

The Government of the Republic of Trinidad & Tobago **PERSONNEL DEPARTMENT** 

(Office of the Chief Personnel Officer) Telephone Contact: 1-868-612-4CPO (4276) #3 Alexandra Street, St. Clair, Newtown 190129, Trinidad and Tobago.

## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE MEDIA RELEASE

## CPO Supports 500 Public Officers in Pension & Leave Processing Training

**December 15, 2023: Public Officers** from several **Ministries/Departments** and the **Tobago House of Assembly** benefitted from an intensive training workshop that sought to equip Public Officers with critical information in the processing of increments and pension and leave records, to enable the timely payment of pensions and gratuities to retired Public Officers and Contracted employees.

The Chief Personnel Officer Commander Dr. Daryl Dindial acknowledges the efforts of the Personnel Department's Compensation Management Division and the Ministry of Finance Treasury Division teams for embarking and delivering on this exercise which was based on a recommendation from the Public Administration and Appropriations Committee (PAAC) and spanned over a seven (7) month period.

**Commander Dindial** acknowledges the challenges retired **Public Officers** presently face while awaiting their retirement benefits. He added, that the workshops were also designed to foster a deeper understanding and interpretation of the **Personnel Department's** circulars in determining incremental points.

During the sessions that were hosted at the **CPO Wellness and Conference Centre** in **October and November**, **Commander Dindial** committed time to meet and engage with participants from the various **Ministries/Departments** consisting mainly of **Accounts** and **Human Resource** practitioners, to get a first-hand account of their respective challenges.

The workshops trained over **five hundred (500)** personnel from the **Internal Audit, Accounts, Pension and Leave and Human Resource Management Units/Divisions in Ministries/Departments** and the **Tobago House of Assembly,** and were intended to emphasise the critical importance of submitting accurate **Pension and Leave** records on a timely basis for processing, in addition to, equipping the participants with tools to assist them with the accurate processing.

**Commander Dindial** is optimistic that several **Public Service** transformation initiatives that the State has committed resources to will change the administration of the various salary structures inclusive of the use of appropriate technology to retrieve records and submit completed **Pension and Leave** for processing in the future. This is expected to significantly improve the timelines of **Pension and Leave** records being submitted for retirees' benefits to be processed.