

Scott's Hill, P.O Box 1943
St. John's, Antigua,
Antigua and Barbuda
deanjonas@gmail.com

Dean Jonas

9th November 2023

Honourable Prime Minister

Prime Minister's Office

St Johns

Dear Prime Minister,

I am writing to acknowledge the receipt of your letter dated October 31, 2023, in which you informed me of your decision, in your capacity as Prime Minister of Antigua and Barbuda, to revoke my appointment as Advisor to the Minister responsible for the Blue Economy, effective from the date of your letter. Your communication also details a list of reasons for the revocation of my appointment.

Through this medium, I would like to formally express my disagreement with your decision. It appears that your pronouncement is not based on accurate information, and, upon further investigation, it will be evident that your decision is founded on unwarranted speculations and conjecture. This collectively presents a strong case for wrongful termination, especially as it was executed without due process. In light of these concerns, I respectfully suggest that you seek additional advice regarding your decision, considering my response, which I offer in good faith, and in response to the implication in your letter that there might be room for discussion.

I was appointed by the Cabinet of Antigua and Barbuda, of which you serve as Chairman. The appointment which officially commenced approximately eight months ago on March 1, 2023, following a decision made by the Honourable Members of Cabinet on January 25, 2023. The appointment letter also mentioned that the Minister responsible for the Blue Economy would provide the terms of reference for my role as the advisor.

Regrettably, despite my best efforts to engage with the Minister responsible for the Blue Economy, both virtually and in-person, I have not been granted an audience. The expectation from the Cabinet Secretary's letter dated March 14, 2023, which stated that the Minister would provide the Terms of Reference, was never met. I made multiple attempts to engage with various stakeholders, including the minister of state and the PS, to demonstrate my interest in meaningful work, but all my efforts were in vain. Therefore, it is unjust to suggest that I had disregarded proper institutional procedures or exceeded my authority within the Ministry, as I have never received any instructions or had any meetings with the appointed Minister. I am confident that I can address any specific references or evidence to the contrary. This situation raises concerns about the efficiency and productivity within the public sector and necessitates further scrutiny and review.

Scott's Hill, P.O Box 1943
St. John's, Antigua,
Antigua and Barbuda
deanjonas@gmail.com

Dean Jonas

I categorically deny the claim that I acted defiantly and unrepentant regarding an incident reported in your letter as occurring in June of this year. I never provided guidance for a vessel to venture out to sea with directives to anchor and deploy equipment for mining in a mapped zone. It is deeply disheartening that you would go as far as to attempt to tarnish my professional reputation as a telecoms engineer with deep knowledge of the local marine telecoms system, suggesting that I intentionally damaged a marine cable. This accusation, without prior notification or a fair hearing, can reasonably be described as slanderous and libelous. Once again, this unfounded reason for my termination without due process contradicts principles of justice and threatens the job security of **ALL** public service employees.

I am convinced that the technical advice you received, which influenced your decision to terminate my appointment, is flawed and should be subjected to rigorous scrutiny.

I sincerely hope that you will reconsider your decision, and that we can resolve this matter amicably to prevent any further disruptions to the government's operations. Lengthy and protracted labour relations negotiations and hearings will only serve to distract from the vital work of the government.

Furthermore, I trust that, despite our differing perspectives on various matters, you will consider embracing diverse viewpoints and innovative approaches to address issues through meaningful and constructive dialogue for the betterment of our beloved island nation.

I eagerly await your response.

Sincerely,



Dean Jonas