



BELIZE CHAMBER OF COMMERCE & INDUSTRY

4792 Coney Drive, 2nd Floor Withfield Tower, P.O. Box 291 , Belize City, Belize, Central America

OUR REF: BCCI/PRES 02/02-2020

11th February 2020

Hon. Michael Peyrefitte
Minister
Attorney General's Ministry
1st Floor, East Block
Belmopan City, BELIZE

Dear Attorney General,

The Belize Chamber of Commerce & Industry (BCCI) is deeply concerned about the allegations of fraud and/or bribery involving current and former high-ranking public officials that has been reported in both the local and international press. These allegations are of greater concern to the BCCI following the national convention of the United Democratic Party ("UDP") held on Sunday, 9th February 2020, as one of the persons who has been repeatedly named in these allegations is the newly designated leader of the UDP, the Honourable John Saldivar.

The BCCI considers that there is sufficient circumstantial evidence to justify the Government's investigation into these very grave allegations that affect the integrity and perception of our great nation. Belize has signed a Mutual Legal Assistance Treaty ("MLAT") with the United States which empowers Belize to request information regarding a criminal investigation, the pre-requisite being that there must be a local investigation. Article 2 of the MLAT states that the Central Authority for Belize shall be the Attorney General or a person designated by the Attorney General.

The BCCI calls upon your office as Belize's Central Authority to immediately launch an investigation into the allegations of bribery of public officials by Lev Dermen and Jacob Kingston. The BCCI further calls on the Government to utilize the MLAT executed between Belize and the United States to request any and all documents and information, including deposed testimonies of Lev Dermen and Jacob Kingston, pertaining to their business interests and dealings in Belize, and specifically, in relation to the allegations of fraud and bribery which are already in the public domain.

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "J. Saldivar", is located in the bottom right corner of the page.

We ask that such request be couched in the broadest terms to ensure that all persons who were involved in and/or facilitated any wrongdoing can be brought to justice.

Sincerely,



Nikita Usher (Mr.)
President