyd Barnett, O.J.	8	3	5	3
Mrs. Pamela Benka-Coker, Q.C.	10	8	2	2
Mr. Ransford Braham, Q.C.	10	9	1	1
The Hon. Mr. Justice Patrick Brooks, C.D.	2	2	0	0
Ms. Saverna Chambers	10	8	2	2
Mrs. Michele Champagne	10	4	6	4
Mr. A. George Duncan	2	2	0	0
Mrs. Nicole Foster-Pusey, Q.C.	10	2	8	8
Mr. Linton Gordon	2	2	0	0
Ms Gillian Johns	3	1	2	0
Mrs. Denise Kitson, Q.C.	10	9	1	1
Mr. N. Patrick McDonald	4	2	2	2
Ms. Carleen McFarlane	8	7	1	1
Mr. Lowel Morgan	10	10	0	0
The Hon. Mr. Justice C. D. Morrison, C.D.	8	6	2	2
Mrs. Janet Morrison	2	2	0	0

Ms. Hilary Reid	10	8	2	2
Mrs. Jeanne Robinson-Foster, C.D.	8	3	5	5
Mrs. Donna Scott-Mottley	10	4	6	2
Mr. Walter Scott, Q.C	2	1	1	1
Mr. Allan Wood, Q.C.	10	9	1	0

3. STAFF

The staff complement was a total of seventeen (17) persons. The following adjustments have been effected:

Ms. Annett Sealy was made redundant on September 30, 2015 and Ms. Natalie Creary assumed the position of General Counsel and Manager, Investigations Division on November 27, 2015.

Ms. Norda Smith resigned effective September 18, 2015 and Ms. Arlene Chevannes was appointed to the position of Accountant on November 22, 2015.

4. SALARIES

There was no salary increase during this period.

5. GENERAL LEGAL COUNCIL'S STAFF TRAINING

Some members of staff attended training sessions on Social Etiquette, Personal & Professional Development, Introduction to Human Resources Management and Confronting the "Tough Stuff": Advanced Management Skills for Supervisors.

6. GENERAL LEGAL COUNCIL OFFICES

Refurbishing of the space previously occupied by the Offices of the Public Defender at 78 Harbour Street started in February 2016 and was completed in March and the offices of the General Legal Council now occupy that space.

Three hearing rooms were also created for Disciplinary Committee hearings on Saturdays and during the week.

7. DEBIT/CREDIT CARD PAYMENT SYSTEM

The card payment and on-line PayPal payment systems which were implemented to facilitate the payment of practising certificate and CLPD seminar fees by attorneys-at-law have been well utilized. The Council has decided to move completely to a cashless system for security related reasons.

8. APPEALS FROM DECISIONS OF THE DISCIPLINARY COMMITTEE

During the reporting period an appeal was filed in the Court of Appeal by Humphrey McPherson against disciplinary decisions made against them.

9. OTHER COMMITTEES

The tenure of the Council expired on February 24, 2016 and the life of the Committees listed below which were established by the Council also expired.

COMMITTEE	CHAIR PERSON
Accounting Reports	Hilary Reid
Accreditation	Donna Scott-Mottley
Advertising Regulatory	Daniella Gentles-Silvera
CLPD	Lloyd Barnett
Compensation Fund	John Bassie
Finance and Accounting	Lowel Morgan
Information Technology	Denise Kitson
Proceeds of Crime Act	Allan Wood
Protection of Client's Assets	Ransford Braham
Regulatory Reform	Lowel Morgan

In March 2016, the following Chairpersons were appointed:

COMMITTEE	CHAIR PERSON
Accounting Reports	Hilary Reid
Accreditation	Denise Kitson
Advertising Regulatory	Daniella Gentles-Silvera
CLPD	Justice C. D. Morrison
Compensation Fund	John Bassie
Finance and Accounting	Lowel Morgan
Information Technology	Denise Kitson
Proceeds of Crime Act	Allan Wood
Protection of Client's Assets	Ransford Braham
Regulatory Reform	Lowel Morgan

10. CONTINUING LEGAL PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT (CLPD)

The CLPD Committee of the General Legal Council was established in 2013 and was chaired by Dr. Lloyd Barnett during the period February 2013 to May 2015. He was succeeded as Chairman by Justice C. Dennis Morrison.

1. The scope of the Committee's work is:

- i) To design and present courses for the purpose of the Continuing Legal Professional Development of Attorneys-at-Law;
- ii) To arrange programs for the delivery of CLPD seminars on an island wide basis.

2. In carrying out its functions, the CLPD Committee encourages the conduct of research in the preparation of papers on a variety of legal subjects. Regarding

the mandatory requirements for presentations in Ethics and Client Welfare, Business Management and Finance, the Committee ensures that there are adequate seminars in these subjects.

3. In fulfilling its mandate where seminars are accessible island wide, the Committee regularly holds seminars in Kingston, Mandeville, Montego Bay, Ocho Rios, as well as in Port Antonio and Whitehouse, Westmoreland.
4. The number of the seminars held during the period April 2015 – March 2016, were:
 - Two in Mandeville;
 - Ten in Ocho Rios,
 - Six in Montego Bay;
 - Three in Westmoreland;
 - Seventeen in Kingston.

The topics, number of presentations and number of attorneys who attended these seminars are presented in Appendix A.

5. Under the Chairmanship of Dr. Barnett, the Committee successfully conducted its first weekend Conference in May 2015. The Conference was held in collaboration with the Caribbean Court of Justice (CCJ) under the theme "*Ten years of Adjudication by the CCJ*" and was attended by Legal Practitioners from the Caribbean and North America.

Regional Seminars (Jamaica)

6. The aim of holding regional seminars are:
 - To provide accessible CLPD opportunities for attorneys who reside or practice in different areas of Jamaica;
 - To provide attorneys with the opportunity to complete their CLPD credits during a single weekend;
 - To present specific legal topics that may be associated with particular regions;
 - To reduce administrative expenses;
 - To facilitate the attorneys' compliance with their CLPD obligations.

7. Two regional weekend seminars were held during the period with each seminar being attended by over three hundred attorneys
 - i) December 2015 - Riu Hotel, Mammee Bay, St Ann;
 - ii) February 2016 - Sandals White House Westmoreland.

Future Developments

Technology – Online Classroom:

8. The Committee is currently investigating the possibility of developing and delivering CLPD programmes via online distance-learning methods to enhance:
 - Development of consistent, high quality online education that meets or exceeds the accepted standards of the Continuing Legal Professional Development Regulations and International Continuing Legal Education standards.
 - The development of two hundred online audio and video CLPD seminars;
 - The production of sixty digital publications with questions and answers for the purpose of obtaining CLPD credits for writers of articles;
 - Conducting of live streaming of seminars which will be accessible globally;
9. As part of its mandate to increase efficiency in communication, the Committee has implemented electronic processing of Certificates of Participation which are sent via email and are automatically generated through the GLC's database. Soft copies of seminars' papers are also distributed by email to the attendees.

Financial Considerations

10. The Committee is conscious of the high costs associated with the CLPD programme. Possible cost containment measures include:
 - i) Identifying less costly alternative venues;
 - ii) Designing seminars to attract both legal and non-legal attendees e.g. accounting professionals, real estate practitioners etc.

11. The Committee continues to express its gratitude to the GLC's administrative staff who have assisted with the successful delivery of the CLPD programmes.

APPENDIX A

Seminars	Number of Presentations	Attendees
EC1014 - Disciplinary System-Complaints-Professional Misconduct and Adjudication-Cooperation-Compliance	3	306
AMF209 - The Challenges of Entrepreneurship	1	44
CLA(S1) - Plenary Session Ten Years of Jurisprudence in the CCJ	2	457
CLB(S2) - Legal Composition; Writing Judgments; Writing Arbitral Awards; Writing Opinions	1	181
EC1015(S3) - Relationship between the Bench and Bar – Traditions and Ethics	1	243
CLC(S4) - Abuse of Process in Criminal Cases	3	401
EMF208(S5) - Litigation Costs: Recovery and Attorneys' Obligations	1	245
CLE (S6) - The Initiation and Conduct of Criminal Prosecutions: Criminal Prosecutions and the Constitutional Role of the Office of the DPP in the Criminal Justice System. <i>"Is there a right to bring a private prosecution or is it dependent on the grant of a fiat by the DPP?"</i> The Role of the DPP in the initiation and conduct of Criminal Prosecutions	1	215
CLF(S7) - Procedure and Advocacy in the Original Jurisdiction of the CCJ	1	158
CL303 – <i>"Getting to Yes"</i> : Bail Applications in the Courts of Jamaica	3	269
EC1012 – Attorney's Professional Undertakings on the Courts and in Contracts	2	367
CL304 – Civil Malicious Prosecution and Abuse of Process - A New Lease on Life	2	385
CL305 - The Administrator General's (Amendment) Act, 2015	1	329
CL306 – Estate Planning	1	335

AMF2010 – “You have Written Your Strategic Plan Now What” Business Management	3	599
EC1016 – Contemporary Ethical Issues in Criminal Law Practice	2	530
EC104 – Duty to Court -Candour, Courtesy, Co-operation	1	306
CL308 – The Committal Proceedings Acts and Rules	1	54
EC1017 – Conduct in Court: Interacting with the Court	2	451
CL307 – The DNA Evidence Act, 2015 - A Legal and Technical Overview	1	231
CL310 – The Road Traffic Act: Proposed Changes to Come	1	97
EC1018 – Ethical Considerations in the Practice of Conveyancing - Part 1 Pre Contract Realtors	3	504
CL309 - Labour Law, Ganja Liberalization and its Impact on Contractual Rights and Obligations	1	280
Total	38	6,987

11. ACCREDITATION COMMITTEE

Mrs. Donna Scott-Mottley resigned from the Chairmanship of, the Accreditation Committee when the life of that Council ended in February 2016 and Mrs. Denise Kitson was subsequently appointed to the position of Chairman.

a. During the period January - December 2015, the Committee received sixty seven (67) applications from institutions, for accreditation of courses to be presented by them and seventy seven (77) applications from individuals for accreditation of activities in which they had participated or which they proposed to present.

