

October 15, 2018

Mrs. Jacqui Sampson-Meiguel, Clerk of the House, Levels G-7, Tower D, International Waterfront Centre, 1A Wrightson Road, Port of Spain.

"BY HAND AND ELECTRONIC CORRESPONDENCE"

Dear Mrs. Sampson-Meiguel,

Re: The Ninth Report of the Joint Select Committee on Human Rights, Equality and Diversity on an Inquiry into the Treatment of Detainees and Conditions at Holding Cells In Trinidad and Tobago Police Stations

Reference is made to your letter of October 5, 2018 and to the enclosed Report concerning the captioned subject.

We have noted your recommendations to the Police Complaints Authority on page 41 of the said Report at paragraphs 3.62 and 3.63. Outlined hereunder are our written responses to each of these recommendations.

"3.62 The Committee recommends that the PCA includes a search category in the electronic database to retrieve data on incidents occurring at holding cells in police stations." [Emphasis added]

In this regard, please be informed that since our attendance at the Joint Select Committee meeting convened on March 2, 2018 to deal with the captioned subject matter, we have updated our electronic database accordingly.

"3.63 The Committee recommends that the PCA promote its complaints process/system so that persons who are unable to afford a writ of habeas corpus can have their complaints against TTPS Officers regarding treatment in holding cells heard and investigated at no cost." [Emphasis added]

In this regard, we wish to advise that we accept your recommendation and intend to specifically deal with this during our outreach sessions and on all appropriate social media platforms which are available to us.

Please be guided accordingly.

Yours sincerely,

David West