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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

PRESS RELEASE

Director of the Police Complaints Authority (PCA), Gillian Lucky is raising concerns about the statement made by visiting crime fighter William “Bill” Bratton, “...**only three things work for no money or low wages: a tool, a fool or a mule,**” at the recent launch of the Ministry of National Security’s programme, *A Country to Defend*.

Whilst acknowledging that better compensation packages for police officers is a matter that has to be addressed, as most recognize the extent to which police officers put their lives on the line on a daily basis in the fight against crime, Director Lucky does not view inadequate compensation packages as a reason to justify, legitimize or provide an excuse for officers to act contrary to, or in violation of their oaths of office.

The Oath of Office and Secrecy taken by police officers states, amongst other things that police officers swear that they will, to the best of their skill and knowledge, discharge all their duties thereof faithfully and in accordance with the law.

In fact, Director Lucky indicated to Mr. Bratton during a break-out session that his statement is an insult to all who serve at various levels and have taken oaths of office and are not paid commensurate with the good service they provide. She adds that any payment or increase in the remuneration package cannot in itself solve the problem of police corruption. Director Lucky notes it is important to ensure within the Service that there are constant checks and balances to assist in monitoring the activities of police officers to ensure that they do not engage in or are susceptible to corrupt activity.



One of the core functions of the PCA under section 21 (1) (d) of the Police Complaints Authority Act is to, “advise the Police Service and other public authorities on ways in which police corruption and serious police misconduct may be eliminated.”

Additionally, section 26 of the Police Complaints Authority Act states that police officers can also make complaints against other police officers to the PCA, where there are allegations of serious police misconduct, police corruption and/ or criminal offences involving police officers.

It was unfortunate that Mr. Bratton did not emphasize that officers should adhere to their oaths of office despite their remuneration packages.

The PCA strongly encourages police officers at every rank with any information on corrupt officers that they should come forward with this information to the PCA.

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