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“We do not want to be a distraction”: FLA Board resigns

Following a series of debriefing sessions, the Board of the Firearm Licensing Authority has tendered a letter of resignation to National Security Minister, Hon. Robert Montague.

The Minister thanked Chairman, Dennis Wright and the members of the board for their service to Jamaica.

The board in its letter said the members are stepping down to protect their integrity and that of the institution.

In addition, the members felt that the current debate is distracting from the government's commendable crime fighting strategies; noting that a reduction in crime and violence will be of great benefit to all Jamaicans.

As a result of the board's resignation, the National Security Minister has approved the following interim plan of action to be implemented:

1. The Firearm Licensing Authority should not issue any approval for gun licenses or permits for the next seven working days.
2. The Chief Executive Officer Mr Shane Dalling, over the same period (7 working days) will provide an update of the progress of the Ministry of National Security Assessment Report on the Firearm Licensing Authority 2017. (Allen Report) and the status of the implementation of the recommendations to the Minister.
3. The CEO, Mr Dalling and the FLA staff, must give full support to the Justice Seymour Panton Review Panel to ensure full transparency and the integrity of the FLA.
4. Cabinet will be briefed on situation.

Minister Montague is apologising to the public at large, especially the bird shooting and sport shooting fraternities for any inconveniences they may experience during this transition period at the FLA, and seeks their indulgence, as we seek to strengthen the organisation and become more accountable.

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