



OF ADVOCACY

1973 - 2023

*The Jamaican Bar Association
Celebrating its*

**50th
Anniversary**

A Special Advertising Feature

MESSAGES

May your dedication to justice guide us towards a more equitable future

TODAY, AS you celebrate your remarkable 50 years of dedicated service in representing attorneys-at-law, defending and preserving the administration of justice, I extend my heartfelt congratulations and appreciation. This milestone is a testament to your unwavering commitment to upholding the principles upon which our democracy thrives.

The Jamaican Bar Association has consistently demonstrated its invaluable role in shaping a just and equitable society. Your pursuit of justice and advocacy for the rule of law has played a vital role in safeguarding the foundations of our nation. As we celebrate this significant anniversary, let us reflect on the tremendous impact you have made in securing the rights and liberties of our citizens.

In an era where the fabric of democracy can be tested, your organisation has stood as a steadfast

beacon of integrity, protecting the ideals upon which our nation was built. The legal profession holds an essential responsibility in upholding justice, and The Jamaican Bar Association has consistently exemplified professionalism, ethics, and dedication to the pursuit of truth.

As we look towards the future, let us remember that a steady democracy is built upon the shoulders of organisations like yours. The Jamaican Bar Association has played a pivotal role in shaping our legal landscape, and I have no doubt that you will continue to be at the forefront of championing justice, equality, and the rule of law.

Once again, congratulations on this momentous occasion. May you continue to thrive, and your dedication to justice guide us towards a brighter and more equitable future.

**HIS EXCELLENCY THE MOST HONOURABLE SIR PATRICK ALLEN ON, GCMG, CD, KStJ
Governor General**

Continue to stand resolutely as a voice for the law

IT IS with absolute pleasure that I join the Jamaican Bar Association (JAMBAR) in celebrating 50 years of service to the legal profession. Since its inception on January 16, 1973, JAMBAR has functioned as a focal voluntary organisation for judges and attorneys-at-law in Jamaica.

JAMBAR has been an instrumental stakeholder in protecting the independence of the judiciary. The organisation prides itself on holding matters surrounding law reform at the forefront while consistently working towards transforming the Jamaican legal system.

The strengthening of the rule of law and human rights remains paramount to the Jamaican Government, and this concretises the established lines of shared connection between the objectives of JAMBAR and the Jamaican constitutional framework.

Indeed, JAMBAR has been quite impactful in addressing a plethora of social issues in the administration of justice. The Gun Court Act of 1974 was one such

amendment that had truly benefited from the cause championed by JAMBAR in its capacity as an agent of social advocacy.

Since its establishment, JAMBAR has effectively operated within the spheres of legal education, civil practice, procedure, and family law, along with social affairs and outreach, which also takes into consideration conveyancing. I also acknowledge the organisation for its unwavering dedication to matters of legal and national issues to the Jamaican public.


As you commemorate this momentous milestone of your 50th year of existence, I implore you to continue to stand resolutely as a voice for the law, the rule of law and the justice system. Be unrelenting in your quest to challenge oppression as you work towards achieving your overarching goal of fostering legal reform and legislative changes.

Once again, I extend the heartiest of congratulations to you. May this year be filled with unlimited accomplishments as you continue to grow.

**THE MOST HON ANDREW HOLNESS, ON, PC, MP
Prime Minister**

MESSAGES

JAMBAR has played pivotal role in advancing the legal profession



EXTEND my heartfelt congratulations to the Jamaican Bar Association (JAMBAR) on its many accomplishments and on the occasion of its 50th anniversary. During the last 50 years, JAMBAR has inspired the steadfast dedication, hard work, and unwavering commitment of your members to the legal profession and the rule of law. JAMBAR has definitely played a pivotal role in advancing the legal profession at the same time assisting with promoting access to justice in Jamaica. Your tireless efforts have helped to shape the legal landscape of Jamaica and ensure that the rights and freedoms of Jamaican citizens are secured and protected. As you celebrate this momentous occasion, I

acknowledge and commend JAMBAR for its outstanding achievements and significant contributions to our country.

Your dedication to promoting integrity and professionalism within the legal fraternity has been an inspiration to many, and your commitment to justice and equality has made a significant difference in the lives of countless Jamaicans.

I expect that JAMBAR will continue to be a driving force in advancing the legal profession, especially in upholding the rule of law and securing justice for our citizens

I wish you all the best for the future and look forward to the continued growth and success of the association in the ensuing years.

HON DELROY CHUCK
Minister of Justice

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Congratulates
the
Jamaican Bar Association
on the celebration of its

50th Anniversary



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MESSAGES

Best wishes for the next 50 years and beyond

JOIN in extending heartiest congratulations to The Jamaican Bar Association on the occasion of its 50th anniversary. Reaching this significant milestone in the life of our 61-year-old independent nation is an outstanding achievement for a professional body. There is a long and rich tradition in



Jamaica of lawyers exercising leadership at various levels in different spheres of influence, answering the call of the law to serve not only the individual client, but the society at large.

I also commend the association for annually honouring distinguished members, and I applaud this year's awardees for their dedicated service.

