

NOTICE OF DISCIPLINARY CHARGE UNDER SECTION 52 OF THE *PUBLIC SERVICES (MANAGEMENT) ACT 1995* AND GENERAL ORDER NO 15 OF 2012

CHARGE FOR SERIOUS OFFENCE NO 3

TO: Mr Richard Pangwinyen

Internal Auditor
Department of Labour & Industrial Relations

<u>TAKE NOTICE</u> that in accordance with the information provided to the Secretary for the Department you are responsible for and you facilitated the removal from the Department of a "Confidential Audit Report of April 2020 under a Confidential Cover Minute from the Chief Internal Auditor to the Secretary dated May 7th 2020".

That as a result of the said Report being leaked to persons outside of the Department a Member of the Opposition, did in the National Parliament on Friday 20th August 2021 present the confidential information contained in the said Report in Question Time.

The Opposition Member using Parliamentary privilege made the following statements with reference to the said Report, quoted verbatim (and summarized) from a video tape broadcast on the You Tube video channel (available on request):

"there is systemic corruption in the Department of Labour & Industrial Relations."

"the Secretary and senior officers of the Department have condoned and facilitated "Double Dipping" from the Government Payroll."

"seven Fraud Squad investigations are ongoing in the Department into the Secretary's criminal activities involving collusion with suppliers paid over K2 million but not delivering equipment and services, and the "Double Dipping" into Government Payrolls"

"when will the Minister take action against the Secretary to stop this corruption,"

<u>TAKE NOTICE</u> that legal advice states that a public servant who releases Confidential Audit Reports for any reason <u>to an unauthorized recipient</u> that results in a Member of the Opposition making statements from the said Report is unlawful.

<u>TAKE NOTICE</u> that the said Report provided to the Parliament and to the Fraud Squad is speculative and wrongfully alleges criminal activity against named officers without proof, doing harm to the professional reputations of the said officers and the Secretary and to the standing of the Minister and the Department.

<u>TAKE NOTICE</u> that the said Report is speculative and wrongfully alleges criminal activity against named officers without proof, doing harm to the professional reputations of the said officers and the Secretary and to the standing of the Minister and the Department.

The said Report makes reference to administrative matters which are not hidden in any way and are under review by named officers and are subject to follow up by the Internal Auditor and Chief Internal Auditor and at no stage have the Fraud Squad requested information from the Secretary regarding the allegations of corruption.

TAKE FURTHER NOTICE that you are hereby charged with the Third Serious Offence under General Order No 15.19 (h), namely, is guilty of disgraceful or improper conduct in his/her official capacity or otherwise;

Whereby facilitating the provision of a Confidential Audit Report to persons outside of the Department resulted in the Member of the Opposition providing unproven, speculative and derogatory information to the Parliament and to the Fraud Squad,

- knowing in your official capacity as Internal Auditor that your written allegations
 about criminal collusion between the Secretary and named Officers of the
 Department to defraud the State seriously harming their reputations and their
 employment amounts to disgraceful and improper conduct; and
- knowing that the Member of the Opposition was protected by Parliamentary privilege meaning that the Secretary and the named Officers would have no right of reply also amounts to disgraceful and improper conduct.

<u>AND TAKE FURTHER NOTICE</u> that you are now required to sign for receipt of the Third Charge and provide your response to the said Charge of the breaches of the said General Order No 15.19 (h) within 7 working days from the date of receipt as described in the Suspension Notice and <u>state whether</u> or not you admit or deny the said Charge GO No 15.19(h).

AND TAKE FURTHER NOTICE that if no written reply is received by the Chairman of the Disciplinary Committee within 7 working days after the receipt of this Charge Notice you may be deemed to have admitted the truth and thereby be subject to termination of your employment for cause without notice and loss of service related benefits.

It has

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Dated this / A + h

Delegate of the Secretary and Member of the Disciplinary Committee)

.... day of September