b. The data also discloses that for 2015, of a total number of 1,833 attorneys, eight hundred and fifty-three (853) are compliant in their participation in the CLPD

programme. Unfortunately eight hundred and seventy five (875) are outstanding. Fifty nine (59) have received exemptions; six (6) are within their extended period for compliance and reports are required of forty (40) attorneys in order for them to be compliant.

c. One hundred (100) attorneys applied for exemptions, mainly attorneys employed outside the jurisdiction, but who wish to maintain their practising certificates, and we also received applications from attorneys who are unemployed in Jamaica, ill and/or elderly and who have ceased practicing. The Committee has required statutory declarations from persons in Jamaica who are unable to produce independent proof of their particular reason for seeking an exemption. The Director of CLPD, Ms Mclean has submitted for Council's consideration a draft of a proposed policy to treat with retired attorneys.

d. There has been a marked difference in the number of applications for exemptions for the period February – December 2014 when compared with the year January to December 2015. The reporting period under review saw a reduction by 200 in the number of applications for exemptions and extension of time. This results primarily from the implementation of the policy for automatic extensions of time in stated circumstances.

e. Notwithstanding that reduction, the number of applications for accreditation already seen during the first half of 2016 suggests an exponential increase in requests for accreditation of courses to be presented and the members of the Committee are satisfied that without more persons appointed to the Committee to review the papers, the Committee will be unable to adequately fulfil its mandate. The Committee has submitted to the Council for review a proposal for the implementation of a policy to grant provider status to certain institutions which have a proven track record in the delivery of creditable seminars, such as the CLPD Committee of the GLC, the JBA and the Universities.

e. The Accreditation Committee wishes to place on record its gratitude to Mrs Donna Scott Mottley for her sterling leadership in piloting the Committee through the teething pains of the process. Kudos are also due to Ms Mclean and Ms Ferril for their dedicated and committed service in ensuring the successful processing and implementation of the work of the CLPD and Accreditation Committees.

12. ADVERTISING COMMITTEE

A statutory committee was established as required by the Canons which has as its main function the reviewing of specific proposed advertisements by individual practitioners

and law firms, as to their suitability and compliance with the Advertising Rules. There were no submissions to the Committee during the period.

13. ADVERTISING REGULATORY COMMITTEE

A second non-statutory committee was set up to deal with a wider range of issues including reviewing and making recommendations for changes to the Canons, as well as monitoring and reviewing possible breaches by Attorneys-at-Law of the existing advertising rules. This Committee is chaired by Mrs. Daniella R. Gentles-Silvera.

During the period under consideration the Advertising Regulatory Committee met eight (8) times and did the following:

- i. Wrote letters to Attorneys-at-Law advising them that their websites, advertisements of their practice in the Yellow Pages of the telephone directory and/or their letterheads are in breach of the Canons of the Legal Profession (Canons of Ethics) Rules and they should take steps to rectify these breaches. Most of the breaches relate to claims by Attorneys to be specialists and experts in certain areas of practice in the absence of a certificate of accreditation from the General Legal Council, and situations where the Attorneys are practicing as sole practitioners but misleading the public by naming their practices as themselves and company or themselves and associates. Some Attorneys have been incorporating their law practices and practicing as companies, which is not permissible under the law. Letters were therefore written to these Attorneys in this regard.
- ii. Reviewed the Legal Profession (Canons of Professional Ethics) Amendment Rules, 1998 and proposed amendments to same. The proposed amendments were sent to the General Legal Council in October, 2015.

The members of the Committee for the period were:

1. Daniella Gentles-Silvera;
2. Debra McDonald;
3. Julianne Mais Cox;
4. Anna Gracie;
5. Stacey Mitchell;
6. Carleen McFarlane;
7. Delrose Campbell; and
8. Mikhail Jackson.

14. INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY COMMITTEE

1. The Information Technology (IT) Committee continues to interface with the staff of the General Legal Council (the Council) on matters of concern relating to the improvement of the Information Technology (IT) systems in house in order to enable trouble free use and manipulation of the processes to carry out the work of the Council.
2. The website continues to provide immediate and reliable information to members of the profession as well as to the public at large on matters concerning lawyers. With each passing year there has been an exponential increase in the use of the site for several purposes. A Report on its use is attached, as appendix "C".

15. ACTION TO PROTECT CLIENTS' PROPERTY COMMITTEE

The following comprise the matters that have been addressed or are being addressed by the committee:

- a. The two (2) sale transactions in which Ms. Clover Graham, deceased was acting, has been resolved.
- b. The Committee had received a report on the audit of the files from Ms. Cynthia Levy Brown. Miss Natalie Creary, the Council's General Counsel and Manager of Investigations Division, will be carrying out some follow up work on these files so that these matters may be resolved.
- c. Although Mrs. Brown-Chattoo had not taken over the law practice of Mr. Roylan Barrett, deceased, she is in possession of his files, having received them from Mrs. Barrett. The committee had concluded that it was satisfied as to the arrangements for these matters and has written to Mrs. Brown-Chattoo for an update on whether these matters have all been resolved. In relation to the ongoing matter that the NHT has been writing about, the Committee will be seeking further information from Mrs. Brown-Chattoo with a view to perhaps intervening in a limited manner to assist in resolving the outstanding issues.
- d. With respect to the estate of the late Ms. Carol Vassell, the Committee filed the necessary documents to intervene, which has been contested by Captain Paul Beswick, who has been retained by the executor of the estate. The Committee wrote to Captain Beswick with a view to amicably resolving this matter, but has yet to receive a response. A follow-up letter has been written to Captain Beswick, but the Committee is willing to have the Court make necessary orders in the event that there is no agreement between the parties.

- e. The committee is to confirm whether the relevant documents have been filed in relation to intervening in the practice of Mr. Damion Masters. If so, we await a date for hearing from the Supreme Court.
- f. With respect to the arrangements in place for the practice of the late Mr. Earle DeLisser, the committee is prepared to recommend that they are satisfactory as set out in the letter dated April 5, 2016 from Hamilton & Bennett, attorneys-at-law.
- g. With respect to the arrangements that were proposed for the practice of Mr. Barrington Frankson, the Committee has written to Mrs. Jacqueline Cummings for an update/progress report, in addition to requesting further information on the long term plans, if any. The original arrangements were made for the short term, but given that Mr. Frankson's illness persists, further plans may have to be put in place.
- h. Finally, the Committee will be writing a letter to Mr. Akin Adaramaja to follow up as he is to inform us of the arrangements he has made for his former clients.

16. ACCOUNTING REPORTS COMMITTEE

During the year under review the Committee did the following:

- a. Reviewed the Accounting Reports Regulations and recommended changes to the Regulations for the consideration of Council;
- b. Commenced preparation of the Amendments to the Accounting Reports Regulations (this is still ongoing);
- c. Considered several policy issues raised by attorneys and reviewed the Accounting Reports Regulation in order to provide guidance to management regarding the interpretation of the Regulations or the policy of the GLC towards the issue raised
- d. Prepared standard form responses for Management regarding reminders to attorneys re filing of Accounting Reports and requests for extensions
- e. Reviewed compliance with the Accounting Reports regulations and recommended next steps

During the period April 1, 2105 to March 31, 2016 there were 2,966 attorneys on the roll and there were 2,075 Practising Certificates issued.

Accountant Reports or Declarations are generally due by June 30 each year for the preceding calendar year (unless an attorney has a different 12 month period as his/her financial year). The average percentage compliance for the years 2000-2015 is 92%. As at April 2016, compliance in respect of the year 2015 stood at 26%, however, we continue to receive accountant reports and declarations in respect of this year, and anticipate the usual deluge of declarations and accounting reports by June 30, 2016.

The compliance level from 2000-2015 as at April 30, 2016 stood as follows:

Year	No. Attorneys in Practice	No. Attorneys with Submissions	No. Attorneys Outstanding	Percentage Compliance	Percentage Non-Compliance
2000	928	813	115	87.61%	12.39%
2001	948	844	104	89.03%	10.97%
2002	934	847	87	90.69%	9.31%
2003	971	884	87	91.04%	8.96%
2004	1011	924	87	91.39%	8.61%
2005	1067	981	86	91.94%	8.06%
2006	1120	1034	86	92.32%	7.68%
2007	1159	1080	79	93.18%	6.82%
2008	1181	1120	61	94.83%	5.17%
2009	1263	1196	67	94.70%	5.30%
2010	1333	1267	66	95.05%	4.95%
2011	1404	1321	83	94.09%	5.91%
2012	1501	1382	119	92.07%	7.93%
2013	1633	1467	166	89.83%	10.17%
2014	1790	1438	352	80.34%	19.66%
2015	1873	492	1381	26.27%	73.73%

17. COMPENSATION FUND COMMITTEE

The Compensation Fund ("the Fund") has been established pursuant to Section 42 of the Legal Profession Act.

The Fund has been established to compensate persons for losses suffered as a result of any act or omission by attorneys. Regulations are to be promulgated that will make provision for the funding and operation of the Fund.

The Council has established the Compensation Fund Committee, chaired by Mr. John Bassie, to consider the implementation, administration and regulatory procedures that will be required. This would include consideration of the regulations that will be required and how similar funds operate in other jurisdictions.

The Committee has amended the rules and regulations for the Compensation Fund and these amendments were based on the Council's recommendations as an outcome of the 2015 retreat and recommendations from the Chairman of the General Legal Council.

The team has now finalized these documents and has prepared them for final review and approval by Council at the General Legal Council's retreat to be held in July 2016.

The team has worked hard to bring the Compensation Fund to fruition and it anticipates that upon final approval it will move quickly to the next stage of implementation, whereupon it is anticipated that the Compensation Fund will be operational on or before January 2017.

18. FINANCE AND ACCOUNTING COMMITTEE

During the period April 1, 2015 – March 31, 2016, the Finance and Accounting Committee provided support and guidance to both the Council and the Chief Executive Officer regarding the prudent management of the Council's financial and accounting activities.

