



**Report of  
The Judicial Council  
2017**



**BRIDGETOWN, BARBADOS**

**LETTER OF TRANSMITTAL**

5 December 2019

Hon. Dale D. Marshall, Q.C., M.P.  
Attorney General and Minister of Legal Affairs  
Office of the Attorney General  
Jones Building  
Webster's Business Park  
Wildey  
**St. Michael**

Dear Attorney General

In accordance with Section 93(4) of the Supreme Court of Judicature Act, Cap. 117A, I submit for your attention the Reports of the Judicial Council for the period 1 January to 31 December 2017.

The Council apologises for the protracted delay in submission.

Yours faithfully

**MARSTON GIBSON**  
Chief Justice and Chairman  
of the Judicial Council

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## INTRODUCTION

The year 2017 was an exciting year although, as will become clear shortly, not all the excitement was of the desirable kind.

In 2017, both the IMPACT Justice Project and the JURIST Project assisted with Mediation Training. There is a Mediation Handbook funded by JURIST for the guidance of mediation programmes throughout the Caribbean.

But more importantly, JURIST had arranged for consultants to perform an Operational Review, or mapping of all the processes, of both the Registry and the Judiciary, as well as to prepare a Disaster Preparedness/Business Continuity Plan for the Courts. The Close-out report has been submitted to our Local Implementation Committee, and some action has been taken on it in the form of a Sub-Committee which is planning the training module especially of the Registry staff.

On 12 April 2017, the Chief Justice, on behalf of the Judiciary received the *Draft Gender Equality Protocols for Judges and Magistrates in Barbados*, a joint project of the JURIST Project, the Caribbean Association of Judicial Officers (CAJO) and UN Women. The objective is to convert the Draft to a Final Protocol which will guide judges and magistrates in gender sensitive adjudication. That work is in progress.

2017 was also the year we began to meet with Environmental Scientist, Dr. Leah Garner-O'Neale and Industrial Hygienist, Mr. Ian Weekes concerning the several complaints which we were receiving over illnesses which appeared to be as a result of mould in the building. November and December 2017 were spent in examining every space in the Supreme Court Complex to determine the extent of the problem.

Finally, 2017 was a year of loss – Sir Clifford Husbands QC, former Governor-General; Charles Leacock QC, former DPP; Ms. Marva Clarke, former Registrar; Theodore Walcott QC, former magistrate; and Mr. Eli Edwards.

MARSTON C.D. GIBSON  
Chairman, Judicial Council  
and Chief Justice  
5 December 2019

## **MEMBERSHIP OF THE JUDICIAL COUNCIL**

As at 31 December 2017, the members of the Judicial Council were as follows:

Hon. Sir Marston C.D. Gibson, K.A., Chief Justice - Chairman  
 Hon. Sandra P. Mason, Justice of Appeal  
 Hon. Andrew Burgess, Justice of Appeal  
 Hon. Kaye Goodridge, Justice of Appeal  
 Hon. William Chandler, Judge of the High Court  
 Hon. Margaret Reifer, Judge of the High Court  
 Hon. Randall Worrell, Judge of the High Court  
 Hon. Jacqueline Cornelius, Judge of the High Court  
 Dr. the Hon. Sonia Richards, Judge of the High Court  
 Dr. the Hon. Olson Alleyne, Judge of the High Court  
 Hon. Michelle Weekes, Judge of the High Court  
 Hon. Pamela Beckles, Judge of the High Court  
 Ms. Deborah Holder, Master of the High Court  
 Mrs. Barbara Cooke-Alleyne, Registrar of the Supreme Court  
 Mr. Christopher Birch, Chief Magistrate  
 Ms. Jennifer Edwards, Q.C., Solicitor General  
 Ms. Liesel Weekes, President of the Barbados Bar Association  
 Mr. Barry Gale, Q.C., Attorney-At-Law  
 Mr. Sean Lewis, Attorney-at-Law  
 Mrs. Rosalind Smith-Millar, Attorney-at-Law  
 Mr. Christopher Maynard  
 Mrs. Coreen Kennedy-Taitt  
 Ms. Sandra Reeves, Secretary

## **CHANGES IN MEMBERSHIP AND TRIBUTES**

Consequent on the appointment of Ms. Pamela Beckles to the office of Judge of the High Court, Chief Magistrate Christopher Birch was appointed to represent the Magistracy on the Judicial Council on 1 November 2017.

