## COMMITTY COMMITTY

## INTEGRITY COMMISSION

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## LETTER #2 - RULING TO BE TABLED

September 5, 2024

The Most Hon. Juliet Holness, MP Speaker of the House of Representatives Houses of Parliament Gordon House 81 Duke Street Kingston

Hon. Heroy Clarke, MP, JP
Deputy Speaker of the House of Representatives
Houses of Parliament
Gordon House
81 Duke Street
Kingston

Senator the Hon. Tom Tavares-Finson, OJ, CD, KC, JP President of the Senate Houses of Parliament Gordon House 81 Duke Street Kingston

Ms. Colleen Lowe Clerk to the Houses of Parliament Houses of Parliament Gordon House 81 Duke Street Kingston

Dear Honourable Speaker, Deputy Speaker, Honourable President and Clerk to the Houses:

Re: Ruling – Concerning Investigation Conducted into the Statutory Declarations submitted by The Most Honourable Mr. Andrew Holness, Prime Minister, for the years 2019-2022, in respect of concerns that he owns assets disproportionate to his lawful earnings, and that he made false statements in his Statutory Declarations, by way of omissions, contrary to law

I write further to the Commission's Notice of April 6, 2023, a copy of which is attached herewith for your ease of convenience and, more particularly, with reference to the formal directions of the Commission, its Director of Investigation and its Director of Corruption Prosecution, regarding the captioned Investigation Report.

We ask that you take special note that the subject of the referenced Investigation is the Most Hon. Prime Minister of Jamaica, whose wife is the Hon. Speaker of the House of Representatives. In consequence, and in the interest of good governance, the Hon. Speaker may deem it appropriate to recuse herself from the Parliamentary processes that are and will be associated with this matter. It is for this reason that this letter is also addressed directly to the Deputy Speaker and the Clerk to the Houses.

The Integrity Commission, in keeping with, inter alia, the provisions of Sections 33, 53 and 54 of the Integrity Commission Act, 2017, has completed its Report of Investigation into the captioned matter. The referenced Report of Investigation has already been submitted to you under cover of letter of even date entitled: LETTER #1 - INVESTIGATION REPORT TO BE TABLED.

As it regards the Commission's Reports of Investigation, Section 54(1) of the Act provides that:

"On completion of an investigation, the Director of Investigation shall prepare and submit to the Commission, through the Executive Director, a report of his findings and recommendations."

Section 54(3)(b) of the Act expressly provides that:

"Where upon completion of an investigation, the Director of Investigation is satisfied that there are reasonable grounds for suspecting that-

an act of corruption or an offence under this Act has been committed, the Director of Investigation shall, in his report to the Commission, recommend that the matter be referred to the Director of Corruption Prosecution who may take such action as may be deemed appropriate"

Additionally, Section 54(4) of the referenced Act provides that:

"Where the report to the Commission has a recommendation under subsection (3), the Commission shall submit it to Parliament for tabling, excluding such matters as the Director of Corruption Prosecution regards as likely to prejudice the prosecution of any proceedings in relation to matters referred to in the report."

The Commission's Director of Corruption Prosecution has, pursuant to the provisions of the Integrity Commission Act, inclusive of the aforementioned Sections 54(3)(b) and 54(4) of the Act, and Sections 34(1)(a) and 34(1)(b) thereof, reviewed the subject Investigation Report and has ruled that: "Upon careful consideration, it was determined that no charges are to be laid." The matter was referred to the Director of Corruption Prosecution on the recommendation of the Director of Investigation, following the conclusion of his investigation with respect to possible breaches of the Corruption Prevention Act, 2001 and the Integrity Commission Act, 2017, and concomitant offences.

In the interest of public transparency, a copy of the Full Ruling of the Commission's Director of Corruption Prosecution in this matter is enclosed herewith.

Consequently, I now so advise.

Respectfully yours,

Greg Christie

**Executive Director** 

for and on behalf of the Integrity Commission

Enclosure

Hon. Mr. Justice (Ret'd) Seymour Panton, OJ, CD, Chairman, Integrity Commission Mrs. Keisha Prince-Kameka, Director of Corruption Prosecution, Integrity Commission Mr. Kevon Stephenson, JP, Director of Investigation, Integrity Commission