The Committee met on seven occasions during the year and continued to provide appropriate supervision and direction especially in the areas of revenue enhancement and expense containment, while providing sound comprehensive advice to maximise potential financial investment opportunities with banks and other financial institutions.

In addition, the committee also actively participated in the recruitment and engagement of a qualified and suitable Accountant to fill this recently vacant position.

One of the most significant contributions made by the Committee during the period under review was to periodically oversee and supervise all inflows and outflows as stipulated by the Council's revenue and expense budget. This ensured that the Council's finances were efficiently monitored and ensured the accuracy and timeliness of the monthly financial reports and other pertinent financial and administrative information.

The Committee also maintained a close working relationship with the external auditors thereby ensuring that satisfactory standards continued to be in place with all the internal accounting and administrative procedures.

The Committee Members were:

- Lowel Morgan – Chairman
- Stuart Stimpson
- Stephen Shelton Q.C
- Richard Ayoub
- Michelle Morris

19. PRACTISING CERTIFICATE FEES

The following fee structure remains in effect:

Less than five years' standing	-	\$10,000.00
Five years' standing but less than fifteen	-	\$20,000.00
Fifteen years standing and over	-	\$30,000.00
Attorney-at-law who has retired from practice	-	\$10,000.00
Attorney-at-law in the first year of practice who applies for a practising certificate after September 1 in that year	-	\$5,000.00

It is estimated that there are Two Thousand, Nine Hundred and Sixty-Six (2,966) attorneys on the roll. In 2015/2016 Two Thousand and Seventy-Five (2,075) attorneys held practising certificates. The Council has published on its website, a list of attorneys who are entitled to practise by virtue of their having paid their practising certificate fees. The Council also continues to work with the Chief Justice, the Registrar of Titles and other relevant departments to ensure that persons who are not entitled to practice are not allowed to do so.

20. PROCEEDS OF CRIME ACT

The regime to regulate attorneys promulgated under Part V of the Proceeds of Crime Act was challenged by Jamaican Bar Association by Claim No. 2014 HCV 04772 and an injunction was granted on 4th November 2014 to restrain implementation of the

regime. Despite the substantive action having been heard and judgment reserved on 26 March 2015, the judgment has not to date been delivered and the injunction remains in place.

21. APPLICATIONS FOR ENROLMENT

Applications for qualifying certificates were received from 217 persons and approved as set out in Appendix I.

THE DISCIPLINARY COMMITTEE OF THE GENERAL LEGAL COUNCIL

The Disciplinary Committee of the General Legal Council has specific responsibility for the maintenance and enforcement of discipline in the legal profession by the examining and hearing of complaints laid against attorneys-at-law.

22. MEMBERSHIP OF THE DISCIPLINARY COMMITTEE

During the year under review, the following persons served on the Disciplinary Committee:

DISCIPLINARY COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Mr. Walter Scott, Q.C. – Chairman	Mr. Christopher Kelman
Mrs. Pamela Benka-Coker, Q.C.	Mrs. Ursula Khan
Mr. Peter Champagne	Mrs. Gloria Langrin
Mrs. Judith Cooper-Batchelor	Mr. Jerome Lee
Miss Lilieth Deacon	Mrs. Margarette Macaulay
Mr. Richard Donaldson	Mr. Dane Marsh
Mr. Winston Douglas	Mrs. Debra McDonald
Dr. Adolph Edwards	Mr. Charles Piper, Q.C.
Mr. Patrick Foster, Q.C.	Mrs. Jeanne Robinson-Foster, C.D.
Ms. Katherine Francis	Mrs. Tana'ania Small-Davis
Mrs. Daniella Gentles-Silvera	Mr. Michael Thomas
Mr. John Graham	Dr. Randolph Williams
Mr. Trevor Ho-Lyn	

MEETINGS

During the period April 1, 2015 to March 31, 2016 ten (10) meetings, including a special meeting, were held as follows:

2015: April 25, May 30, June 27, July 25, September 26, October 24, November 28,
December 5 (special meeting)

2016: January 23 and February 27.

ATTENDANCE BY MEMBERS AT MONTHLY MEETING 2015 -2016

NAMES	TIMES POSSIBLE	TIMES PRESENT	TIMES EXCUSED
Mr. Walter Scott, Q.C.	10	7	2
Mrs. Pamela Benka-Coker, Q.C.	10	8	1
Mr. Peter Champagnie	10	5	2
Mrs. Judith Cooper-Batchelor	10	7	2
Miss Lilieth Deacon	10	6	2
Mr. Richard Donaldson	10	3	2
Mr. Winston Douglas	10	-	3
Dr. Adolph Edwards	10	-	-
Mr. Patrick Foster, Q.C.	10	1	-
Ms. Katherine Francis	10	8	2
Mrs. Daniella Gentles-Silvera	10	8	2
Mr. John Graham	10	4	3
Mr. Trevor Ho-Lyn	10	9	-
Mr. Christopher Kelman	10	7	2
Mrs. Ursula Khan	10	7	2
Mrs. Gloria Langrin	10	9	-
Mr. Jerome Lee	10	9	1
Mrs. Margarette Macaulay	10	7	3
Mr. Dane Marsh	10	8	1
Mrs. Debra McDonald	10	9	-
Mr. Charles Piper, Q.C.	10	9	1
Mrs. Jeanne Robinson-Foster, C.D.	10	4	2
Mrs. Tana'ania Small Davis	10	5	3
Mr. Michael Thomas	10	9	1
Dr. Randolph Williams	10	2	3

23. MEETINGS

During the period April 1, 2014 to March 31, 2015, a total of ten (10) general meeting were held as follows:-

2014: April 26, May 31, June 28, July 26, September 27, October 25 and November 22
 2015: January 24, February 28 and March 28.

ATTENDANCE BY MEMBERS AT MONTHLY MEETINGS 2014 – 2015

NAMES	TIMES POSSIBLE	TIMES PRESENT	TIMES EXCUSED
Scott, Q.C., Walter (Mr.)	10	7	3
Benka-Coker, Q.C. Pamela (Mrs.)	10	10	-
Champagnie, Peter (Mr.)	10	4	4
Cooper-Batchelor, Judith (Mrs.)	10	5	1
Deacon, Lilieth (Miss)	10	7	2
Donaldson, Richard (Mr.)	10	2	-
Douglas, Winston (Mr.)	10	4	5
Eatmon, Lincoln (Mr.)	4	-	1
Edwards, Adolph (Dr.)	10	-	-
Eatmon, Lincoln (Mr.)	4	-	1
Edwards, Adolph (Dr.)	10	-	-
Foster Q.C, Patrick (Mr.)	10	7	3
Francis, Katherine (Miss)	6	2	1
Gentles-Silvera, Daniella (Mrs.)	10	9	1
Graham, John (Mr.)	10	3	4
Ho- Lyn, Trevor (Mr.)	10	9	-
Kelman, Christopher (Mr.)	10	7	1
Khan, C.D, Ursula (Mrs.)	10	10	-
Langrin, Gloria (Mrs.)	10	8	-
Lee, Jerome (Mr.)	10	8	-
Macaulay, Margarete (Mrs.)	10	7	3
Marsh, Dane (Mr.)	3	3	-
McDonald, Debra (Mrs.)	10	8	2
Piper, Q.C, Charles (Mr.)	10	7	2
Robinson-Foster, Jeanne (Mrs.)	10	4	4
Small-Davis, Tania'ana (Mrs.)	3	2	1
Thomas, Michael (Mr.)	10	5	5
William, Randolph (Dr.)	10	10	-
Wood, Q.C, Allan, (Mr.)	4	1	3

ATTENDANCE BY MEMBERS AT WEEKLY SITTINGS

NAMES	TIMES POSSIBLE	TIMES PRESENT	TIMES EXCUSED
Benka-Coker ,Q.C,Pamela (Mrs.)	26	24	2
Champagnie,Peter (Mr.)	19	16	3
Cooper-Batchelor,Judith (Mrs.)	15	14	1
Deacon,Lilieth (Miss)	15	12	3
Donaldson,Richard (Mr.)	17	14	3
Douglas,Winston (Mr.)	sick	sick	sick
Edwards, Adolph (Dr.)	27	25	2
Ennis, Beryl (Miss) (Resigned)	3	2	1
Foster Q.C,Patrick (Mr.)	18	17	1
Francis, Katherine (Miss)	28	22	6
Gentles-Silvera, Daniella (Mrs.)	21	20	1
Graham, John (Mr.)	22	19	3
Ho- Lyn, Trevor (Mr.)	20	18	2
Kelman, Christopher (Mr.)	19	19	0
Khan, C.D, Ursula (Mrs.)	22	20	2
Langrin, Gloria (Mrs.)	29	25	4
Lee, Jerome (Mr.)	22	22	0
Macaulay, Margarete (Mrs.)	20	16	4
Marsh,Dane (Mr.)	12	11	1
McDonald, Debra (Mrs.)	22	21	1
Piper,Q.C, Charles (Mr.)	31	30	1
Robinson-Foster, Jeanne (Mrs.)	18	15	3
Scott,Q.C, Walter (Mr.)	32	28	4
Small-Davis, Tania'ana (Mrs.)	16	15	1
Thomas, Michael (Mr.)	24	22	2
Williams, Randolph Dr.	15	9	6

25. SEMINARS

No seminars were held by the Disciplinary Committee during the year under review.