## **MEETINGS HELD**

Two meetings were held during the year under review.

## **BUDGET OF THE JUDICIAL COUNCIL**

For the fiscal year 2017/2018, there was an allocation of \$172,994.00 to enable the Council to carry out its statutory responsibilities and facilitate its work programme. The vote is administered by the Cabinet Office.

**Statement of Accounts**

Approved by Parliament	\$172,994.00
Expenditure as at December 31, 2016	<u>50,877.82</u>
Balance available to March, 2017	<u>122,116.18</u>

**WORK AND ACTIVITIES****Drug Treatment Court**

The second cohort of twenty-three (23) clients of the Drug Treatment Court commenced on 14 December 2017 at the Supreme Court Complex.

**Mediation Project**

A Mediation Refresher Course for Court-Annexed Mediator-Trainees facilitated by IMPACT Justice, was conducted by Riverdale Mediation Ltd. from 3 to 5 April 2017 at the Lloyd Erskine Sandiford Centre.

**The Judicial Reform And Institutional Strengthening (JURIST) Project**

The Registrar of the Supreme Court, Mrs. Barbara Cooke-Alleyne, and the Mediation Coordinator Mrs. Harriett Payne, attended a two-day workshop regarding the development of a JURIST Handbook on Court Connected Mediation at the Hyatt Hotel in Trinidad, 20 to 21 April, 2017. Key stakeholders from countries within the region came together to share information, discuss lessons learned and the expected result of the establishment of a court-connected mediation network.

A consulting team from Trevor Hamilton and Associates comprising of Dr. Trevor Hamilton and Mr. Quince Francis, visited the Supreme Court, 9 to 10 May 2017, to conduct interviews and collect information from a number of focus groups whose members varied from members of the judiciary, magistracy, secretarial, administrative, clerical to Court Marshals, to conduct a regional training needs assessment as well as identify key technical and functional capacity gaps of judicial officers within the region. This initiative was undertaken in order to assess and prioritize learning needs of judicial officers and to develop a training plan for implementation over the next two years. This training plan was expected to be tied closely to the judicial reforms to be undertaken in each country.

The *Draft Gender Equality Protocols for Judges and Magistrates in Barbados* was formally handed over to the Honourable Chief Justice, Sir. Marston Gibson K.A., on behalf of the Judiciary on 12 April 2017.

On 23 May 2017 the Honourable Chief Justice, Sir Marston Gibson, K.A. attended a JURIST Project Steering Committee (PSC) Meeting at the Hyatt Regency Hotel in Port-of-Spain, Trinidad and Tobago, the purpose of which was to seek approval for the Project's 2017-2019 Work Plan.

A briefing meeting for the Judiciary and Magistracy was held at the Supreme Court with the Director of the JURIST Project, Dr. Penny Reddie and the Regional Project Coordinator with responsibility for Barbados, Mr. John Furlonge on 22 June 2017, to provide detailed information regarding two initiatives which had been approved for Barbados; an Operational Review of the High Court (civil) Registry, and a disaster recovery/business continuity plan.

A Consultative Meeting with all members of the Judiciary was held on Monday, 26 June 2017 in partnership with the JURIST Project, the Caribbean Association of Judicial Officers (CAJO) and UN Women-MCO with respect to the Draft Gender Equality Protocols for Judges and Magistrates in Barbados.

The main mandate of the JURIST Project is to reengineer, modernize and strengthen CARICOM court systems and processes; and retool judicial officers and court staff with the skills and competencies necessary to deliver justice in a fair, transparent, effective and timely manner. The Barbados Judiciary was chosen as the first main model court for implementation of the Project. JURIST engaged PricewaterhouseCoopers Advisory Services Limited (PwC) to conduct an Operational Review of the Barbados High Court – Civil Division in order to develop a judicial system that is more responsive to the needs of its customers. The Project commenced on 26 June 2017 and was concluded on 30 November 2017. The PwC Operational Review Close-Out Report was submitted to the members of the Local Implementation Committee on 14 December 2017.

The Launch of the JURIST Project Model Guidelines for Sexual Offences in the Caribbean Region took place on 17 October 2017 at Courtyard by Marriott in Barbados.