As minister of legal and constitutional affairs, I am especially pleased that the commemorative events have included a Public Lecture on Constitutional Reform, held in conjunction with the Norman Manley Law School that is also celebrating its 50th anniversary in 2023, to help mark the institutions' half-century of national and regional service in advocacy and legal education. The

presentations have enriched the public discussions on many of the important issues for reform, as we move forward at this time, to, *inter alia*, abolish the constitutional monarchy.

As we celebrate and reflect, be reminded that the dominant duty of the lawyer is a duty not to the client, but to the truth and the law. I, therefore, call upon every member of the Bar to always honour the obligation of the profession to help society deal with our most perplexing problems. Best wishes for the next 50 years and beyond.

**HON MARLENE MALAHOO FORTE, KC, MP,
Minister of Legal and Constitutional Affairs**

As we celebrate and reflect, be reminded that the dominant duty of the lawyer is a duty not to the client, but to the truth and the law. I,

HP
HYLTON POWELL
ATTORNEYS AT LAW

**Congratulates the
Jamaican Bar Association
on its**

50th
ANNIVERSARY

We look forward to the next 50 years

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MESSAGES

May the Association continue to make its positive contribution

THE JAMAICAN Bar Association (JAMBAR/the Association), with the benefit of hindsight, was the 'natural' outcome of establishing the Faculty of Law at The University of the West Indies, the Council of Legal Education, and the fusion of the legal profession. The 'lower' and 'higher' branches of the Bar were dissolved. As was said by the then acting Chief Justice, Sir Cyril Henriques, "there is only one tree".