26. ORDERS MADE AGAINST ATTORNEYS

Allan Deans was found guilty of professional misconduct contrary to section 12 (1)(a) of the Legal Profession (Accounts and Records) Regulation 1999 for his failure to deliver Accountant's report to the Secretary of the General Legal Council for the years 2012 and 2013 contrary to section 16 (1) and 17 of the said Regulations. The attorney was ordered to pay a fine of \$10,000.00 for each year that he was found to be in breach of the Legal Profession (Accounts and Records) Regulations 1999, amounting to a total of \$20,000.00 to the General Legal Council to be paid by 31st December, 2015. **The order was made on the 12th December, 2015**

Antoneitta Hall was found guilty of professional misconduct contrary to Section 12 (1) (a) of the Legal Profession (Accounts and Records) Regulation 1999 for her failure to deliver Accountant's report to the Secretary of the General Legal Council for the years 2003, 2005, 2006, 2007, 2008, 2009, 2010, 2011, 2012, and 2013 contrary to section 16 (1) and 17 of the said Regulations. The attorney was ordered to pay a fine of \$15,000.00 for each year that she was found to be in breach of the Legal Profession (Accounts and Records) Regulations 1999 amounting to a total of \$150,000.00 to the General Legal Council to be paid within 45 days of the 3rd October, 2015. **The Order was made on the 3rd October, 2015. The Cost was paid on the 16th November, 2015**

Jermaine Simms was found guilty of professional misconduct. The complainant signed an Agreement for sale for purchase of premises at 12 Diana Crescent, Vineyard Town, Kingston 3. A deposit of One Million Two Hundred Thousand Dollars (\$1,200,000.00) plus cost of Forty-One Thousand, One Hundred and Twenty-Five Dollars (\$41,125.00) were paid to Mr. Delroy Chuck, vendors' Attorney, via Mr. Simms. The said deposit and costs were returned to Mr. Simms by Mr. Chuck with a letter dated 1st February, 2011 advising that the sale was cancelled. Mr. Simms failed to advise his clients of the cancelled sale and denied knowledge of the returned cheque. Mr. Simms in fact encashed the said cheque and did not pay the proceeds to the complainants. Mr. Simms later refunded 50% of the said funds to the complainants without interest and 50% remains outstanding.

The attorney was ordered to refund the outstanding 50% deposit and costs to the complainant which amounts to Six Hundred and Twenty Thousand Five Hundred and Sixty-Two Dollars and Fifty Cents (\$620, 562.50) with interest at the rate of 6% per annum from the 1st February, 2011 until payment. The Attorney was also ordered to pay Twenty-Five Thousand Dollars (\$25,000.00) representing costs of the proceedings to the Council. **The order was made on the 18th April, 2015**

Donald Gittens was found guilty of professional misconduct for his failure to advise the Complainant of the progress of her business with all due expedition. The attorney was retained to represent the complainant in the dissolution of her marriage and a custody hearing with respect to the child of the marriage.

The attorney was reprimanded and ordered to pay costs of the proceedings in the sum of \$40,000.00 to the General Legal Council on or before 31st July, 2015. **The cost was paid on the 31 July, 2015. The Order was made on the 23rd June, 2015.**

Earl Melhado was found guilty of professional misconduct. The Complainant retained the attorney to act on his behalf. The matter concerned a motor vehicle accident in which the Complainant sustained serious personal injuries. The attorney successfully negotiated a settlement with third party's insurers. A sum between \$1.56 and \$1.58 Million was disbursed to the attorney, Mr. Earl Melhado, on the Complainant's behalf. The attorney, Mr. Earl Melhado failed, neglected and/or refused to account to the Complainant for the said money. The attorney collected the money in or about May 2008 and failed to pay it over to his client. After several failed attempts to contact his attorney, the Complainant eventually received a letter dated 30th November, 2009, promising to pay the money on or before the 30th January, 2010. The attorney reneged on that promise in consequence of which this complaint was brought. The attorney has since made full restitution.

However, the acts committed by the attorney were found to be egregious and in these circumstances the Panel ordered that the name of the attorney Earl Melhado be struck from the Roll of Attorneys-at-law entitled to practise in Jamaica; that the Attorney pay the sum of \$30,000.00 to the Complainant for costs; that the attorney pay the sum of \$100,000.00 as a contribution to the costs of the General Legal Council. **The order was made on the 24th July, 2015**

Arlean Beckford was found guilty of professional misconduct for her failure to account to the Complainant's husband in the sale of property Registered at Volume 160 Folio 75. The attorney represented the Complainant's husband in the sale of property located at 2a Sefton Road, Kingston 5 for the sum of Seven Million Dollars (\$7,000,000.00). Between 7th July, 2006 and November, 2006 monies were paid to the attorney by the purchaser's attorneys-at-law amounting to Six Million, Four Hundred and Fifty Thousand Dollars (\$6,450,000.00) on account of the purchase price for the said property. The property was transferred to the purchaser on 27th January, 2012 and the balance of the purchase price being Seven Hundred and Thirty-Four Thousand, Nine Hundred and Ninety-Five Dollars (\$734,995.00) was paid to the attorney by the purchaser's attorneys. The attorney has not accounted for nor paid to the Complainant's husband the balance purchase price of Seven Hundred and Thirty-Four Thousand, Nine Hundred and Ninety-Five Dollars (\$734,995.00). The attorney misappropriated the Complainant's husband's money which ought to have been paid over to him.

The attorney was struck from the Roll of Attorneys-at-law entitled to practice in the several courts of the Island of Jamaica and was ordered by way of restitution to pay

the sum of \$734,995.00 with interest at the rate of 6% from the 20th February, 2012 to the date of payment. The Attorney is to pay costs of \$50,000.00 to the Complainant. **The order was made on the 1st September, 2015**

Arlene Beckford was found guilty of professional misconduct, in that the attorney had carriage of sale of property located at Lot 1 Garden Boulevard, St. Catherine on behalf of the vendor. The complainant and her fiancé attended upon the Respondent's office in respect of purchase of Lot 1 Garden Boulevard. The attorney prepared the Agreement for Sale of the property between the Complainant and her fiancé and her client the vendor.

The agreement for sale was duly executed by the purchasers. Monies totaling \$1,892,500.00 were paid over to the Attorney by the Purchasers being part of the purchase price towards the purchase of the property subject of the Agreement for Sale. In one instance a portion of the said sum was collected directly by the Attorney and in the other instances by her agent at her said office and all instances receipts from the Attorney's office were issued to the purchasers.

The Complainant was by a Power of Attorney prepared by the said Attorney duly authorized to act on behalf of her fiancé and also in the bringing of this complaint.

In her capacity as the Attorney-at-law having carriage of sale in the transaction, the Attorney acted with inexcusable delay and negligence and failed to inform the purchasers who were unrepresented as to the status of the transaction. The attorney failed to account to the complainant for the aforesaid sums collected. The attorney acted dishonestly in respect of the sums of monies that were paid over to her in respect of this complainant.

The Attorney was struck from the Roll of Attorneys-at-law entitled to practise in the several courts of the Island of Jamaica. The Attorney was ordered to make restitution to the Complainant in the sum of \$1,892,500.00. The Attorney was ordered to pay interest on the sum of \$930,000.00 from the 2nd February, 2012 on the sum of \$400,000.00 from the 5th April, 2012 and on the sum of \$562,500.00 from the 30th July, 2012 until payment.

The Attorney was ordered to pay cost to the General Legal Council in the sum of \$50,000.00 and cost to the Complainant in the sum of \$50,000.00. **The order was made on the 22nd January, 2016.**

Humphrey McPherson was found guilty of professional misconduct. The Complainant retained the services of the attorney to secure Letters of Administration in the estate of her late husband. In April 1998, a Will signed by the deceased was located and this Will was sent to the attorney to obtain a Grant of Probate and to perform other professional services.

The attorney was ordered to pay the sum of \$1, 820,000.00 with interest at the rate of 6% from February 2004 the date of the Statement of Account sent by the attorney to the Complainant until payment; that the attorney name be struck from the Roll of Attorneys-at-law entitled to practise in Jamaica; that the attorney pays costs of \$750,000.00 to the

attorneys-at-law for the complainant Bailey, Terrelonge, Allen. **The order was made on the 30th January, 2016.**

Graceann Cameron was found guilty of professional misconduct for her failure to obtain Letters of Administration in the estate of the Complainant's wife's father who is deceased. The attorney was retained by the Complainant who paid her \$50,000.00 to start the process plus an additional \$12,000.00 which he was told was for advertisement. After paying a sum of \$62,000.00 the attorney moved office without informing the Complainant.

The attorney was ordered to pay to the complainant the sum of \$62,000.00 with interest thereon at the rate of 10% from the 1st June, 2012 to the date of payment. **The order was made on the 2nd March, 2016**

Summary of Complaints 1st April, 2014 - 31st March, 2015

Number of Complaints pending at the commencement of the year	419	
Number of Complaints filed in the current year		<u>224</u>
Number of complaints considered at the general meetings of the Disciplinary Committee as at March 31, 2016	229	643
Number of complaint with prima facie case found	142	
Number of complaints with no prima facie case		57
Number of complaints withdrawn		<u>02</u>
Complaints dealt with at the hearings:		
Number of complaints withdrawn	45	
Number of complaints dismissed	30	
Number of complaints struck out for want of prosecution	00	
Number of complaints upheld	<u>09</u>	
		(84)
Number of complaints disposed of		<u>(143)</u>
Number of Complaints pending at the end of the year		<u>500</u>
Number of Complaints Appealed	2	
Two of which the attorneys applied for a rehearing.		