### **Environmental Protection**

In November 2017, the Registrar of the Supreme Court instructed by the Chief Justice, wrote the Principal of the University of the West Indies to seek her assistance in having the air quality of the Supreme Court Complex tested, due to the high number of staff experiencing various respiratory issues as well concerns raised by staff at all levels regarding visible signs of mould.

Dr. Leah Garner-O’Neale, Lecturer in Chemistry and Deputy Dean of the Faculty of Science and Technology of the University of the West Indies and Mr. Ian Weekes an Industrial Hygienist were engaged to conduct investigations regarding the source of the issues plaguing the Supreme Court Complex; along with a limited review of ergonomics and basic safety management needs.

A meeting was held on 6 December 2017, with the Chief Justice, the Registrar of the Supreme Court, the Court Administrator, Dr. Garner-O’Neal, and Mr. Weekes, to discuss the various challenges being experienced by various staff members throughout the building. Immediately following the meeting Dr. Garner-O’Neal and Mr. Weekes briefly toured several areas in the building to conduct a visual examination of the main areas of concern.

Subsequent to the meeting held on 6 December 2017, Dr. Garner-O'Neal and Mr. Weekes, conducted preliminary testing along with further observations on 15 December 2017. The preliminary tests performed included dew point, moisture, carbon dioxide (CO<sub>2</sub>), carbon monoxide (CO) and ozone (O<sub>3</sub>) measurements. The preliminary findings revealed extensive mould-like growth throughout Court Room 10 and the offices of Community Legal Services. It was therefore recommended that full remediation of these areas should be carried out as soon as possible.

A walk-through of the Supreme Court was done by Dr. Garner-O'Neal and Mr. Weekes on 27 December 2017, in Court Rooms No.1, No.2, No.3, No.6, No.7, No.8, No.9, No.10, No.11, No.12 and the Registrar's Court which revealed mould-like growth present throughout those courtrooms and mild to strong odour of furniture off-gassing in a few court rooms. Full remediation of all the court rooms was highly recommended and it was strongly advised that Courts No. 1, 3, 7, 8, 10 and 12 be closed to public access due to the extent and location of mould-like growth visibly present until those rooms were remediated.

### **Continuing Education and Training**

Below is a list of the various activities in which members of the judiciary and magistracy participated by way of continuing education and training during the year under review.

- (1) Hon. Sir Marston Gibson, K.A., Chief Justice, Hon. Madam Justice Jacqueline Cornelius and Hon. Madam Justice Michelle Weekes, Judges of the High Court, attended Training in Relation to the use of Prison Video Links in St. Lucia, 23 February 2017.
- (2) The Registrar of the Supreme Court, Mrs. Barbara Cooke-Alleyne attended the JURIST Handbook on Court Annexed Mediation Workshop in Trinidad, 20 to 21 April 2017.
- (3) Hon. Madam Justice Sandra Mason, Justice of Appeal and Hon. Madam Justice Margaret Reifer, Judge of the High Court, attended the Regional Anti-Money Laundering Workshop for Judges and Prosecutors, at Radisson Aquatica Resort, Barbados, 22 to 24 May 2017.
- (4) The Hon. Madam Justice Michelle Weekes, Judge of the High Court attended the Regional Workshop on Constitutions, Environment and Human Rights in Brazil, 22 to 23 May 2017.
- (5) All Judges, the Master of the High Court and the Registrar of the Supreme Court attended the Family Law Seminar, in the Judges Lounge of the Supreme Court Complex on 26 May 2017.

