

THE JAMAICAN BAR ASSOCIATION

JUST RIGHTS

1. UPCOMING EVENTS

- **Continuing Legal Education Seminar on Ethical Considerations in the Use of Technology on Saturday, October 4, 2014 at the Mona Visitors' Lodge.**
- **Continuing Legal Education Weekend Seminar – November 14-16, 2014 at the Hilton Rose Hall Resort & Spa, Montego Bay, Saint James.**
- **Annual membership fees for 2014/2015 are due on October 1, 2014. Payments may be made at the Bar office or at Bank of Nova Scotia, Scotia Centre account #819-14. E-mail or fax a copy of your deposit slip as proof of payment.**

2. DONATION

The Jambar Bursary of J\$60,000.00 was awarded to Miss Monique M. Smith a final year student at Norman Manley Law School.

3. NEW LEGISLATION

JAMBAR has received the following Bills from the House of Parliament (Gordon House):

Act No. 5/14 An Act to Amend the Betting, Gaming and Lotteries Act

Act No. 7/14 An Act to validate and confirm as lawful all official acts done by Leon George Thomas, Deputy Mayor of the Municipality of Portmore in good faith, during the period commencing on the 8th day of July, 2014 and ending on the date of coming into operation of this Act in the purported exercise of the functions conferred upon him as Mayor of the Municipality of Portmore; to validate and confirm as lawful all decisions and other acts taken and done, in good faith, by the Portmore Municipal Council or any member or committee thereof, in the purported exercise of powers, duties and functions conferred on the Council or any such member or committee by the Municipalities Act, or by any other person by virtue of the purported exercise of such powers, duties or functions, during the period commencing on the 8th day of April, 2014 and ending on the date of the coming into operation of this Act; to indemnify Leon George

Thomas, the Portmore Municipal Council and other persons from liability in relation thereto; to amend the Municipalities Act; and for connected matters.

A Joint Select Committee of Parliament has been appointed to review the "Sexual Offences Act" and the "Road Traffic Act".

In considering the Sexual Offences Act, the Joint Select Committee will also review the "Child Care and Protection Act", the "Domestic Violence Act", the "Offences against the Person Act" and the offences and punishment under these Acts placing special emphasis on the protection of the vulnerable (women, children, the elderly and persons living with disabilities) from violence and abuse.

The Joint Select Committee is inviting written submissions from the public to aid the Committee's deliberations. Please send your written submissions by **FRIDAY, AUGUST 29, 2014** to Clerk to the Houses, Houses of Parliament, Gordon House, 81 Duke Street, Kingston or clerk@japarliament.gov.jm

4. OTHER NEWS

- At the Extra-Ordinary General Meeting held on June 28, 2014, Jambar resolved to institute legal proceedings to challenge the Proceeds of Crime (Designated Non-Financial Institution) (Attorney-at-Law) Order 2013. Several eminent counsels volunteered their services, and a legal team has been assembled to handle claim on Jambar's behalf. Members will be asked to make financial contribution to off-set the costs associated with the Court action and any other members who wish to assist in the matter may contact the Jambar Office to make their interest known.
- Miss Casey-Ann Brady, who recently completed her final year at the Norman Manley Law School and will later this year apply to be called as an Attorney-at-Law, has joined the team at the Jamaican Bar Association. During her time at Jambar, Miss Brady will provide administrative and other assistance to the various sub-committees, primarily Continuing Legal Education, Publications and Social Affairs and manage several other projects Jambar is undertaking to better serve our members.
- The post of Public Defender is still vacant. All suitably qualified persons are being reminded to submit applications.
- The Annual Banquet was held on the 18th of July 2014 at the Jamaica Pegasus Hotel. The event was well attended and honourees Justice Hazel Harris, Ms. Nancy Anderson and Lord Anthony Gifford Q.C., received awards and citations.
- The President represented the Bar in the print and electronic media to discuss a number of matters, including the state of our justice system, budgetary allocations to the Ministry of Justice, the poor funding of Legal Aid, the role of Jambar, the Proceeds of Crime Act and the passing of Dennis Daley, Q.C.

These included Power 106, Hot 102, LOOP, the Jamaica Gleaner and the Jamaica Observer.

