



THE REPUBLIC OF TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO
LEADER OF THE OPPOSITION
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18th October, 2021

Her Excellency Paula-Mae Weekes O.R.T.T.
President of the Republic of Trinidad and Tobago
Office of the President
Circular Road
St. Ann's
Republic of Trinidad and Tobago

Your Excellency,

I write with grave concern regarding the recent notifications and consultation letters, sent by your good self, concerning nominees to serve on the Police Service Commission.

It is my respectful view that the Office of the President has lost all moral and ethical grounds to continue to participate in this nomination process, given the recent ruling of our High Court indicating that Your Excellency acted in contravention of the Constitution by not submitting the PolSC merit list to Parliament.

I am fortified in my view by the recent statements made by Your Excellency in a paid advertorial appearing in our newspapers on 17th October 2021.

In that advertorial, Your Excellency shockingly revealed that a Police Service Commission merit list for Commissioner of Police was sent to you but then withdrawn. At no time over the past month did Your Excellency disclose that a PolSc merit list was withdrawn.

Furthermore, Your Excellency appears to acknowledge the fact that a public official was responsible for interfering with this process at the President's House.

I respectfully remind Your Excellency that no one in Trinidad and Tobago is above the laws of our land. We all must respect the law.

I call once again on Your Excellency to disclose the identity of this public official and state categorically whether it was indeed Prime Minister Dr. Keith Rowley or not.

My respectful view is that it is in the national interest of Trinidad and Tobago for The Office of The President to adequately answer the many serious questions that are still outstanding.

The process of appointing a new Police Service Commission must be paused until this occurs. Otherwise, all appointments made in future will appear to carry the taint of political partisanship.

The Opposition refuses to participate in a potentially tainted process of nominations to the Police Service Commission until these critical questions are answered.

Yours faithfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'K. Persad-Bissessar', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Kamla Persad-Bissessar, SC, MP
Leader of the Opposition