- (6) Hon. Sir Marston Gibson, KA, Chief Justice attended the National Association for Court Management/International Association for Court Administration Joint Annual Conference on Court Administration in Washington, D.C., 9 to 13 July 2017.
- (7) Hon. Mr. Justice Randall Worrell, Judge of the High Court, attended the Evaluating Drug Treatment Courts Workshop at the OAS Headquarters in Washington, D.C., 13 to 14 July 2017.
- (8) Hon. Sir Marston Gibson, K.A., Chief Justice, Hon. Madam Justice Sandra Mason, Justice of Appeal, Hon. Madam Justice Margaret Reifer, Judge of High Court, Ms. Deborah Holder, Master of the High Court, Mrs. Barbara Cooke-Alleyne, Registrar of the Supreme Court and Chief Magistrate Christopher Birch attended the 5<sup>th</sup> Biennial Conference of the Caribbean Association of Judicial Officers in Curacao, 28 to 30 September 2017.
- (9) Hon. Sir Marston Gibson, K.A., Chief Justice and Hon. Randall Worrell, Judge of the High Court attended the Workshop on Strengthening Our Capacity to Combat Cybercrimes and other Organized Crimes at the Accra Beach Hotel & Spa, 30 October to 1 November 2017.
- (10) All High Court Judges and Magistrates attended the Sentence Indications Workshop at the Radisson Aquatica Resort, Barbados, 4 to 5 November 2017.
- (11) All Magistrates attended the Domestic Violence Benchbook for Magistrates Workshop, at the Supreme Court Complex, 10 to 11 November 2017.
- (12) Hon. Madam Justice Michelle Weekes, Judge of the High Court attended a Lecture on Admiralty Jurisdiction in the Caribbean in Trinidad on 14 November 2017.
- (13) Hon. Madam Justice Jacqueline Cornelius, Judge of the High Court Magistrate Wayne Clarke, attended Part 1 of the Train-the-Trainer Gender Sensitization Workshop for Judicial Officers at the Trinidad and Tobago Judicial Education Institute in Port-of-Spain, Trinidad, 23 to 24 November 2017.
- (14) Hon. Mr. Justice Andrew Burgess, Justice of Appeal and Hon. Mr. Justice Randall Worrell, Judge of the High Court attended the Caribbean Judicial Dialogue: Equality for All in the Administration of Justice in Trinidad, 30 November to 1 December 2017.
- (15) Hon. Mr. Justice Randall Worrell, Judge of the High Court attended the Training and Planning Workshop for the Monitoring and Evaluation of the Drug Treatment Court Model in Antigua, Guatemala, 5 to 7 December 2017.

## Judicial Retreat 2017

There was no Judicial Retreat in 2017.

## VOLUME OF LITIGATION IN THE SUPREME COURT

### Court of Appeal

During the period under review, a total of 63 Appeals were filed in the High Courts and Magistrates Courts as follows:

- 13 High Court Criminal Appeals
- 34 High Court Civil Appeals
- 7 Magisterial Criminal Appeals
- 9 Magisterial Civil Appeals

In addition, the Court of Appeal heard 63 Appeals, delivered 57 Decisions and disposed of 32 Chamber Applications.

Tables 1 to 4 below illustrate the volume of appeals and the pace of disposals for the period 1 January to 31 December 2017. Tables 5 to 7 compare similar information for the years 2014 to 2017.

**Table 1 - Appeals Filed**

Criminal Appeals (High Court)	13
Civil Appeals (High Court)	34
Criminal Appeals (Magisterial)	7
Civil Appeals (Magisterial)	9
<b>Total</b>	<b>63</b>

**Table 2 - Appeals Heard**

Criminal Appeals (High Court)	6
Civil Appeals (High Court)	40
Criminal Appeals (Magisterial)	10
Civil Appeals (Magisterial)	7
<b>Total</b>	<b>63</b>

**Table 3 - Decisions Given**

Criminal Appeals (High Court)	6
Civil Appeals (High Court)	33
Criminal Appeals (Magisterial)	11
Civil Appeals (Magisterial)	7
<b>Total</b>	<b>57</b>

**Table 4 - Chamber Applications**

Chamber Applications Heard (Bail)	1
Chamber Applications Heard (Excluding Bail)	31
<b>Total</b>	<b>32</b>

**Table 5 - Appeals Filed 2014-2017**

	2014	2015	2016	2017
Criminal Appeals (High Court)	16	3	10	13
Civil Appeals (High Court)	37	38	34	34
Criminal Appeals (Magisterial)	10	16	11	7
Civil Appeals (Magisterial)	13	5	9	9

**Table 6 - Appeals Heard 2014-2017**

	2014	2015	2016	2017
Criminal Appeals (High Court)	22	35	19	6
Civil Appeals (High Court)	20	38	51	40
Criminal Appeals (Magisterial)	4	18	22	10
Civil Appeals (Magisterial)	8	8	7	7

**Table 7 - Decisions Given 2014-2017**

	2014	2015	2016	2017
Criminal Appeals (High Court)	12	17	7	6
Civil Appeals (High Court)	15	20	38	33
Criminal Appeals (Magisterial)	4	14	21	11
Civil Appeals (Magisterial)	3	3	5	7

**High Court**

During 2017, a total of 3955 cases were filed in the High Court as follows:

- 1985 Civil Cases
- 386 Criminal Cases
- 410 Divorce Applications
- 1174 Probate Applications

The number of civil cases filed in the High Court during 2017 increased by 276 compared with 2016, while the number of criminal cases increased by 237.

