



ST. CHRISTOPHER AND NEVIS
OFFICIAL GAZETTE
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NOTICE

The following notice is hereby given pursuant to section 18 of the Commissions of Inquiry Act, Cap. 288, that a Commission of Inquiry has been appointed by His Excellency the Governor-General with effect from the date of publication of this Notice.

SAINT CHRISTOPHER AND NEVIS

ELIZABETH THE SECOND by the Grace of God,
of Saint Christopher and Nevis, Queen, Head of
the Commonwealth.

CUTHBERT M. SEBASTIAN
HIS EXCELLENCY SIR CUTHBERT
MONTRAVILLE SEBASTIAN, GCMG, OBE,
MD, CM
Governor-General



TO:-

CHARLES BLADES

WHEREAS We have deemed it expedient, for divers good causes and considerations, that a diligent and full inquiry should forthwith be made into the failure of an unusual number of police officers to report for duty for the six week period immediately before the 30th of September 2006, resulting in a reduction of the available manpower to the Commissioner of Police for the discharge of his duties, thereby placing increased duties and responsibilities on those Officers that reported for duty:

Saint Christopher and Nevis, that they be assistant to you and each of you in the execution of these presents, and We appoint you (here state name of chairman) to be the chairman of this commission, and give and grant to you the powers conferred on such a chairman by the Commissions of Inquiry Act.

IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF We have caused these Our Letters to be made patent and the Public Seal of Saint Christopher and Nevis to be hereunto affixed.

WITNESS His Excellency Sir Cuthbert Montraville Sebastian,
GCMG, OBE, MD, CM, Governor-General of
Saint Christopher and Nevis this 10th day of November, 2006.

CUTHBERT M. SEBASTIAN
Governor-General.

BY HIS EXCELLENCY'S COMMAND

DENZIL L. DOUGLAS
Minister responsible for Inquiries.

KNOW YE THEREFORE that, reposing great trust and confidence in your zeal, discretion and integrity, We by these presents authorize and appoint you, to make a diligent and full inquiry into the failure of an unusual number of police officers to report for duty for the six week period immediately before the 30th September, 2006 by providing a comprehensive analysis of the number of police officers reporting ill during that period and to diligently and fully enquire into and report on the absence from duty of police officers for the said period and make recommendations, if any, no later than February, 2007 with specific reference to:

- (a) the evidence presented by police officers for their absence from work;
- (b) where the reason given was illness, to enquire into the nature of the actual illness of the officer, and determine so far as is possible how genuine a claim it was;
- (c) to those officers who reported sick, the record of illness since becoming a member of the police force;
- (d) the allegations that police officers attempted and/or dissuaded other officers from reporting for duty;
- (e) the allegations that police officers sent text messages and telephoned other police officers attempting to, and/or did dissuade those and other officers from reporting for duty;
- (f) whether the failure of police officers in Nevis to report for duty on the 18th September 2006, thereby resulting in the absence of a guard of honour for the opening ceremony at the High Court in Nevis of the new Law Term, was an abuse by those officers of the privileges associated with sick leave;
- (g) whether the failure of police officers in Nevis to report for duty on the 19th September 2006, thereby resulting in the non-appearance of police officers on parade at the Independence Day Parade at Grove Park Nevis, was an abuse by those officers of the privileges associated with sick leave;
- (h) the allegation that on the 19th September, police officers whilst participating in the Independence Day Parade in St. Kitts were taunted by other police officers as a consequence of their having reported for duty and taken part in the parade;
- (i) the allegation that police officers having reported sick, did not attend for duty but reported for duty at second jobs which they held;
- (j) whether during this period taken as a whole, the taking of sick leave by these officers was for an improper purpose; and
- (k) to inquire into the law and procedure for claiming sick leave.

AND We do by these presents give and grant to you all the powers conferred on commissioners by the Commissions of Inquiry Act, for the purposes of making the aforesaid inquiry, and We require that within one month after the date of completion of this commission you do certify to Us, under your hands, your several proceedings, and your opinion and recommendations on the premises; and this commission shall continue in full force, although the proceedings thereunder shall not be conducted in public, and although the proceedings thereunder shall not be continued by adjournment from time to time, and you may from time to time, if you see fit, without waiting for your full and complete report, certify your several proceedings as the same shall be respectively perfected; and We hereby command all Government Officers, and other persons whomsoever, within