27. INCOME AND EXPENDITURE

A statement of the Council's Income and Expenditure for the period 1st April, 2014 to 31st March, 2015 which is extracted from its audited Financial Statement is set out below:

<u>INCOME</u>	<u>\$</u>
Practising Certificate Fees	48,603,778
CLPD	14,601,988
Interest on Fixed Deposit	1,122,251
Fines	335,000
Other	<u>1,361,790</u>
	66,024,807
Administrative and General Surplus from operations	<u>(63,055,506)</u>
	<u>2,969,301</u>
 <u>EXPENDITURE:</u>	
Advertising	454,674
Audit and accounting fees	557,650
Bank charges	944,710
Bad debt	-
Depreciation	1,956,591
Donation	187,700
Electricity	779,378
Insurance	114,153
Irrecoverable GCT	2,380,198
Legal and professional fees & expenses	2,961,068
Meeting expenses/workshop	94,219
Office expenses	564,478
Office Rent	2,289,550
Printing, stationery and postage	2,472,418
Prior year adjustment	-
Repairs and maintenance	5,351,602
Salaries, wages and related costs	36,506,587
Security	1,143,074
Seminar expenses	361,786
Staff welfare	566,444
Staff training	157,300
Telephone	887,763
Travel and accommodation	2,097,347
Uniforms	<u>226,816</u>
	<u>63,055,506</u>

APPENDIX I

Applicants who received qualifying certificates:

1. ADAMS, DEMETRIE ANTONIO	2. ADE-JOHN, YETUNDE AJIKE TEMILOA 3. ALLEN, SARA-RUTH
4. ARMSTRONG-DAIGLE, SHAWNA-KAY MONIQUE	5. AUGUSTINE, TIFFANY ABIKA
6. BAILEY, ANN-MONIQUE AMMOY	7. BAILEY, JULIE-ANN SHEREE
8. BAILEY, SHANTAL RAKEISH	9. BANNERBIE, SHANTALLE MONIQUE
10. BARCLAY, CORLANE LAKEDO	11. BASCOE, ANDRE ORRETT
12. BAXTER, GAYLAN LORRAINE	13. BESWICK-REID, ANGEL
14. BRISSETT, KENICK ANNDRE SAMANTHA	15. BROOKS, NICOLE ANOTINETTE
16. BROWN, CHRISTINA MARIE	17. BROWN, TRISHANN ANIQUE 18. BROWN, YVONNE A. M.
19. BRYAN, RACHAEL SHERYL	20. BUDRAM, TERJE JOANA
21. BUTLER, NOEL ANTHONY	22. BYRON, SERENA ELAINE
23. CAMPBELL, ELECE ALECIA	24. CAMPBELL, KIMBERLEY 25. CAMPBELL, SUZAN LORETTA
26. CARTER, CRAIG DOMINICK	27. CARTER, JODY-ANN N.
28. CARTER, KAYDIAN KENEISHA	29. CHIN, JORDAN RICARDO
30. CHUNG, CHRISTINE REGINA	31. CHUNG, RICARDO FRANCISCO
32. CLAKEN, SHANNEK ROSE	33. CLARKE, JAHMAR
34. CLARKE, ROBERT SAMUEL 35. CLARKE, SOPHIA DENISE	36. CLAYTON, RAMON ROHAN
37. CORBETT, ZINDZI CLOY BAUGH	38. CORNWALL, DANIQUE ONEILLIA
39. COTERELL, ADRIAN ALBIATHA	40. COTTERELL, NOVIA DONICAW
41. CUNNINGHAM, RUSHAINE RONJEL	42. CUNNINGHAM, SHENAE DEANDRA
43. DALE, MARIO LE-TROY	44. DALEY-MARTIN, DONALDA ROSEMARIE

45. DARBY, NYSSA-KAYE MELISSA	46. DAVIS, KARLA ALICIA
47. DAVIS, TUERE EFURU	48. DAVY, AMARICE ZAHRA
49. DERRETT, OLIVIA SHTOUY	50. DIXON, SANYA SHONA
51. DOUGLAS, YANIEK MARGARET	52. DOWNER, KIMBERLEY
53. DOWNS, LANESA DEON THIFFIA	54. DUHANEY, PRISCILLA ANN
55. DUNN, REMA SPENCE	57. EDWARDS, LATRIECE LEXANDRA CARLA
56. DWYER, LORN GREGORY	
58. ELLINGTON, PETA-GAYE	59. ELLIS, KERRI-ANNE
60. ELLIS, NATALEE SHELL-ANN	61. EWBANKS, STEPHANIE DEIDRE
62. FACEY, JODI-ANN MARISA	63. FAGAN, ANN-ALICIA NATALIE
64. FERRON, SHAINA GAIL	65. FLETCHER, YANNIE MICHELLE
66. FORBES, KRYSTINE AMANDA	67. FOREMAN, JEFFREY HALEEM
68. FOSTER, REMONE LAMARD	69. FRANCIS, NYSSA NOELLE 70. FRANCIS, ZANDRA'GAY MARIA
71. GAFF, JODY-ANN KAMECA	72. GALLOWAY, GAIL ANN LATANYA
73. GAYE, SHANNIQUE LATOYA	74. GLAVE, LAVERN SHADEE
75. GOLDING, LEANNE GABRIELLE	76. GORDON, RADCLIFF IVAN
77. GORDON, TRUDY-ANN MAURISA	78. GOULBOURNE, KAREN DAWN
79. GRAHAM, KARA RASHIDA	80. GRAHAM, PETA-GAYE FRANCINE
81. GRAHAM, SHANNON CAVINE	82. GRAPINE-GAYLE, APRIL
83. GRAY, TRICHANA LACIAN	84. GREEN, TUDY-ANN SANCHIA
85. HAMILTON, NICHOLETTE DIXILINE	86. HAY, JUBEL MATTHEW
87. HEMMINGS, MICHAEL ARSRENIO	88. HENRY, CHRISTOPHER CARRINGTON
89. HEWIE, SAMANTHA ANDRIKA	90. HEWITT, RACQUEL GAIL
91. HINSON, DENISE ROSEMARIE	93. HOUSTON, DWAYNE KEITH
92. HOLNESS, JODI-ANN ANEIKIA	
94. HOWELL, CHANTAL CHRISTAL	95. JACKSON, TREENA SHEREESHA
96. JACOBS, JOHN WILLAFORD	97. JARRETT, SHANTEL TRIVA
98. JENNINGS, PRECILLA LA-KAY	99. JOHNSON, KURT ST. AUBYN

100. JONES, RUTH TISHAINA	101. KELLIER, MALIKE JAVONE
102. KERR, RICHARDO ANTHONY	103. LARMOND, CAMELIA NATASHA
104. LAWRENCE, KRISHNA-KAY MACHERE	105. LAWRENCE, KRYSTAL ANIKA
106. LAWRENCE, SYMONE ELIZABETH	107. LEVERIDGE, XAVIER THEODORE
108. LEWIN, JODEON ALBERTHA 109. LEWIS, JOAN LORRAINE	110. LINDASY, SHANIECE AKACIA
111. LONG, TRACI-LEE DIANDRA	112. LOWE, MARLON ANDREW 113. LUE YEN, LESLEY
114. MALCOLM-BUCHANAN, DANE A.	115. MARAGH, DAYNIA TAKOYA
116. MARRIOTT-BLAKE, ANDRE SEAN	117. MARSHALL, ANDREW HADYN
118. MATTHEWS, DEBRA-ANN CHRISTINE	119. MCCURDY, MAURICE G.
120. MCDONALD, G'NOJ DIAN-KAY NATALA	121. MCFARLANE LYNCH, NADINE FAITH
122. MCFARLANE, GEORGIA DIANA	123. MCKENZIE, ALICIA ARICIA
124. MCLEISH, ANA-STASSIA SHANALEE	125. MCLEOD, MONEAQUE DANESHA
126. MEARS, CARISA JOELLE	127. MEIKLE, ASHFORD WASHINGTON
128. MENZIE, TAMEKA TANESHA	129. MILLER, ASHLIE ELIZABETH
130. MILLER, TERESA VICTORIA	131. MORAIS, SHERENE 132. MORGAN, DE ANA SHANI ELIZABETH
133. MORGAN, TARA ANDYLEE TONY-ANN	134. MORRISON, MICHELLE ASHLEY
135. MORRISON, MISHELL PEGGYBETH	136. MOSS, SHANAKAY SHACKERRA
137. MURRAY, MICHELLE	138. MURRELL, KEETJA TAHNE

ANTOINETTE	
139. MUSAAZI, CHRISTABEL NANKUDA	140. NEALE, LEMAR ROY
141. NELSON, KACEY-ANN NICOLA	142. ORR, MELANIE JEAN
143. OTUNLA, ATINUKE WURAOLA	144. PAGON, NECO GOVBACHEV
145. PARREDON. OKELIA	146. PENNANT, CYGAL ELIZABETH
147. PHILLIPS, PETRA PATRICE	148. PHILLIPS, SUWAYNE KIMBERLY,
149. PINK, PAULINE JANET	150. PLUMMER, ORENE ASHA-MARIE
151. PORTER, CHRISTINA MARIE	152. POWELL, ANGELA
153. POWELL, JANET MAXINE	154. POWELL, TASHELL ORLEASE
155. QUARRIE, MELLISA MAHALIA	156. RHODEN, TESSARINE RAINER
157. RICKETTS, MATTHEW ALEXANDER	158. RILEY, PATRICE DIANA
159. ROBINSON, NATASSIA SHERRIPHA	160. ROBINSON, RUTH-ANN ROSEMARIE
161. ROBINSON, SHANNON NICOLE	162. ROWE, COURTNEY NIGEL
163. ROWE, MONIQUE TRISHAUNA	164. SADD00, DENLEY ROY
165. SAMUELS, BIANCA SAFIYA	166. SAMUELS, MARSHA GRACE ANTOINETTE
167. SAVAGE, KEISHA-ANN SAMANTHA	168. SEARS, AUDIRIO VERONE
170. SHARPE, JULIANNE NADIA-GAY	169. SENIOR, WINSTON EARL
172. SIMMS, MATTHEW ANTHONY	171. SHAW, SASHA-KAY NATANYA
174. SIMPSON, KEISHA ALLYSSA	173. SIMPSON, KEISHA ALLYSSA
176. SMITH, THIA OLIVIA	175. SMITH, SHARI FIONA
178. SPENCE, SHERICE RENAE	177. SOARES, TALIA NINA ALEJANDRIA
180. STEELE, ASHTELLE NNEKA	179. STAPLES, ANDRE
182. STEPHENSON, JODI-ANN KIMBERLEY	181. STEELE, STACEY-ANN
184. TAYLOR, VANESSA RUTH-ANN	183. STEWART, SHANDICE SHERVETTE
	185. TAYLOR, VANESSA RUTH-ANN

186. THOMAS, LATOYA CHRISTINA	187. THOMAS, MICHELLE ALEXIS
188. THOMAS, MONIQUE LATOYA CHRISTINA	189. THOMAS, TROY ALANZO
190. THOMPSON, DIAN PATRICE	191. THOMPSON, HEDENA KAY-ANN
192. TODD, ARNOLD JAMES	193. THOMAS-WILLIAMS, TIFFANY ANGELITA
194. TOMLINSON, SHEREE NICHOLE	195. TROWERS, DWAYNE ORVILLE
196. TURNER, KRIS-ANTHONY ATHLONE	197. VANRIEL, ANDREEN ANTOINETTE
198. VON CORK, ARIEL SAMANTHA	199. WADSWORTH, PAULA ABIGAIL
200. WALKER, KIMLOY NATALIE	201. WALKER, SHELLY-ANN NADINE
202. WATKINS, NAOMI	203. WATSON, MELISA LATOUA
204. WATSON, VALRIE MAE	205. WEIR, STEPHANIE JANELLE
206. WELSH, ANITA	207. WHITE, JODY ALPHANSO
208. WHYTE, TASHENA ANALEE	209. WILIAMS, STEPHANIE AMANDA
210. WILLIAMS, BAZIL-LEE ANDRE	211. WILLIAMS, JANEL LISA
212. WILLIAMS, MARTINA GEORGIANA	213. WILLIAMS, MIKHAIL HOWARD RODNEY
214. WILLIAMS, TANEISHA LADONNIA	215. WILMOT, SAMANTHA AUDRIANNA
216. WILSON, TASHANA CHRISTINA	217. WRIGHT, NICOLETTE TAMECA


CONCLUSION

The General Legal Council has made significant progress in improving the efficiency of its operations, but it recognizes that much more must be done, for example, in expediting the process of dealing with complaints.