The figures for cases filed in the High Court during 2017 are set out in Table 8 and comparative statistics for the four-year period 2013 to 2017 are shown at Table 9.

**Table 8 - Cases Filed in the High Court**

Civil Cases	1985
Criminal Cases	386
Divorce Applications	410
Probate Applications	1174
<b>Total</b>	<b>3955</b>

**Table 9 - Comparison of Cases Filed in the High Court 2014-2017**

	2014	2015	2016	2017
Civil Cases	1898	1825	1709	1985
Criminal Cases	245	70	149	386
Divorce Applications	443	396	469	410
Probate Applications	971	1090	1005	1174
<b>Total</b>	<b>3557</b>	<b>3381</b>	<b>3332</b>	<b>3955</b>

Table 10 shows the comparative statistics of Family Cases other than Divorce for the four-year period 2014 to 2017.

**Table 10 - Family Cases other than Divorce Filed 2014-2017**

<b>CASE TYPE</b>	<b>2017</b>	<b>2016</b>	<b>2015</b>	<b>2014</b>
Unions	15	17	14	13
Custody	4	2	5	22
Annulment	1	-	1	1
Paternity	1	-	0	1
Maintenance	30	46	38	54
Property	3	4	5	3
Adoption	3	4	3	3
Other	11	11	13	8
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>68</b>	<b>84</b>	<b>79</b>	<b>105</b>

During the year under review, there were 410 divorces and 260 children were affected as shown in Table 11 below.

**Table 11 - Divorces: Number of children affected and duration of Marriage**

<b>NO. OF DEPENDANTS</b>	<b>DIVORCES</b>	<b>TOTAL NO OF DEPENDANTS</b>	<b>DURATION OF MARRIAGE</b>	<b>DIVORCES</b>
0	237	0	Under 1 year	1
1	109	109	1 year	6
2	46	92	2 years	23
3	14	42	3 years	20
4	3	12	4 years	19
5	1	5	5 years	13
6	-	-	6 years	25
7	-	-	7 years	24
8	-	-	8 years	20
9	-	-	9 years	26
10 and over	-	-	10-14 years	77
unknown	-	-	15-19 years	76
			20-24 years	32
			25 years and over	48
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>410</b>	<b>260</b>		<b>410</b>

Table 12 shows the classification of criminal cases.

**Table 12 - Classification of Criminal Cases**

OFFENCE	TOTAL
Wounding, GBH, Assault, Cruelty to person under 16, SBH, ABH	78
Murder, Manslaughter, Causing death by dangerous driving, Concealment of birth	10
Agg. Burglary, Burglary, Larceny, Receiving Stolen Goods, House-Breaking, Building Breaking	34
Conduct Endangering life or safety	11
Violent Disorder	13
Fraud, Robbery of a person, Aggravated Robbery, Embezzlement, Theft	29
Uttering a Forged Document/Instrument, Obtaining money from a Forged Instrument	28
Rape, Carnal Knowledge, Indecent Assault	21
Buggery	1
Serious Indecency	5
Arson	5
Possession of Drugs, Drug Trafficking	72
Criminal Deception	3
Firearms, illegal possession, ammunition	49
Money Laundering	4
Other	23
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>386</b>

Tables 13 and 14 reflect Custodial and Non-Custodial Sentences imposed by the High Court in the year under review.