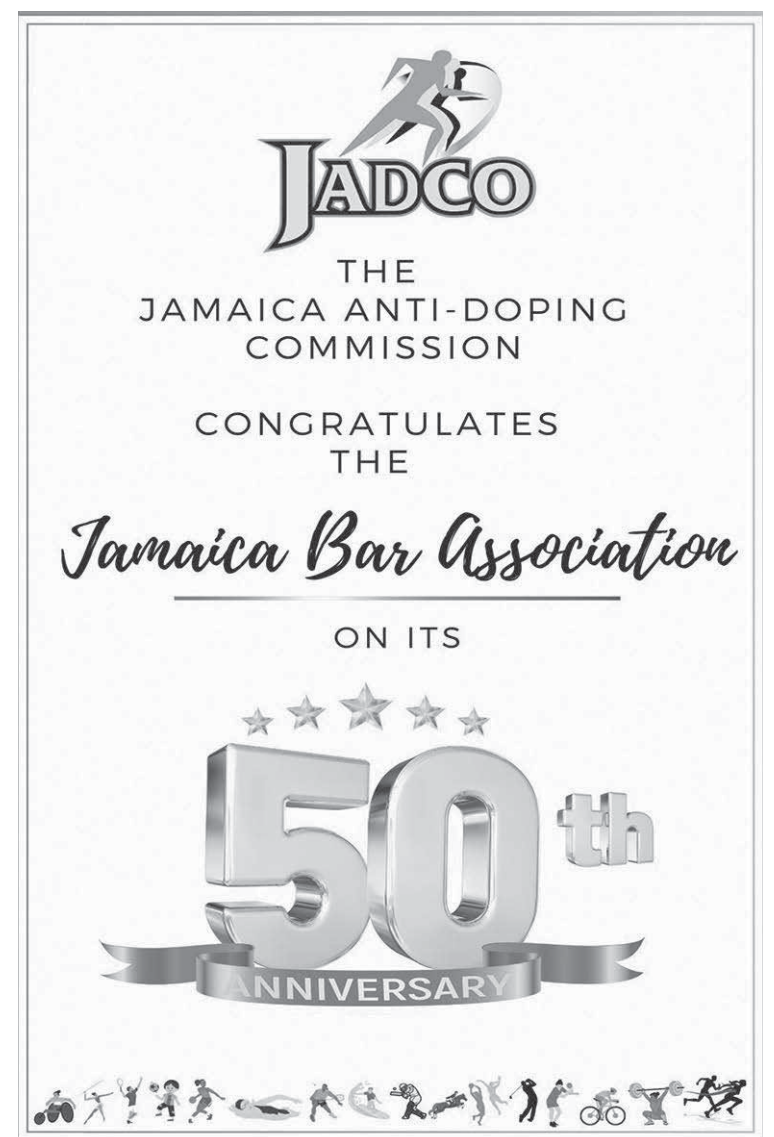
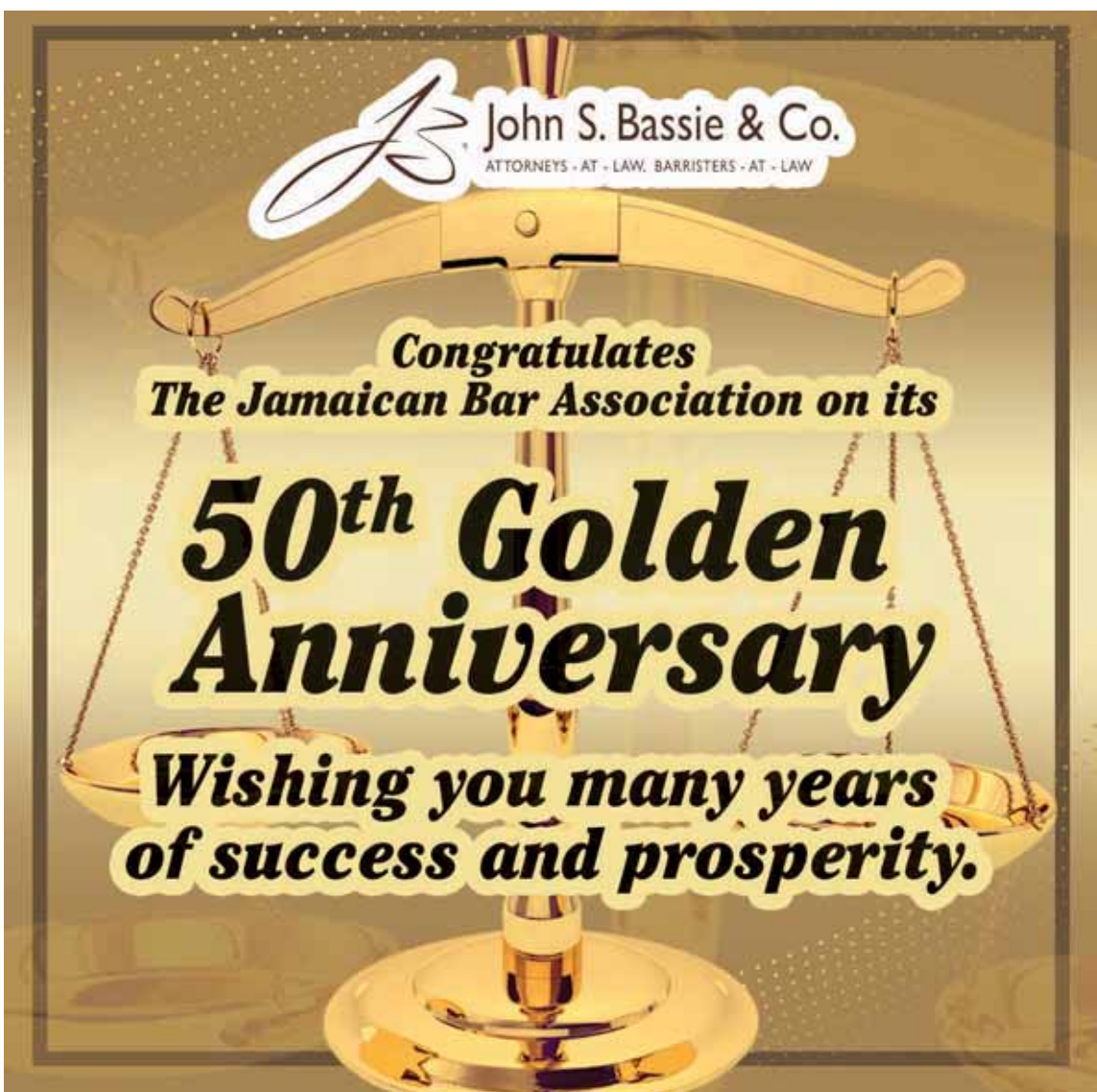
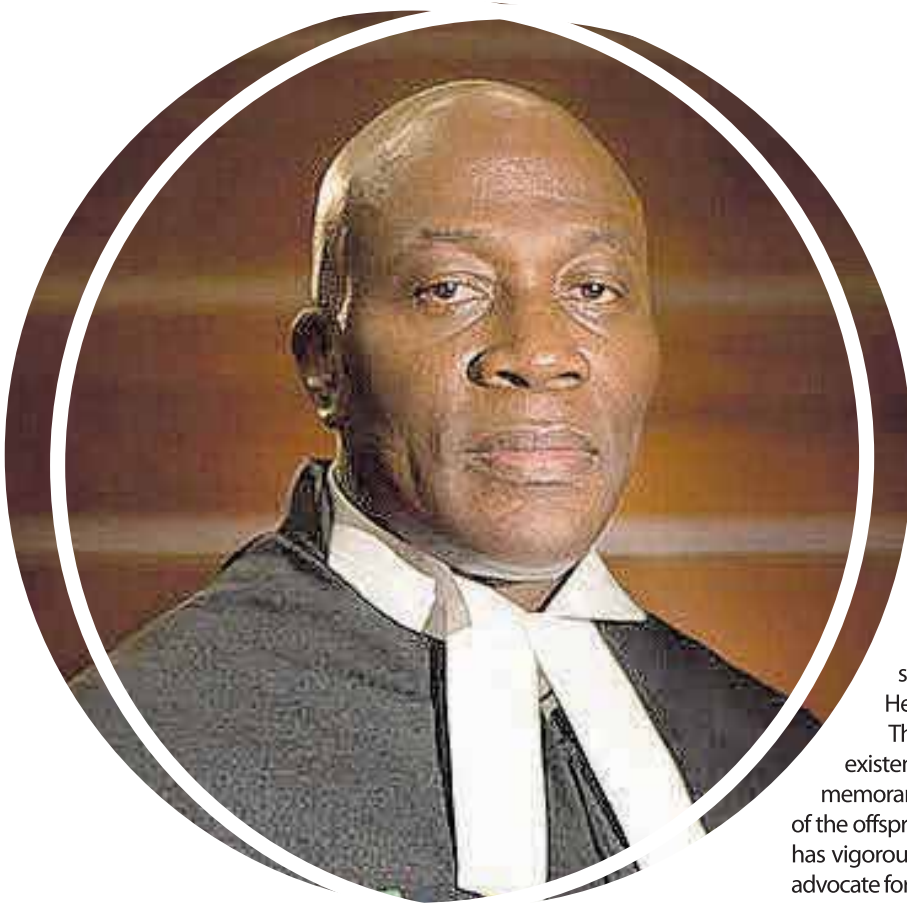
The Association can be proud of its 50 years of existence. The initial subscribers to the articles and memorandum of association would be proud parents of the offspring that they brought into the world. JAMBAR has vigorously supported the rule of law and is a strong advocate for justice and fair play. One of its most significant achievements was its advocacy for independent funding for

