



Any reply or subsequent reference to this communication should be addressed to the Contractor-General and the following reference quoted:-

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MEDIA RELEASE

OFFICE OF THE CONTRACTOR-GENERAL REFERS SEVEN DELINQUENT PUBLIC BODIES TO THE DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC PROSECUTIONS

Kingston, May 30, 2008 – In keeping with the terms of its Zero Tolerance policy, the Office of the Contractor General (OC-G) has today formally referred seven (7) Public Bodies to the Director of Public Prosecutions (DPP) because of their failure to submit their 2008 1st Quarter Contract Award (QCA) Reports on or before the prescribed deadline.

The Reports were required to be submitted to the OC-G by April 30, 2008, or on or before May 1, 2008 if the OCG's recently implemented one (1) day Grace Period is taken into account.

Any person who, without lawful justification or excuse, fails to comply with a lawful requisition of a Contractor General, commits a criminal offence under Section 29 of the 1983 Contractor General Act.

With only 7 of the country's 191 Procuring Public Bodies failing to meet the requisite OCG QCA reporting deadline, the compliance rate for Public Bodies that are currently filing their QCA reports on time continues to remain at an unprecedented level of 96%.

This compares to the low compliance rate of 13% which was recorded when the QCA regime was first implemented by the OCG in May 2006.



QCA Reports are required to be filed with the OC-G, in arrears, within one month after the ending of each quarter. They are specially structured to force the disclosure of the material particulars of certain contracts which have been awarded by Public Bodies. They are also designed to disclose whether and to what extent a Procuring Public Body has complied with the Government's Procurement Procedures and Guidelines.

The names of the seven (7) Public Bodies that were referred today to the DPP are listed below.

1. Council of Community Colleges of Jamaica
2. Edna Manley School of the Visual and Performing Arts (Repeat Offender)
3. Financial Sector Adjustment Company (FINSAC)
4. Food Storage and Prevention of Infestation Department
5. Jamaica Urban Transit Company (JUTC)
6. National Youth Service (NYS)
7. Self Start Fund

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