**Table 13 - Criminal Cases: Custodial Sentences**

OFFENCE	SENTENCE GIVEN									TOTAL
	Under 6 months	Over 6 months	1-3 years	4-5 years	6-10 years	11-15 years	Over 15 years	Life	Psychiatric Hospital	
Firearms, illegal possession			2	5	4					11
Possession of ammunition			2	6						8
Robbery/Theft/Fraud			1	2						3
Wounding/GBH/Assault/ABH				2	2					4
Rape/Indecent assault			5	2						7
Importation of a controlled drug					1					1
Possession of drugs/trafficking		1	4		3					8
Murder/Manslaughter/dangerous driving						4		2	1	7
Burglary/Larceny/House breaking				1						1
Buggery					2					2
Serious Indecency					1					1
Sacrilege					1					1
Arson			3	1						1
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>60</b>

**Table 14 - Criminal Cases: Non-Custodial Sentences**

OFFENCE	Not Guilty	Dismissed	C.R.D	Probation		Suspended Sentence	Fines		Discharged
				1-3 Years	Over 3 years		Under \$1000	Over \$1000	
				Firearms, illegal possession	1		2		
Possession of ammunition			1				1	3	
Robbery/Theft/Fraud	2	3						1	
Wounding/GBH/Assault/ABH	8	14					1	8	
Rape/Indecent assault	2	2							
Importation of a controlled drug			3						
Possession of drugs/trafficking			5		1			1	
Murder/Manslaughter/dangerous driving							3		
Burglary/Larceny/House Breaking	2								
Criminal damage		3							
Serious indecency							1		
Escape			1						
Other	2	2					2	1	
<b>Total</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>26</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>22</b>

Table 15 shows comparative statistics for the four-year period 2014 to 2017.

**Table 15 - Orders and Written Decisions**

Year	Civil Orders	Family Orders	Criminal Orders	Total No. of Orders	No. of Written Decisions
2014	2423	1037	2	3462	71
2015	2328	951	0	3279	36
2016	2026	939	0	2965	38
2017	2425	992	2	3419	53

## VOLUME OF LITIGATION IN THE MAGISTRATES' COURT

Delay in producing relevant statistics for some Magistrate's Courts continues to preclude the Council from being in a position to vouch for the accuracy of the volume of litigation in these courts. Tables 16 and 17 reflect the number of cases lodged and adjudicated in each Magistrate's Court for the period under review.

**Table 16 - Cases Lodged in each Magistrate's Court**

Court	Case Type						Total
	Criminal	Traffic	Civil	Domestic	Domestic Violence	Juvenile	
District 'A' No.1	1208	7	4		42		1261
District 'A' No.2	1224	44			17	1	1286
District 'A' Traffic	108	8499	4				8611
District 'A' Civil			930				930
District 'A' Domestic				620			620
Juvenile						56	56
District 'B'	431	1059	81	115	31	1	1718
District 'B' Oistins	506	782	45	121	21	1	1476
District 'C'	428	563	40	146	58	5	1240
District 'D'	169	761	23	48	26	7	1034
District 'E'	338	905	27	195	56	1	1522
District 'E' Holetown	349	3294	34	141	64	1	3883
District 'F'	86	177	2	23	1		289
District 'F' Belleplaine	62	112	5	49	5		233
<b>Total</b>	<b>4909</b>	<b>16203</b>	<b>1194</b>	<b>1458</b>	<b>321</b>	<b>73</b>	<b>23597</b>

**Table 17 - Cases Adjudicated in each Magistrate's Court**

Court	Case Type							Total
	Criminal	Traffic	Civil	Domestic	Domestic Violence	Juvenile	Special Coroner	
District 'A' No.1	922	13			53			988
District 'A' No.2	768	35	3		60			866
District 'A' Traffic	44	1196			2			1242
District 'A' Civil			231					231
District 'A' Domestic				987				987
Special Coroner							49	49
Juvenile					99			99
District 'B'			12	105				117
District 'B' Oistins	395	184	32	133	23	2		769
District 'C'	278	216	30	156	71	8		759
District 'D'	129	412	10	113	18	2		684
District 'E'	172	430	16	231	34	1		884
District 'E' Holetown	291	231	20	197	54	1		794
District 'F'	61	41	3	39	7			151
District 'F' Belleplaine	68	72	2	36	2			180
<b>Total</b>	<b>3128</b>	<b>2830</b>	<b>359</b>	<b>1997</b>	<b>324</b>	<b>113</b>	<b>49</b>	<b>8800</b>

\* Provisional figures are in blue

Table 18 shows the number of cases adjudicated in the Coroner's Court for the period 2015 to 2017.

