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CIRCULAR No. 75
OSC Ref. C. 5166/MC

3rd March, 2016

RE: JURY DUTY

Permanent Secretaries, Heads of Departments and Chief Executive Officers are being reminded of **Circular No. 36 dated the 1st February, 2016 from the Office of the Services Commissions**, which informed that, effective **February 1, 2016**, with the exception of persons listed in Schedule A of the Jury (Amendment) Act, Order 2016, all other officers holding appointments and receiving salaries in the Public Service of Jamaica are **no longer exempted from jury duties**.

In this connection, I am to inform you that further to the abovementioned circular, Section 19A has been inserted in the Principal Act and indicates that:

“Where an employee has been summoned to jury service, the employee shall be entitled to time away from his place of employment to serve on a jury, without loss of remuneration or other benefit or advantage, to which the employee is entitled.”

The Jury (Amendment) Act, Schedule A, Order 2016 sets out below the **List of Persons Exempt from Serving on Juries:**

“Members of the Privy Council, the Cabinet, Senate and House of Representatives.

Judges and spouses of Judges of the Supreme Court and Court of Appeal, Masters in Chambers and spouses of the Masters in Chambers, Registrars and spouses of the Registrars of Supreme Court, Judges and spouses of the Judges of the Family Court, Judges and spouses of Judges of the Traffic Court and Resident Magistrates and spouses of Resident Magistrates.

The Mayor, Deputy Mayor and Councillors of the Kingston and Saint Andrew Corporation and the Mayors, Deputy Mayors and Councillors of the Parish Councils and Municipalities.

Custodes of Parishes.

Justices of the Peace who preside in Courts of Petty Sessions.

Attorneys-at-Law in actual practice (including attorneys-at-law employed in the public service of Jamaica).

Members of the Jamaica Constabulary Force and the Jamaica Defence Force.”

Please be guided accordingly.

Please ensure that a copy of this circular is placed at a strategic position on the Notice Board of the Ministry/Department/Agency and brought to the attention of all officers.

Mrs. Jacqueline Mendez, JP
Chief Personnel Officer (acting)