the Caribbean Court of Justice. This led to the unique solution of a trust fund – the only one of its kind globally, thereby guaranteeing the financial independence of the court.

The readiness of the Association to confront perceived excesses of any of the three arms of government is testimony to its commitment to the rule of law and the building of a just, secure, safe society underpinned by effective governance.

May the Association continue to make its positive contribution to our Jamaican and Caribbean civilisation as we strive to build societies where each person can achieve their fullest potential. The Judiciary of Jamaica expresses its heartiest congratulations on this 50th anniversary.

**HON MR JUSTICE BRYAN SYKES,
OJ, CD
Chief Justice**



MESSAGES

Wishing continued success in all laudable undertakings

WISH, on behalf of the Court of Appeal of Jamaica, to congratulate The Jamaican Bar Association for having achieved its golden jubilee.

When, as a young attorney, I joined the association in 1979, I felt honoured and privileged to be able to sit with, and speak to, seniors whom I had previously only read about in the newspapers, or law reports. My earliest recollection of a Bar meeting is that it was held at the then Casa Monte hotel in Stony Hill. Mr K.C. Burke was then the president.

Those meetings, and later the seminars organised by the relevant committees of the association, allowed young attorneys to learn, by interacting with their seniors, about some of the history and the traditions of the profession.

Another thing that left a lasting impression on me, as a young attorney, was an informative monthly newsletter, **Matters Concerning Lawyers**, which K.C. Burke published.

The association had, then, several vibrant committees that considered various matters that concerned the profession, but sometimes affected the country. A notable

example of those considerations was (for better or worse) the successful challenge to the legislation approving the CCJ as Jamaica's terminal court.

I am happy that the association has continued to use those committees and seminars to motivate the profession. I also hope that the more frequent seminars, occasioned by CLPD, provide a forum for interaction between seniors and juniors to enrich the profession.

The court wishes the association continued success in all its laudable undertakings.

MR JUSTICE PATRICK A. BROOKS, OJ, CD
President
Court of Appeal



JAMBAR HIGHLIGHTS



MESSAGES



May the members at the bar lead us to even greater heights

THE JAMAICAN Bar Association celebrates its golden anniversary of 50 years of service to the Jamaican society. As we celebrate this significant milestone, the 50 years of hard work and dedication deserves to be commemorated and the pioneers honoured. As the important landmarks, human rights, justice and constitutional reform, and the establishment of the Dispute Resolution Foundation that JAMBAR has and continues to contribute to the legal landscape cannot be overstated.

JAMBAR, as it is affectionately referred to, is a rare quinquagenarian association which now stands on the cusp of another half-century. It continues to produce stalwarts and be in the vanguard of the legal profession and legal system. These leaders who are prepared to protect and advance the rights of all persons in our country are to be found throughout the organisation.

The organisation passionately and pragmatically approaches challenges that stand in the way, it joins forces with our partners of the legal system and shares in the vision of justice for all.

I salute our presidents, council members, staff and membership for their contribution to this organisation, and who continue to make the vision a reality. We pray that this inspiration continues to flow through the veins of our noble institution and promote growth within our legal system, as our commitment is to work and build.

May the members at the Bar take courage from our past and present heroes and lead us to even greater heights, here in Jamaica, land we love.

**JOHN S. BASSIE LLB (Hons),
LLM, FCI Arb CARb
President of The Jamaican Bar
Association**

50 YEARS OF ADVOCACY
1973 - 2023

CONGRATULATIONS TO THE JAMAICA BAR ASSOCIATION...

on celebrating **50 golden years** of advocating for fairness and balance of law while believing in a better Jamaica.

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MESSAGES

An important milestone is worthy of celebration

ON BEHALF of the Organization of Commonwealth Caribbean Bar Associations (OCCBA) and the executive council of OCCBA, please accept our heartiest congratulations on the 50th anniversary of the formation of The Jamaican Bar Association (JAMBAR).