**Table 18 - Report from the Coroner's Court**

<b>Verdict</b>	<b>2015</b>	<b>2016</b>	<b>2017</b>
Natural			2
Unnatural Death			1
Suicide			3
Suicide by ingestion of poison		1	4
Suicide by hanging		1	4
Suicide by drowning			1
Suicide by drowning whilst the balance of mind was disturbed			1
Suicide by gunshot injury			2
Accident/Suicide			2
Accidental death	7	2	3
Accidental death by drowning	3	3	3
Accidental death as a result of a fall			1
Accidental self-induced acute alcohol intoxication			2
Vehicular Accident/Vehicular Collision		5	13
Accidental death by electrocution	1		1
Drowning			2
Lawful killing			1
Unlawful killing			1
<b>Total</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>47</b>

\* Please note that there were 2 other adjudicated cases with the final classification still outstanding. There were a total of 49 cases adjudicated in 2017.

#### **ATTORNEYS-AT-LAW**

At 31 January 2017, 789 Attorneys-at-Law had registered to practise law in Barbados.

At a Special Sitting of the Supreme Court on 13 October 2018 the following Attorneys-at-law were admitted to practise law:

1. Demetrie Adams
2. Dawn Agard
3. Daria Annel
4. Danielle Babb
5. Simone Bowman
6. Stephanie Brathwaite
7. Hazel Browne
8. Nicholas Carryl
9. Curtis Cave
10. Nicola Clarke
11. Christopher Combrie
12. Ashaa Cumberbatch
13. Christina Cumberbatch
14. De-Anne Cumberbatch
15. Elizabeth Drakes

16. Pearlie Drakes
17. NGina Dyal
18. Ralph Edghill
19. Keitha Antrobus
20. Jannah Forde
21. Jennene Gittens
22. Melissa Goring
23. Victoria Greaves
24. Destini Haynes
25. Terrilyn Hunte
26. Harcourt Husbands
27. Nicholas Jackman
28. Westmin James
29. Malike Kellier
30. Christiane King
31. Jamila Knight
32. Taylor Laurayne
33. Rhea Layne
34. Danesa Leslie
35. Karema Lynch
36. Eden Martindale
37. Kaska Mottley
38. Shari Niles-Hypolite
39. Shane Parris
40. Yomi Perkins
41. Akelia Reid
42. Haylee Shaw
43. Joanna Snagg
44. Miriam Spencer
45. Graema Stoute
46. Angela Taylor
47. Traimaine Taylor
48. Nadia Vaughn
49. Kyle Walkes
50. Fabian Walthrus
51. Rishelle-Ann Watson
52. Kimberley Williams
53. Anderson Yearwood

## **OBITUARY**

The Council records with deep sadness the passing of Sir Clifford Husbands, GCMG, K.A., Mr. Charles Leacock, QC, Mr. Theodore Walcott, QC and Mr. Eli Edwards.

Sir Clifford was a former Supreme Court Judge and Justice of Appeal, who acted as Chief Justice before taking up the role of Governor General. The Supreme Court paid tribute to him at a Special Sitting on Friday, 24 November 2017 at which the Hon. Michael Lashley, M.P., Mr. Ralph Thorne, Q.C. and the Hon. Sir David Simmons, K.A., BCH delivered tributes.

The Supreme Court paid tribute to Mr. Charles Leacock QC, Mr. Theodore Walcott QC and Mr. Eli Edwards at a Special Sitting on Friday, 20 October 2017. Mr. Charles Leacock, QC who served as the Director of Public Prosecutions for twenty years, died on 8 July 2017. The Hon. Michael Lashley, M.P. Attorney General (ag.), Mrs. Roslyn Smith-Miller and Mr. Anthony Blackman delivered tributes.

Mr. Theodore Walcott, QC a former Magistrate, who occasionally acted as a Judge of the High Court, died on 1 September 2017. Mr. Clement Lashley delivered the tribute.

Mr. Eli Edwards a former police officer, Public Prosecutor and Public Counsel died on 13 April 2017. The Hon. Michael Lashley M.P. Attorney General (ag.), Ms. Nicole Roachford and Mr. Barry Carrington delivered tributes.

And as if the sadness was to show its tenacity right up to the end of the year, we lost former Registrar Marva F. Clarke, the first Registrar at the new Supreme Court Complex at Whitepark Road, on 10 November 2017.

May they all rest in peace and rise in glory.