The Council continues to face various challenges in ensuring that attorneys comply with the Act and the Regulations. The failure to file annual accounting reports is one of our major concerns. The Council has made representations to the Ministry for changes to the legislation to address this and other issues.

The Council also awaits the outcome of the court proceedings brought by the Jamaican Bar Association challenging the constitutionality of the application of the Proceeds of Crime Act to attorneys-at-law.

CHAIRMAN:



SECRETARY:



DATE:

September 28, 2016

THE GENERAL LEGAL COUNCIL

Financial Statements

Year ended 31 March 2016

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VINTORIA BERNARD
Chartered Accountant

Suite # 11, 1D-1E Braemar Avenue
Kingston 10.
Tel: 978-1482 / 978-0018
Fax: 978-5337
Email: vbernard@flowja.com

Mailing Address
P.O. Box 8541
C.S.O. Kingston

Independent Auditor's Report

To the Members of
The General Legal Council

I have audited the accompanying financial statements of The General Legal Council, which comprise the statement of financial position as at 31 March 2016, and the statement of comprehensive income, statement of changes in reserves and cash flows statement for the year then ended, and a summary of significant accounting policies and other explanatory information.

Management's Responsibility for the Financial Statements

Management is responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of these financial statements in accordance with International Financial Reporting Standards, and for such internal control as management determines is necessary to enable the preparation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

Auditor's Responsibility

My responsibility is to express an opinion on these financial statements based on my audit. I conducted my audit in accordance with International Standards on Auditing. Those standards require that I comply with ethical requirements and plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements are free from material misstatement.

An audit involves performing procedures to obtain audit evidence about the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements. The procedures selected depend on the auditor's judgment, including the assessment of the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements, whether due to fraud or error. In making those risk assessments, the auditor considers internal control relevant to the entity's preparation and fair presentation of the financial statements in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness

Independent Auditor's Report (cont'd)

To the Members of
The General Legal Council

Auditor's Responsibility (cont'd)

of the entity's internal control. An audit also includes evaluating the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of accounting estimates made by management, as well as evaluating the overall presentation of the financial statements.

I believe that the audit evidence I have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for my audit opinion.

Opinion

In my opinion, the financial statements give a true and fair view of the financial position of the Council as at 31 March 2016, and of the Council's financial performance, changes in reserves and cash flows for the year then ended in accordance with International Financial Reporting Standards.

Vintoria Bernard

CHARTERED ACCOUNTANT

19 August 2016

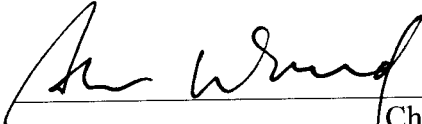
THE GENERAL LEGAL COUNCIL
Statement of Comprehensive Income
Year ended 31 March 2016


	<u>Note</u>	<u>2016</u> \$	<u>2015</u> \$
<u>Revenue</u>			
Practising certificate fees		48,603,778	39,250,965
CLPD	9	14,601,988	7,575,615
Interest		1,122,251	2,088,564
Fines		335,000	40,000
Other		<u>1,361,790</u>	<u>758,407</u>
		66,024,807	49,713,551
Administrative and general	8	<u>(63,055,506)</u>	<u>(65,609,176)</u>
Total Comprehensive Income for the year		<u><u>2,969,301</u></u>	<u><u>(15,895,625)</u></u>

THE GENERAL LEGAL COUNCIL
Statement of Financial Position
At 31 March 2016

	<u>Note</u>	<u>2016</u> \$	<u>2015</u> \$
<u>ASSETS</u>			
Non-current assets			
Furniture and equipment	4	5,207,433	3,602,230
Investment	11	2,750,114	-
		<u>7,957,547</u>	<u>3,602,230</u>
Current assets			
Receivables	6	8,115,714	2,712,858
Cash and cash equivalents	5	44,978,558	50,409,899
		<u>53,094,272</u>	<u>53,122,757</u>
TOTAL ASSETS		<u>61,051,819</u>	<u>56,724,987</u>
<u>RESERVES AND LIABILITIES</u>			
Reserves			
Capital fund		55,941,704	52,972,403
		<u>55,941,704</u>	<u>52,972,403</u>
Current liabilities			
Bank overdraft	5	2,667,328	-
Payables and accruals	7	2,442,787	3,752,584
		<u>5,110,115</u>	<u>3,752,584</u>
TOTAL RESERVES AND LIABILITIES		<u>61,051,819</u>	<u>56,724,987</u>

Approved and authorised for issue by the Council on 19 August 2016 and signed on its behalf by:


 Chairman


 Council Member

THE GENERAL LEGAL COUNCIL
Statement of Changes in Reserves
Year ended 31 March 2016

	Capital Fund \$	Total \$
Balance at 31 March 2014	68,868,028	68,868,028
Changes in reserves for 2015		
Deficit for the year	(15,895,625)	(15,895,625)
Total comprehensive income for the year	(15,895,625)	(15,895,625)
Balance at 31 March 2015	52,972,403	52,972,403
Changes in reserves for 2016		
Surplus for the year	2,969,301	2,969,301
Total comprehensive income for the year	2,969,301	2,969,301
Balance at 31 March 2016	55,941,704	55,941,704

THE GENERAL LEGAL COUNCIL**Statement of Cash Flows****Year ended 31 March 2016**

	<u>Note</u>	<u>2016</u> \$	<u>2015</u> \$
Cash Flows from Operating Activities			
Surplus/(Deficit) for the year		2,969,301	(15,895,625)
Adjustments for:			
Asset disposal		22,834	770,018
Depreciation	4	1,956,591	2,873,243
Interest income		<u>(1,122,251)</u>	<u>(2,088,564)</u>
		3,826,475	(14,340,928)
Changes in operating assets and liabilities:			
Investment		(2,750,114)	-
Receivables		(5,402,852)	(1,236,808)
Payables and accruals		<u>(1,309,794)</u>	<u>989,277</u>
Cash used in operating activities		<u>(5,636,285)</u>	<u>(14,588,459)</u>
Cash Flows from Investing Activities			
Purchase of fixed assets	4	(3,584,635)	(792,907)
Interest received		<u>1,122,251</u>	<u>2,088,564</u>
Cash (used in)/provided by investing activities		<u>(2,462,384)</u>	<u>1,295,657</u>
Decrease in net cash and cash equivalents		(8,098,669)	(13,292,802)
Cash and cash equivalents at beginning of year		<u>50,409,899</u>	<u>63,702,701</u>
CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS AT END OF YEAR	5	<u><u>42,311,230</u></u>	<u><u>50,409,899</u></u>

THE GENERAL LEGAL COUNCIL

Notes to the Financial Statements

Year ended 31 March 2016

1. **Identification**

The Council is incorporated under the Legal Profession Act. The main activity comprises the upholding of standards of professional conduct within the legal profession.

2. **Summary of Significant Accounting Policies**

The significant accounting policies applied in the preparation of these financial statements are set out below. These policies have been consistently applied to all the years presented unless otherwise stated.

a) **Statement of Compliance**

These financial statements are prepared in accordance with International Financial Reporting Standards (IFRS) and their interpretations, issued by the International Accounting Standards Board (IASB).

i) **New and Amended Standards and Interpretations**

The council has adopted all relevant new and revised standards, interpretations and amendments effective for accounting periods beginning on or after 1 April 2015, which are immediately relevant to its operations.

- **IAS 16, Property, Plant and Equipment; and IAS 38, Intangible Assets**, the standards have been amended to clarify that when an item of property, plant and equipment or an impairment or an intangible asset is revalued, the gross carrying amount is adjusted in a manner that is consistent with the revaluation of the carrying amount.
- **IFRS 13, Fair Value Measurement**, has been amended to clarify that issuing of the standard and consequential amendments to IAS 39 and IFRS 9 did not intend to prevent entities from measuring short-term receivables and payables that have no stated interest rate at their invoiced amounts without discounting if the effect of not discounting is material.

The adoption of these amendments did not result in any change to the presentation and disclosures in the Council's financial statements.

