



Leader of Her Majesty's Loyal Opposition

Commonwealth of The Bahamas

Corner of Bay and Parliament Street

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10th August 2021
Mr. David Forbes
Chief Clerk
House of Assembly
Rawson Square
Nassau, Bahamas

Dear Mr. Forbes

Re: Formal request for the subpoena of various public accounts records

I write to you in my capacity as chairman of the Public Accounts Committee. Pursuant to Rule 17(5) of the Rules of Procedure of the Honourable House of Assembly, you are directed to formally request the production of various public accounts records from the relevant government ministry, department or agency. I deem a review of these public accounts necessary to assist this standing committee in carrying out its duties.

Specifically, it is requested that the relevant government ministries, departments or agencies provide a detailed accounting of the following:

- 1) Provide a detailed accounting of the total revenue collected from the travel visa program from its inception.
- 2) Provide details on all relevant communications to all local and international lenders and financial institutions, including the International Monetary Fund, on commitments, agreements or promises to hike existing taxes and or to introduce new taxes to raise additional revenue as a condition for accepting credit facilities.

- 3) Provide copies of detailed and complete loan agreements that the Minnis administration entered into with the Inter-American Development Bank (IDB), the World Bank and the International Monetary Fund during this current term in office.
- 4) Enumerate the amount of the drawdown so far from the \$250 million IMF loan facility the Government of The Bahamas entered into last year.
- 5) Provide a detailed and itemized accounting of all donations received by the government from local and international persons and organizations to date in connection with Hurricanes Irma and Dorian's recovery and reconstruction efforts.
- 6) Provide a detailed and itemized accounting of all public expenditures pertaining to Hurricanes Irma and Dorian's recovery and reconstruction efforts.
- 7) Provide a detailed and itemized accounting of expenditures pertaining to the COVID-19 pandemic ('pandemic spending') inclusive of the food assistance program. Additionally, provide details on the procurement process and connected contracts administration for services provided including COVID-19 testing and third-party contracts (eg: Kanoo and Island Pay) to provide financial services on behalf of the government and its agencies.
- 8) Provide a copy of the lease, including financial terms, of the space in the Town Center Mall that currently houses the public post office.
- 9) Provide a copy of the agreements between the Bahamas Power and Light Limited and Shell North America to provide new power generation plants and fuel supply.
- 10) Provide a copy of the agreement between the Bahamas Power and Light Limited and Wartsila to supply power generation plants and a detailed accounting of the \$95 million expended on new power generation plants and associated rentals of mobile power generation plants.
- 11) Provide a detailed accounting of the contract administration at the Ministry of Youth, Sports and Culture for fiscal years 2017/2018, 2018/2019 and 2019/2020.
- 12) Provide details on the fiscal status of The National Insurance Fund. What has been the deficit for the last four years and what are the plans to address the deficit of NIB? Specifically, provide details of all sums owed by the government to National Insurance Board (NIB) for the government's unemployment assistance program.

- 13) Provide a detailed account of how much money has been spent to date on paying out separated staff, maintaining the property – inclusive of utilities, landscaping and salaries – as well as taxes, licenses, legal costs and fulfillment of contracts associated with the government's purchase of the Grand Lucayan property in Freeport, Grand Bahama? Further, provide a copy of the Heads of Agreement between the Government of The Bahamas and Royal Caribbean and its corporate partners for the purchase and development of the Grand Lucayan Hotel Property and the proposed cruise port in Freeport, Grand Bahama.
- 14) Provide a copy of the Heads of Agreement between the government of The Bahamas and Royal Caribbean for the lease and development of the Paradise Island property as a cruise port destination.
- 15) Advise on which projects have been expedited by the National Economic Council and any other government body or appointee, as was promised by the Prime Minister and recommended by the Economic Recovery Committee?

Thank you for your cooperation and attention to these important matters.

Best Regards,



Hon. Philip Brave Davis QC, MP

Chairman – Public Accounts Committee

Cc: Chester Cooper

Picewell Forbes

Michael Foulkes

Adrian Gibson