This important milestone is worthy of celebration, given the proven record of achievements by JAMBAR and the excellent works in pursuance of its various noble objectives, including:

1. Maintaining and strengthening

the rule of law and human rights; 2. Protecting the independence of judges and attorneys-at-law;

3. Working towards law reform and the improvement of the Jamaican legal system;

4. Offering service and counsel to enhance justice systems;

5. Groundbreaking work in continuing legal professional development; and

6. Promoting the integrity and good name of the legal profession.

OCCBA and JAMBAR have had meaningful collaborations on many

worthwhile objectives, including the promotion of the establishment and work of the Caribbean Court of Justice, as well as the Council of Legal Education.

The Bar associations of Anguilla, Antigua & Barbuda, The Bahamas, Barbados, Belize, British Virgin Islands, Grenada, Guyana, Montserrat, St Kitts &



Nevis, St Lucia, St Vincent & the Grenadines, Trinidad & Tobago, and the Turks & Caicos Islands all join with The Jamaican Bar Association in your 50th anniversary celebration.

Yours sincerely,

DONOVAN C. WALKER
President
Organization of Commonwealth Caribbean Bar Associations

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Frater Ennis and Gordon
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the Jamaican Bar Association on it's
50th Anniversary

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JAMBAR HIGHLIGHTS



From left: Afeef Lazarus, Dorothy Pine-McLarty and Hugh Small, KC, retired judge.

Wilkinson Law

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Felicitations

The management and staff of Wilkinson Law, Attorneys-at-Law, congratulate the **Jamaican Bar Association (JAMBAR)** on fifty magnificent years of dedicated service to Jamaica in general and the legal profession in particular. Among other things, JAMBAR's representation of Attorneys-at-Law and service to the public have been admirable and truly exemplary. JAMBAR is recognized, and respected, as one of the leading institutions in Jamaica and its importance cannot be emphasized enough. The Association's "founding fathers", pioneers, presidents, governing Councils and staff over the past half century have every reason to be proud.



May this important organization grow from strength to strength and continue to provide outstanding service to its stakeholders. We say 'cheers' for a job well done and to the next fifty years.

MESSAGES

We salute JAMBAR on achieving this golden jubilee anniversary

ON BEHALF of the General Legal Council (GLC), I wish to express our heartiest congratulations to the Jamaican Bar Association on attaining its 50th anniversary. This is truly a momentous milestone as 50 successful years in existence is no small feat.

The sterling activities of the Jamaican Bar Association have touched the lives of so many practitioners that we must all recognise and acknowledge its significant contribution, not only to the profession in particular, but also in remaining a guardian of the principles of law that inform Jamaica's constitutional and legal landscape. I have no doubt that the Jamaican Bar Association will continue to lend its voice to the concerns of our community in this regard.

The General Legal Council pledges to continue to work together with the Bar association in a cohesive approach to further those precepts and principles that undergird the rule of law. I, therefore, salute the Jamaican Bar Association on achieving this golden jubilee anniversary, and I wish the association all good things for the future.

Yours faithfully,

DENISE E. KITSON, KC
Chairman
General Legal Council



Salutes JAMBAR ON



The Jamaica Chamber of Commerce (JCC) congratulates the Jamaica Bar Association (JAMBAR) as it celebrates 50 years as the representative of registered attorneys-at-law practising in Jamaica.

Since its formation in 1973, JAMBAR has been a resolute champion for the maintenance and strengthening of the rule of law and human rights; the continuous improvement of the legal system through ongoing reform, the independence of the judiciary and the professional integrity of the legal profession.

In so doing, the association has contributed immeasurably to our national growth and development. At the JCC, we treasure the decades-long collaboration between both our organizations and look forward to many more years of partnership.



JAMBAR HIGHLIGHTS



From left: Lloyd Barnett; Earl Witter, KC; Andre Earl, KC; and president, John Bassie.

MESSAGES

50 years' celebration is testament to the commitment of the bar's membership

COLLEGIALITY AND friendship have been the order between Jamaicans for Justice (JFJ) and the Jamaican Bar Association, one that is based on shared areas of concerns as we fulfil our independent mandates. JFJ, therefore, congratulates the Bar association on reaching its 50-year milestone, an auspicious occasion.

When the association was formed in 1973, it was birthed during a time of political turmoil, paramilitary units, and passage of laws that threatened the very fabric of a newly independent nation, such as the Gun Court Act of 1974. The Bar association spoke then as it continues to do now. Through strong leadership, the association has played a pivotal role in ensuring that its attorneys are trained and equipped with the knowledge to work with stakeholders on key

areas of law reform and improvement in the criminal justice system and jurisprudence.

The Bar association's role as a vertical accountable agent is unquestioned, from legal challenges when successive administrations have sought to impose laws that undermined rule of law to speaking fearlessly on issues. With the resurgence of tough-on-crime legislation, such as excessive mandatory minimums and a Bail Act [Bill] with pre-charge detention, JFJ submits that the role of the association remains critical.