THE GENERAL LEGAL COUNCIL

Notes to the Financial Statements

Year ended 31 March 2016

2. **Summary of Significant Accounting Policies (cont'd)**

b) **New standards, amendments and interpretations not yet adopted by the Council**

The following new standards, interpretations and amendments which have not been applied in these financial statements, may have an effect on the council's future financial statements:

- **IAS 1 – ‘Presentation of Financial Statements’** (effective for annual periods beginning on or after 1 January 2016) has been amended to clarify guidance in IAS 1 on materiality and aggregation, the presentation of subtotals, the structure of financial statements and the disclosure of accounting policies. The amendment also clarifies that the share of comprehensive income of associates and joint ventures accounted for using the equity method must be presented in aggregate as a single line item, classified between those items that will or will not be subsequently reclassified to profit or loss.
- **IFRS 9 – ‘Financial Instruments’** (effective for annual periods beginning on or after 1 January 2018) replaces the existing guidance in IAS 39, Financial Instruments: Recognition and Measurement. The standard addresses the clarification, measurement and recognition of financial assets and financial liabilities. The complete version of IFRS 9 was issued in July 2014. It replaces the guidance in IAS 39 that relates to the classification and measurement of financial instruments. IFRS 9 retains but simplifies the mixed measurement model and establishes three primary measurement categories for financial assets: amortised cost, fair value through other comprehensive income and fair value through profit or loss. The basis of classification depends on the entity's business model and the contractual cash flow characteristics of the financial asset. Investments in equity instruments are required to be measured at fair value through profit or loss with the irrevocable option at inception to present changes in fair value in other comprehensive income not recycling.

The standard creates a new expected credit losses model that replaces the incurred loss impairment model used in IAS 39. For financial liabilities there were no changes to classification and measurement except for the recognition of changes in own credit risk in other comprehensive income, for liabilities designated at fair value through profit or loss.

The Council is assessing the impact that the standard will have on its financial statements.

THE GENERAL LEGAL COUNCIL

Notes to the Financial Statements

Year ended 31 March 2016

2. **Summary of Significant Accounting Policies (cont'd)**

i) **New standards, amendments and interpretations not yet adopted by the Council (cont'd):**

- **IFRS 15 ‘Revenue from Contracts with Customers’** – (effective for annual periods beginning on or after January 1, 2018) deals with revenue recognition and establishes principles for reporting useful information to users of financial statements about the nature, amount, timing and uncertainty of revenue and cash flows arising from an entity’s contracts with customers. Revenue is recognised when a customer obtains control of a good or service and thus has the ability to direct the use and obtain the benefits from the good or service. The standard replaces IAS 18 ‘Revenue’ and IAS 11 ‘Construction Contracts’ and related interpretations. The Council is assessing the impact of IFRS 15.
- **IAS 16 (Amendment) – Property, Plant and Equipment** (effective for annual periods beginning on or after January 1, 2016) explicitly states that revenue-based methods of depreciation cannot be used. This is because such methods reflect factors other than the consumption of economic benefits embodied in the assets.
- **IAS 38 (Amendment) – Intangible Assets** (effective for annual periods beginning on or after January 1, 2016) introduces a rebuttable presumption that the use of revenue-based amortisation methods is inappropriate for intangible assets.

The Council is assessing the impact that these amendments will have on its 2017 financial statements.

ii) **Measurement Bases**

The financial statements are prepared using the measurement bases specified by IFRS for each type of asset, liability, income and expense. The measurement bases are more fully described in the accounting policies below.

Except where otherwise stated, the financial statements are presented in Jamaican Dollars.

b) **Critical judgements and sources of estimation uncertainty**

The preparation of financial statements in accordance with IFRS requires management to make estimates and assumptions that affect the amounts and related disclosures reported in the financial statements. These estimates are based on historical experience and

THE GENERAL LEGAL COUNCIL

Notes to the Financial Statements

Year ended 31 March 2016

2. **Summary of Significant Accounting Policies (cont'd)**

b) **Critical judgements and sources of estimation uncertainty (cont'd)**

management's best knowledge of current events and actions. Actual results may differ from those estimates and assumptions.

There were no critical judgements, apart from those involving estimation, that management has made in the process of applying the Council's accounting policies that have a significant effect on the amounts recognised in the financial statements.

The estimates and assumptions which have the most significant risk of causing a material adjustment to the carrying amounts of assets and liabilities are discussed below:

i) **Useful lives of plant and equipment**

Depreciation is provided so as to write down the respective assets to their estimated residual values over their expected useful lives and as such, the selection of the expected useful lives and the estimated residual values of the assets require the use of estimates and judgements. Details of the estimated useful lives are shown in note 2c.

c) **Plant and equipment**

Plant and equipment are stated at historical cost, less accumulated depreciation. Historical cost includes expenditure that is directly attributable to the acquisition of items.

Depreciation is calculated on the straight line basis at such rates as will write off the carrying value of the assets over the period of their estimated useful lives. The expected useful lives are as follows:

Furniture and fixtures	10%
Computer equipment and software	20%
Website development	20%
Leasehold improvements	50%

THE GENERAL LEGAL COUNCIL

Notes to the Financial Statements

Year ended 31 March 2016

2. **Summary of Significant Accounting Policies (cont'd)**

c) Plant and equipment (cont'd)

The assets' residual values and useful lives are reviewed, and adjusted if appropriate, at each statement of financial position date.

Repairs and maintenance expenditure is written off during the financial period in which they are incurred.

d) Revenue Recognition

The council recognises revenue when the amount of revenue can be reliably measured.

Fees

Fees are accounted for on an accrual basis.

Interest

Interest is recognised in the statement of comprehensive income on an accrual basis.

e) Foreign Currencies

Transactions in foreign currencies have been converted to Jamaican dollars at the rates of exchange ruling at the date of those transactions. Assets and liabilities denominated in foreign currencies are translated to Jamaican dollars at exchange rates current at statement of financial position date. Gains and losses arising from fluctuations in exchange rates are recognised in the statement of comprehensive income.

f) Financial Instruments

A financial instrument is any contract that gives rise to a financial asset in one entity and a financial liability or equity instrument in another entity. Financial assets and financial liabilities are recognised in the council's statement of financial position when it becomes a party to the contractual provisions of the instruments.

A financial asset is derecognised when the contractual rights to the cash flows from the financial asset expire, or when the financial asset and all substantial risks and rewards are transferred.

A financial liability is derecognised when it is extinguished, discharged, cancelled, or expires.

THE GENERAL LEGAL COUNCIL
Notes to the Financial Statements
Year ended 31 March 2016

2. **Summary of Significant Accounting Policies (cont'd)**

f) Financial Instruments (cont'd)

The financial instruments carried in the statement of financial position are:

Financial assets: - Receivables and cash and cash equivalents

Financial liabilities: - Payables and accruals

The particular recognition methods adopted are disclosed in the respective accounting policies associated with each item.

g) Cash and Cash Equivalents

Cash and cash equivalents consist of cash in hand, current and savings account balances and short term deposits with maturity dates of twelve (12) months or less.

h) Taxation

Income tax on the results for the year comprises current tax.

The Council being a public body created by the Legal Profession Act qualifies for exemption from Income Tax (*under section 12 (h) of the Income Tax Act*). No provision has therefore been made in these financial statements for Income Tax.

i) Receivables

Receivables are initially recognised at original amount which represent fair value and subsequently measured at net realisable value which is the lesser of the carrying and recoverable amount. Recoverable amounts are based on the council's best estimates, having regards to economic conditions, historical experience and age of debt, as well as, post-statement of financial position collections.

j) Payables and Accruals

Payables and accruals are stated at cost.

THE GENERAL LEGAL COUNCIL**Notes to the Financial Statements****Year ended 31 March 2016****2. Summary of Significant Accounting Policies (cont'd)****k) Borrowings**

Borrowings are classified as financial liabilities measured at amortised cost and are recognised initially at the proceeds received, net of transaction costs incurred. Borrowings are subsequently stated at amortised cost using the effective yield method. Any difference between proceeds (net of transaction cost) and the redemption value is recognised in the statement of comprehensive income over the period of the borrowings.

l) Provisions

Provisions are recognised when there is a present legal or constructive obligation as a result of past events, it is probable that an out-flow of resources will be required to settle the obligation and a reliable estimate of the amount can be made.

m) Pension

The Council operates a defined-contribution pension plan for its employees (note 11). Contributions to the scheme are charged to the statement of comprehensive income in the period to which they relate.

n) Capital Fund

The surplus or deficit on the statement of comprehensive income is transferred to the Capital Fund.

o) Impairment

The carrying amounts of the Council's assets are reviewed at each statement of financial position date to determine whether there is any indication of impairment. If any such indication exists, an impairment loss is recognised based on the asset's estimated recoverable amount.

If, in subsequent period, the amount of impairment loss decreases and the decrease can be linked objectively to an event occurring after the write-down, the write-down is reversed through the statement of comprehensive income.

THE GENERAL LEGAL COUNCIL
Notes to the Financial Statements
Year ended 31 March 2016

3. **Financial Assets and Liabilities by Categories**

i) Financial assets by categories

The categories of financial assets included in the statement of financial position are as follows:

	<u>2016</u>	<u>2015</u>
	\$	\$
Current assets		
Receivables (excluding prepayments)	8,069,899	2,583,654
Cash and cash equivalents	<u>44,978,558</u>	<u>50,409,899</u>
Total	<u><u>53,048,457</u></u>	<u><u>52,993,553</u></u>

ii) Financial liabilities by categories

	<u>2016</u>	<u>2015</u>
	\$	\$
Current liabilities		
Bank overdraft	2,667,328	-
Payables	<u>2,442,787</u>	<u>3,752,584</u>
	<u><u>5,110,115</u></u>	<u><u>3,752,584</u></u>

THE GENERAL LEGAL COUNCIL
Notes to the Financial Statements
Year ended 31 March 2016

4. **Fixed Assets**

	Furniture & Fixtures \$	Computer Equipment & Software \$	Website Development \$	Leasehold Improvement \$	Total \$
At Cost:-					
1 April 2015	4,737,478	3,782,727	986,193	2,891,422	12,397,820
Additions	1,878,666	570,100	-	1,135,862	3,584,628
Disposal	-	(22,834)	-	(2,891,422)	(2,914,256)
31 March 2016	6,616,144	4,329,993	986,193	1,135,862	13,068,192
Depreciation:-					
1 April 2015	2,738,857	2,470,679	694,632	2,891,422	8,795,590
Charge for the year	661,614	870,567	197,238	227,172	1,956,591
Disposal	-	-	-	(2,891,422)	(2,891,422)
31 March 2016	3,400,471	3,341,246	891,870	227,172	7,860,759
Net Book Value:-					
31 March 2016	3,215,673	988,747	94,323	908,690	5,207,433
31 March 2015	1,998,621	1,312,048	291,561	-	3,602,230

