

# Christopher L. Ram

Lot 157 "C" Waterloo Street, North Cummingsburg,  
Georgetown, Guyana, P.O. Box: 10148

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May 15, 2020

Mr. David Patterson,  
Minister of Public Infrastructure,

Ms. Annette Ferguson,  
Minister of Housing

Ms. Simona Broomes,  
Minister of Presidency

Mr. Ryan Belgrave,  
Minister of Culture, Youth and Sport

Mr. Christopher Jones,  
Director of Sports

Dear Recipients,

**Subject: Article 219 (3) Constitution of Guyana**

Although I am sure that as a declarant to the Oath you have taken to honour, uphold and preserve the Constitution of Guyana, you are aware of the subject-mentioned Article. I think however that I owe it to you to remind you of the provision which states as follows:

*“(3) Where at any time Parliament has been dissolved before any provision or any sufficient provision is made under this Title for the carrying on of the Government of Guyana, the Minister responsible for finance may authorise the withdrawal of such sums from the Consolidated Fund as he or she may consider necessary for the purpose of meeting expenditure on the public services (emphasis added) until the expiry of a period of three months commencing with the date on which the National Assembly first meets after that dissolution, but a statement of the expenditure so authorised shall, as soon as practicable be laid before the Assembly by the Minister responsible for finance or any other Minister designated by the President and, when the statement has been approved by the Assembly, that expenditure shall be included, under the appropriate heads, in the next Appropriation Bill.”*

“Public service” is defined in Article 232 of the Constitution to mean “*subject to the provisions of paragraph (5), the service of the Government of Guyana in a civil capacity.*” Paragraph (5) thereof specifically excludes from public service as including, *inter alia*, the office of Minister and Members of the National Assembly.

It is a matter of public knowledge that you are now functioning as a Party official in the recount of the ballots cast in the March 2020 elections. I am satisfied that that function does not constitute public

services as contemplated and defined in the Constitution. Accordingly, any payment to you and any receipt by you would be a violation of the Constitution, the country's supreme law, as well as the Fiscal Management and Accountability Act.

The purpose of this letter is to notify you that at the appropriate time I will be bringing legal action against you for the return of all public moneys improperly received by you and for other sanctions as the Court thinks fit, as well as against persons paying such sums.

I advise you accordingly.



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Christopher Ram

Cc:

Clerk, National Assembly;  
Accountant General;  
Auditor General.