



Government of the Republic of Trinidad and Tobago
Ministry of Public Administration

MEDIA RELEASE

For Immediate Release

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Officers to receive their Retirement Benefits on time – Ministry of Public Administration improves its Pension Records Systems

Good news from the Ministry of Public Administration (MPA)!

The MPA has taken steps to ensure that the Pension and Leave (P&L) records of its employees, who are due to retire are completed and submitted to the Comptroller of Accounts (COA) in a timely manner. Accurate completion of the required P&L Records and their timely submission to the COA within the statutory 3 month period, prior to an officer's retirement will ensure that the MPA's employees receive their Pensions and Gratuities upon their retirement from the Public Service and not months or even years later, as has been the experience of some retiring officers. To date a total of 66 employee records have been compiled, with 24 records submitted for processing.

The action taken by the MPA is driven by:

- observations contained in the 13th Report of the Public Accounts Committee regarding the need for Ministries and Departments to have their former employees paid their Pension and Gratuity in a timely manner; and
- the MPA's strategic goals to improve its key operational processes and infrastructure as well as integrate Information and Communication Technology (ICT) for improved service delivery to its clients; in this case, its retiring staff members.

A dedicated Pension and Leave Unit, has been established and mandated to fast-track the processing of P&L Records. The Unit has set up a specific e-mail address pensionsandleave@mpa.gov.tt that will allow real-time submission of P&L Records from other Ministries and Departments. Through the P&L Unit, the Ministry:

- proposes to submit P&L records to the Comptroller of Accounts (COA) on behalf of each of its employees on a yearly basis, in keeping with the existing statutory requirements; and
- anticipates that the records of all officers who are approaching retirement will be treated with the required urgency as laid out in the existing legislation and the Ministry of Finance's directives.

C O R P O R A T E C O M M U N I C A T I O N S D I V I S I O N

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Staff will be encouraged to note that not only are the records of soon-to-be retired officers being prepared but also those of officers who will be retiring in the next 10 years!

The Ministry is confident that its efforts in this area will greatly assist its valued staff and their dependents in making a seamless and painless transition from the world of work to the next chapter of their lives. It also stands ready to share its approach with other Ministries and Departments, as part of its overall efforts towards Public Service Transformation and the creation of a citizen-centric public service.

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