5. **Cash and Cash Equivalents**

	<u>2016</u> \$	<u>2015</u> \$
Short term deposits	24,031,209	29,293,836
Current account	-	455,971
Savings account	19,414,522	19,309,444
Cash in hand	1,532,827	1,350,648
	<u>44,978,558</u>	<u>50,409,899</u>

THE GENERAL LEGAL COUNCIL
Notes to the Financial Statements
Year ended 31 March 2016

5. **Cash and Cash Equivalents (cont'd)**

For the purpose of the cash flows statement, cash and cash equivalents comprise the following:

	<u>2016</u>	<u>2015</u>
	\$	\$
Cash and cash equivalents	44,978,558	50,409,899
Bank overdraft	<u>(2,667,328)</u>	<u>-</u>
	<u>42,311,230</u>	<u>50,409,899</u>

6. **Receivables**

	<u>2016</u>	<u>2015</u>
	\$	\$
Trade receivable	5,615,590	-
Interest receivable	-	57,890
Other	<u>2,454,309</u>	<u>2,525,764</u>
	8,069,899	2,583,654
Prepayment	<u>45,815</u>	<u>129,204</u>
	<u>8,115,714</u>	<u>2,712,858</u>

7. **Payables and Accruals**

	<u>2016</u>	<u>2015</u>
	\$	\$
Trade payables	1,891,885	2,098,789
Audit fees	500,000	450,000
Other	<u>50,902</u>	<u>1,203,795</u>
	<u>2,442,787</u>	<u>3,752,584</u>

THE GENERAL LEGAL COUNCIL
Notes to the Financial Statements
Year ended 31 March 2016

8. **Expenses by Nature**

	<u>2016</u>	<u>2015</u>
	\$	\$
Depreciation	1,956,591	2,873,243
Advertising	454,674	690,450
Legal and professional fees	2,961,068	6,875,233
Employee benefits (note 12)	37,299,847	40,355,104
Other expenses	20,383,326	14,815,146
	<u>63,055,506</u>	<u>65,609,176</u>

9. **CLPD Operating Account**

	<u>2016</u>	<u>2015</u>
	\$	\$
Fees	<u>28,028,065</u>	<u>23,086,408</u>
<u>Expenses</u>		
Accommodation and meals	2,347,432	1,830,768
Advertising	-	132,029
Catering	2,940,083	2,269,311
Contract labour	296,533	640,163
Meeting expenses	111,120	420
Other expenses	1,215,930	60,548
Printing and stationery	15,393	1,770,746
Professional fees	1,002,500	704,325
Rental	3,467,287	2,191,254
Repairs and maintenance	156,613	1,721,389
Salary	198,002	-
Seminar expense	7,475	1,848,644
Telephone and internet	27,300	14,302
Travelling	1,640,409	2,326,894
	<u>13,426,077</u>	<u>15,510,793</u>
Net Surplus	<u>14,601,988</u>	<u>7,575,615</u>

THE GENERAL LEGAL COUNCIL
Notes to the Financial Statements
Year ended 31 March 2016

10. **Surplus for the Year**

Surplus for the year is stated after charging:

	<u>2016</u>	<u>2015</u>
	\$	\$
Auditor's remuneration	<u>500,000</u>	<u>450,000</u>

11. **Investment**

	<u>2016</u>	<u>2015</u>
	\$	\$
Unquoted security	<u>2,750,114</u>	<u>-</u>

This represents 12,851 share in Jambar Holdings at cost.

12. **Employee Benefits**

	<u>2016</u>	<u>2015</u>
	\$	\$
Salaries	33,099,864	35,980,831
Pension (note 13)	2,654,343	2,630,669
Health insurance	752,380	769,581
Uniform and other benefits	<u>793,260</u>	<u>974,023</u>
	<u>37,299,847</u>	<u>40,355,104</u>

The number of employees at year end was seventeen (17) (2015 – nineteen (19)).

13. **Pension**

The Council participated in a Defined Contribution Pension Plan for its employees, which is administered by Sagicor Life of Jamaica Limited. It is funded by contributions from employees and employer. The Council contributes at a rate of ten percent (10%) of pensionable salaries, while the employees contribute at a mandatory rate of five percent (5%) but may make voluntary contributions not exceeding a further five percent (5%).

THE GENERAL LEGAL COUNCIL
Notes to the Financial Statements
Year ended 31 March 2016

13. **Pension (cont'd)**

Pension benefits are based on contributions plus accumulated interest. Accordingly, the Council's liability is restricted to its contributions.

The Council's contribution to the above plan during the year ended 31 March 2016 amounted to \$2,654,343 (2015 - \$2,630,669)

14. **Financial Risk Management**

The Council's activities expose it to a variety of financial risks: market risk (currency risk, interest rate and other price risk), credit risk and liquidity risk. The Council seeks to manage these risks by close monitoring of each class of its financial instruments as follows:

a) **Market Risk**

i) **Currency risk**

Currency risk is the risk that the fair value of future cash flows of a financial instrument will fluctuate because of changes in foreign exchange rates.

The Council is not exposed to currency risk arising from various currency exposures. At the statement of financial position date, the Council had no foreign currency assets or liabilities.

ii) **Interest rate risk**

Interest rate risk is the risk that the value of future cash flows of a financial instrument will fluctuate because of changes in market interest rates.

The Council's cash and cash equivalents are subject to interest rate risk. However, the Council attempts to manage this risk by monitoring its interest-bearing instruments closely and procuring the most advantageous rates under contracts with interest rates that are fixed for the life of the contract, where possible.

The Council invests excess cash in short-term deposits and maintains interest-earning bank accounts with licensed financial institutions. Short-term deposits are invested for periods of twelve (12) months or less at fixed interest rates and are not affected by fluctuations in market interest rates up to the date of maturity. Interest rates on interest-

earning bank accounts are not fixed but are subject to market rates.

Interest rate sensitivity

Due to the fact that interest rates on the Council's short-term deposits are fixed up to maturity and interest earned from interest-bearing bank accounts is immaterial, there would be no material impact on the results of the Council's operations as a result of fluctuations in interest rates.

iii) Other price risk

Other price risk is the risk that the value of a financial instrument fluctuates as a result of changes in market prices, whether those changes are caused by factors specific to the individual instruments or its issuer or factors affecting all instruments traded in the market. The Council's exposure to changes in market prices is limited.

b) Credit Risk

Credit risk is the risk that one party to a financial instrument will fail to discharge an obligation and cause the other party to incur a financial loss.

The Council faces credit risk in respect of its receivables, cash and cash equivalents and short-term deposits held with financial institutions.

The Council limits its exposure to credit risk by maintaining these balances with licensed financial institutions that are considered to be stable. The maximum credit risk exposure faced by the Council is the total of the balances reflected in the financial statements, summarised as follows:

THE GENERAL LEGAL COUNCIL
Notes to the Financial Statements
Year ended 31 March 2016

14. **Financial Risk Management (cont'd)**

b) **Credit Risk (cont'd)**

	<u>2016</u>	<u>2015</u>
	\$	\$
Receivables	8,069,899	2,583,654
Cash and cash equivalents	<u>44,978,558</u>	<u>50,409,899</u>
	<u>53,048,457</u>	<u>52,993,553</u>

c) **Liquidity Risk**

Liquidity risk is the risk that the Council will encounter difficulty in raising funds to meet its commitment associated with financial instruments.

The Council manages its liquidity risk by maintaining appropriate level of resources in liquid or near liquid form. The Council maintains cash and short-term deposits for up to 12 months to meet its liquidity requirements.

The Council's financial liabilities comprise bank overdraft and payables and accruals. These amounts are due as follows:

	<u>Within 3</u>	<u>3 to 12</u>	<u>1 to 5</u>	<u>Total</u>
	<u>Months</u>	<u>Months</u>	<u>Years</u>	<u>\$</u>
	\$	\$	\$	\$
As at 31 March 2016				
Bank overdraft	2,667,328	-	-	2,667,328
Payables and accruals	1,628,524	814,263	-	2,442,787
	<u>4,295,852</u>	<u>814,263</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>5,110,115</u>
As at 31 March 2015				
Payables and accruals	2,548,789	1,203,795	-	3,752,584
	<u>2,548,789</u>	<u>1,203,795</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>3,752,584</u>

The General Legal Council

The supplementary information presented on page 23 has been taken from the accounting records of The General Legal Council and has been subjected to the tests and other auditing procedures applied in my examination of the financial statements of the Council for the year ended 31 March 2016.

In my opinion, this information, although not necessary for a fair presentation of the Council's state of affairs, results of operations, changes in reserves or cash flows is fairly presented in all material respects in relation to the financial statements taken as a whole.

Vintoria Bernard
CHARTERED ACCOUNTANT

19 August 2016

PARTNER: Vintoria Bernard, FCA, FCCA BSc.

THE GENERAL LEGAL COUNCIL
Additional Information – Schedule of Expenses
Year ended 31 March 2016

	<u>2016</u>	<u>2015</u>
	\$	\$
Advertising	454,674	690,681
Audit and accounting fees	557,650	650,450
Bank charges	944,710	684,612
Bad debt	-	388,914
Depreciation	1,956,591	2,873,243
Donation	187,700	57,859
Electricity	779,378	789,373
Insurance	114,153	97,554
Irrecoverable GCT	2,380,198	1,575,604
Legal and professional fees	2,961,068	6,875,233
Meeting expenses	94,219	42,653
Office expenses	564,478	387,534
Office rent	2,289,550	2,289,237
Printing, stationery and postage	2,472,418	1,579,632
Prior year adjustment	-	400,248
Repairs and maintenance	5,351,602	3,551,641
Salaries, wages and related costs	36,506,587	38,740,917
Security	1,143,074	875,504
Seminar expenses	361,786	42,120
Staff welfare	566,444	666,332
Staff training	157,300	160,000
Telephone	887,763	913,527
Travel and accommodation	2,097,347	968,617
Uniforms	226,816	307,691
	<u>63,055,506</u>	<u>65,609,176</u>