Fifty years' celebration is not a symbolic indicator of the passing of time, but a testament to the dedication and commitment of the Bar's membership, its staff and leadership. As the baton passes from current president Alexander Williams, who served well, to John

Bassie, JFJ calls on the association to continue raising the bar in advocacy – a watchdog for balancing the scale of justice.

MICKEL JACKSON
Executive Director
Jamaicans for Justice



JAMBAR HIGHLIGHTS



Awardee Carl Thomas and Georgia Gibson-Henlin, KC.

The Dispute Resolution Foundation

Congratulates

The Jamaican Bar Association

as it Celebrates

50
years

Cheers to 50 more.

**Dispute Resolution
Foundation**
1A North Avenue
Kingston 4.
Tel: 876-906-0291

MESSAGES

Ours is a journey to help maintain the honour and dignity of the profession

WE ARE now in the 50th year of existence since our incorporation on January 16, 1973. You will see our commemorative logo on our website at www.jambar.org, and on our special banner on display at all our functions during the course of this year.

We began our celebrations with a special church service on May 7, 2023, at the Boulevard Baptist Church, attended by the ministers of justice, and legal and constitutional affairs, the president of the Court of Appeal, the senior puisne judge representing the chief justice and other judges, both of the Supreme Court and of the Court of Appeal. Special thanks to the special committee that organised the church service.

Our second function was a public lecture on constitutional reform, with special emphasis on the office of the president of our intended republic.

Third, The Jamaican Bar Association, at its annual general meeting, reconsidered the Bar's position on what we would consider to be our final appellate court. We felt it necessary to do so, given the passage of time since our last vote.

We have reconfirmed our commitment to the Caribbean Court of Justice as our final appellate court.

Our signature event is our annual banquet, which will take place today at The Jamaica Pegasus hotel. It promises to be a stellar event!

I wish to express my deepest appreciation to our 50th anniversary committee and encourage all members to support and attend the events.

During my tenure from May 2022 to June 2023, I sought to maintain the sterling work of the association and to elevate its profile as a watchdog for the administration of justice and protector of the rights of attorneys-at-law in their practices.

Ours is a journey to help maintain the honour and dignity of the profession, to seek ways and means of enriching the careers of our members, whether by way of fostering the provision of support services for the practice of law at the private Bar, by mentorship, by guidance as to best practices, or by monitoring all developments (legislative or otherwise) that will tend to affect the practice of law, especially how we deliver our services to the public.

As a watchdog for the proper administration of justice, we have been careful to monitor the developments concerning justice, whether by way of policy, legislation, administrative action (by the State, a public body, a private body, or a non-state actor), or practice generally that might tend to undermine or enhance what we cherish the most as attorneys.

We have, among other things:

- sought to protect the constitutional rights to bail in the proposed amendment to the Bail Act (pre-charge bail);
- commented on the amendment of the Firearms Bill and Regulations;
- commented on the prosecution being given the right

of appeal;

- cooperated in and assisted with guidelines to the profession, regarding the gun amnesty;

- conducted education on various areas for constitutional reform;

- supported the judiciary in their call for improved emoluments; and

- engaged the media to highlight areas of concern regarding the system of administration of justice.

We have sought to maintain our consultative role on the appointment of judges and king's counsel, the country's policy on consumer affairs, competitiveness, justice reform, case management in commercial matters, in the Court of Appeal and at the Supreme Court, childcare and protection policy.

POCA APPEAL

Though we lost in the appeal to the Judicial Committee of the Privy Council, The Jamaican Bar Association welcomed the decision. This brought finality to the issues and concerns raised by this association about certain aspects of the statutory regime regarding how attorneys-at-law would operate as designated non-financial institutions in the fight against money laundering and terrorism financing. The Jamaican Bar Association also welcomed its role in that fight.

The Privy Council confirmed that The Jamaican Bar Association did not, in the appeals, challenge the regulation of attorneys-at-law *per se*, or, indeed, root and branch. Furthermore, the Privy Council acknowledged that The Jamaican Bar Association was not motivated by narrow professional self-interest, but rather, on the destructive effect the regime had in its application to the essential confidentiality of the lawyer-client relationship, which puts at an unacceptable risk the continued integrity of legal professional privilege upon which the ability of Jamaican citizens to obtain legal advice and representation heavily depends.

At the heart of the association's challenge was the protection of the rights of the public and guidance for the profession, where constitutional rights are apparently being breached.

We, as an association, had conducted, and continue to conduct, continuing legal education seminars for attorneys-at-law as to how they should conduct their practices to accord with POCA regime. We did this even while the litigation which ended with the Privy Council decision was ongoing.

The Privy Council has taken the view that the system or



procedure for the inspection or copying of client's records is to be addressed by a client having recourse to the general laws, where necessary. Essentially, the Privy Council has found that there is a reasonable safeguard for protecting the client's information.

