



The Government of the Republic of Trinidad & Tobago

PERSONNEL DEPARTMENT

(Office of the Chief Personnel Officer)

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MEDIA RELEASE

Prison Association 2nd Division Expresses Change of Heart CPO 4% Offer Accepted

May 9, 2023 – The **2nd Division Prison Officers** can now anticipate receiving enhanced entitlements enclosed in the **Memorandum of Agreement** signed off by the **Prison Officers Association of Trinidad and Tobago (POATT) 2nd Division** accepting the **Chief Personnel Officer (CPO), Commander Dr. Daryl Dindial's 4% offer** for the periods **2014-2016 and 2017-2019**.

Apart from the **4% salary increase**, the **2nd Division Association** negotiated for new allowances such as **ICT Technician Repair Technician, Pharmacy Assistant, Proficiency, Driver Operator, Communication**, and an expanded list of **Qualification and Laundry Allowance**. Adjustments were also made to **Travelling Allowances, Cost of Living Allowance (COLA) as well as, a Lump-sum payment of \$4000.00 to Officers** who retired compulsorily, voluntarily, and with permission on the grounds of illness for the period **2014-2015**.

Commander Dindial commends the **2nd Division Association** present and previous **Executive** for their commitment and passionate expression of issues on behalf of their membership during the discussions. He recalled the discussions were some of the most difficult he had to engage. He added the **Association's** membership faces very unique and challenging circumstances and the Association did an outstanding job identifying them. The CPO reiterates that the commitment and sacrifices many of our Prison Officers demonstrate on behalf of our nation is invaluable to support restorative justice initiatives and the improvement of the mind-set, skills and desire for change by those who committed errors in judgement in the past.

The CPO expresses his commitment to continue working with the **Association** on behalf of its members. He reminded, that the State is demonstrating its commitment to improving many of the issues Officers are confronted by. Over the last month, **Grievance Procedure and Alternative Dispute Resolution (ADR) Training for One hundred (100) Prison Officers** were completed and the new **Job Evaluation Exercise** for the **Trinidad and Tobago Prison Service (TTPRS)** is expected to commence in this fiscal year.

Commander Dindial takes this opportunity to recognise the **former President** of the **POATT 2nd Division Mr. Ceron Richards and his Executive** for their spirited and earnest contributions. He congratulates the new Executive led by **Mr. Gerard Gordon**, and is hopeful that they will continue in that vein.

The CPO also appealed to other **Associations** before the Special Tribunal to accept the Government's final offer.