5. BENEFITS TO JAMBAR MEMBERS

The following are some of the benefits available to paid-up members of JAMBAR:

- (a) access to a **“suite of financial benefits”** due to the JAMBAR’s agreement with the Bank of Nova Scotia Jamaica Limited. This includes members having potential access to billions of dollars at discounted interest rates or more favourable terms in relation to, inter alia, business start-up capital or loans; mortgages and motor vehicle facilities or loans;
- (b) discounted registration fees to attend JAMBAR’s Continuing Legal Education (“CLE”) seminars. This is particularly important now that there is mandatory Continuing Professional Development via the amendment to the Legal Profession Act;
- (c) discounted fees for membership at Spartan Health Club/Gym;
- (d) a free copy of the JAMBAR Journal which is published every quarter;
- (e) access to the legal material (*“mini library”*) at JAMBAR’s office;
- (f) discounted ticket cost for JAMBAR events, such as **“Bar Beat”**; and
- (g) discounted prices for stationery or other supplies purchased at INC Limited, Liguanea Mall, St. Andrew (next to the post office).

In the coming months, The Council will announce additional benefits to JAMBAR members.

6. OTHER SEMINARS

Public Administration International (PAI) is offering a one week UK-based study programme on “Access to Civil Justice: Efficiency, affordability and fairness” from the 6th - 10th October 2014 in London, England. For further information visit their website at: www.public-admin.co.uk

International Bar Association Annual Conference to be held in Tokyo, Japan
October 19-24, 2014

7. REPORTS/PUBLICATIONS

- The JAMBAR Journal Volume 27 No. 2 April-June 2014 is available for sale at JAMBAR’s office.

- Lexis Nexis books are available for sale at JAMBAR's office at discounted prices.

Please contact Miss Tapper/Wilmot at JAMBAR's Office for further information.

8. JAMBAR's SUB-COMMITTEES

Below is a table showing the various JAMBAR Sub-Committees and the names and email addresses for all Sub-Committee Chairpersons.

We encourage all members to contact the Chairperson of at least one sub-committee to enquire about joining and actively participating in its work.

LIST OF COMMITTEES	CHAIRPERSON	EMAIL
Alternative Dispute Resolution Committee	Mrs. Loretta Reid-Pitt	lorettarp@yahoo.com
Civil Procedure and Practice Committee	Mr. Kevin Powell	info@bmhylton.com
Criminal Law and Procedure Committee	Mr. Peter Champagnie	pchampagnie@cwjamaica.com
Continuing Legal Education Committee	Georgia Gibson-Henlin	mhenlin@henlin.pro
Commercial Law Committee	Ms. Hilary Reid	hilary.reid@mfg.com
Constitutional Law and Human Rights Committee	Mr. Leslie Campbell	darlaw@flowja.com
Conveyancing Committee	Mrs. Natalie Farrell-Ross	natalie.farrell-ross@mfg.com.jm
Intellectual Property Committee	Ms. Dianne Daley	daley@fogadaley.com
Legal Aid Committee	UNASSIGNED	
Membership Committee	Katherine Francis	kafrancis@jpsco.com
Publications and Law Reporting Committee	Mrs. Sanya Goffe	smgoffe@hmf.com.jm
Social Affairs Committee	Miss Melissa James	mtjames@cwjamaica
Telecommunication, Broadcasting & Technology	Ms. Nicole Foga	foga@fogadaley.com
Industrial Law & Labour Relations Committee	Mr. Emile Leiba	emile.leiba@dunncox.com
Revenue Law Committee	Miss Debbie-Ann Gordon	daglegal@flowja.com
Law Reform Committee	Mr. Ian Wilkinson Q.C.	iangwilkinson@wilkinsonlawja.com
Family Law	Ms. Alexis Robinson	alexis.robinson@mfg.com.jm

9. **JAMBAR's** offices are located at 78 Harbour Street, Kingston. The telephone numbers are 967-3394; 967-9034; 967-3783 (fax); Email: jba@flowja.com.
Website: www.jambar.org.

10. **PRESIDENT'S CONTACT INFORMATION**: Emails may also be sent to the President at dcwalker@hmf.com.jm

Donovan Walker
President
The Jamaican Bar Association
August 21, 2014