The Privy Council has said that it would not affect an attorney's compliance with the regime if he were to warn his clients, at the outset, that his transaction may well be disclosed and his documents copied by a regulatory authority (and shared with an agency abroad) where the transaction falls within the following categories:

- Purchasing or selling real estate;
- Managing money, securities or other assets;
- Managing bank accounts or savings accounts of any kind, or securities accounts;
- Organising contributions for the creation, operation or management of companies;
- Creating, operating or managing a legal person or legal arrangement (such as a trust or settlement); or
- Purchasing or selling a business entity.

So, the public is to be made aware that, separate and apart from the requirement that an attorney-at-law has a duty to make a suspicious transaction report to the Financial Investigations Division on any transaction which could constitute or be related to money laundering, and particularly in relation to the six categories outlined above, must at the commencement of the transaction, obtain information from

PLEASE SEE **JOURNEY**, 14



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for 50 years of **outstanding** service to the justice sector.
As a stakeholder of the Ministry, JamBar continues to
support our vision of a Jamaica where there is
effective access to justice for all.



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MESSAGES

JOURNEY

CONTINUED FROM 12

their client as to their identity and source of funding.

It now means that we, as attorneys, will have to abide by the original intended regime which will undoubtedly affect how we as attorneys-at-law will conduct our practices. The General Legal Council has indicated that full implementation of the regime will begin in September 2023.

TRUST AND CORPORATE SERVICES ACT

Attorneys-at-law are advised that, since April 25, 2023, it has become necessary to register with the Financial Services Commission and obtain a licence in order to provide certain trust and corporate services, including, but not limited to:

- (a) the creation of a trust;
- (b) acting as trustee, executor or administrator;
- (c) arranging the appointment of trustees;
- (d) administration services in relation to trust (e.g., assisting an executor to locate assets, advertise for creditors, pay beneficiaries);
- (e) the formation of a company;
- (f) acting as (or arranging for another person to act as) a nominee shareholder;
- (g) acting as (or arranging for another person to act as) a director or secretary of a company as a business;
- (h) the facilitation of a registered office address;
- (i) keeping statutory register for a company and other corporate services, such as filing a Notice of Change of Director or Secretary;
- (j) provision of shell companies;
- (k) taking of minutes.

The Jamaican Bar Association, led by its Commercial Law and Conveyancing Committees, has for some time negotiated

with and lobbied the ministers of justice, finance, and also the Financial Services Commission (FSC) to resolve the serious concerns raised by the imposition of the law, and how it will adversely impact both the practice of law and also the public seeking these legal services.

Those efforts have reaped some success as evidenced by a bulletin issued by the FSC clarifying the requirements. However, efforts are continuing with the hope that policy-makers will agree to:

- 1) exempting or excluding attorneys-at-law from the scope of the Trust and Corporate Services Providers Act (TCSPA), given our regulation under POCA regime, or at least removing a dual-reporting regime (that is to the GLC and the FSC);
- 2) if we are to be regulated under the TCSPA, significantly reducing licensing fees and registration requirements.

The Jamaican Bar Association is convinced that our proposals do not conflict with Financial Action Task Force (FATF) guidelines and is strenuously recommending the approach taken in other jurisdictions, where a dual-reporting regime has been avoided, with minimum impact on the practice of law in these areas, in keeping with FATF guidelines.

The FSC had indicated that an exclusion order would be prepared to exempt the following from the TCSPA:

- Trust services provided by persons who are not engaged in the business of providing a trust service but who have received a grant of probate or a grant of letters of administration on the estate and effects of a deceased person.

Further, the FSC has advised that attorneys-at-law who carry out instructions received from their clients, in relation to matters concerning grants of probate and letters of administration, will not be covered by the TCSPA and, therefore, will not be required to obtain a licence to provide these services.

The Jamaican Bar Association commends and congratulates the efforts of our learned friends who assisted in lobbying the authorities for the concessions to date, including, but not limited to, Ms Hilary Reid, Ms Denise Kitson KC, Mr Allan Wood

KC, Mrs Camille Facey, our Commercial Law and Conveyancing Committees.

OUR COMMITTEES

I am pleased to report that our committees remain active, dedicated and engaged. The Civil Practice and Procedure Committee continues to be vigilant in its reporting and advocacy for needed changes to our civil procedures. Notably, the Commercial Law Committee was very instrumental in lobbying for an amendment to the intended regime to deal with the regulation of trusted corporate services offered by attorneys.

Special mention is to be made of our:

- Constitutional Law and Human Rights Committee
- CCPD Committee
- Social Affairs Committee
- Employment Law Committee
- Conveyancing Committee

I am also pleased to announce a new committee, the Maritime Law Committee.

AU REVOIR

I am finally pleased to have been the president of The Jamaican Bar association these past two years. While it has been a blessing and a joy, I must now say goodbye.

To quote Brutus in **Julius Caesar**,

"There is a tide in the affairs of men which, taken at the flood, leads on to fortune."

In the same way that I was honoured to seize the opportunity to be your president, I wish now to seize other opportunities!

I wish the new president, Mr John Bassie, good luck, Godspeed, wisdom and tenacity!

MR ALEXANDER WILLIAMS
Immediate Past President

JAMBAR HIGHLIGHTS



Attendees at the church service held on May 7, 2023.



Members of the profession greet each other at the church service.

SOCIAL OUTREACH AND LEGAL AID

LIKE SO many corporate citizens, The Jamaican Bar Association (JAMBAR) has been pleased to contribute and 'give back' to Jamaican society in providing assistance for those in need.

The association was pleased to launch its project to provide *pro bono* legal services to victims of domestic violence.

This initiative is in collaboration with Woman Incorporated, a well-known non-governmental organisation that creates 'An Oasis of Support', shelter services for women and girls in crisis.

This initiative accords with our motto of maintaining and strengthening the justice system in Jamaica and will provide assistance to such victims from the point of a report to the police.

The initiative was launched at the offices of The Jamaican Bar Association, 78-80 Harbour Street, Kingston, on November 12, 2021, at 2 p.m.

Since then, a team of attorneys has provided *pro bono* legal service for women needing care and protection

through the court's legal processes and assisting with matrimonial property and maintenance claims. The project is initially for three years, with the hope that the association's services will be expanded after a review.

JAMBAR also maintains its association with the Kingston Legal Aid Clinic, which provides *pro bono* legal services for citizens who have a civil dispute. This involves representation in the courts, property, accident, and debt claims, to name a few.

The association is now in the process of actively assisting the clinic to improve its services.

Our outreach also extends to the provision of bursaries, on an annual basis, to law students attending the Norman Manley Law School, .

The association has, in the past, made donations to and has adopted basic schools out of proceeds from its fundraising ventures.

A donation will be made this year to a children's home.

JAMBAR HIGHLIGHTS



The Jamaican Bar Association held its annual general meeting on June 24, 2023, where it restated its support for the Caribbean Court of Justice replacing the Privy Council. From left: Aunette Francis-Barrett – assistant secretary; Anthony Miller – office attendant; Kevin Powell – elected vice-president; and John Bassie – elected president.

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Congratulations

to

The Jamaican Bar Association

on

**50 Years of Advocacy
for Justice for All**

CURRENT PERSPECTIVES

THE JAMAICAN Bar Association has maintained its vibrancy and vigilance as an institution protecting the rule of law and administration of justice.

This is in keeping with the objects of the association, which are to strive for the maintenance and strengthening of the rule of law and human rights; protect the independence of judges and attorneys-at-law; look towards law reform and improvement of our legal system; offer service to our system of justice and to those in need of aid and protection; foster basic and continuing legal education; and promote the integrity and good name of the legal profession in Jamaica.

Particularly over the past two years, the association has been prompt in voicing its concerns about proposed acts of Parliament, which tend to affect the rights of citizens and the administration of

justice. Examples include the granting to the prosecution of the right of appeal; the proposal for pre-charge bail; the imposition of minimum mandatory sentences for a number of crimes; and issues concerning constitutional reform such as our final appellate court.

As such, press releases have been issued on all these matters to sensitise the public and prompt all stakeholders to consider the points raised by the association, and the association has contributed to the parliamentary process of enacting legislation made in presentation before joint select committees.

The Jamaican Bar Association has, where appropriate, commented on, congratulated and criticised ministry and state officials for public statements concerning human rights and the administration of justice. This was done concerning the perceived proposal to deny bail entirely to persons charged with

murder, the discussion on the legality of Government mandating vaccines to fight the COVID epidemic, the right of a citizen to jury trial, and so on.

The association is integral to overall governance, in the sense of its representations on various state bodies, including the Public Procurement Commission, the Legal Aid Council, the National Council on Drug Abuse, the rules committee for the Supreme Court and parish courts, and various other bodies.

The association is even part of the decision-making process as to who will sit on the Regional Judicial and Legal Services Commission, the body that appoints the judges to the Caribbean Court of Justice.

The Jamaican Bar Association, given its continued work, activism and contribution, is integral to the maintenance of the fabric of Jamaican society and the maintenance of the rule of law.

JAMBAR HIGHLIGHTS



Immediate past president Alexander Williams and his wife, Carol Watson-Williams.

A graphic celebrating the 50th anniversary of the Jamaica Intellectual Property Office (JIPO). The graphic features the JIPO logo and the text: "THE JAMAICA INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY OFFICE An Agency of The Ministry of Industry, Investment and Commerce CONGRATULATES JAMBAR ON ITS 50th ANNIVERSARY". Below this, it says: "The Jamaica Intellectual Property Office (JIPO) extends congratulations to the Jamaican Bar Association (JAMBAR) on reaching this remarkable milestone of 50 years." At the bottom, it provides contact information: "Protect your Intellectual Property. Contact JIPO Today! 18 Trafalgar Road, Kingston 10 www.jipo.gov.jm 876-946-1300 / 618-1681 info@jipo.gov.jm". A small note at the very bottom states: "JIPO is the National Intellectual Property Office responsible for the administration of the following intellectual property rights: copyright, trademarks, geographical indications, industrial designs and patents."



John Junor (left) and president, John Bassie.

MESSAGES

Congratulations on 50 years of service!

THE DISPUTE Resolution Foundation (DRF), a brainchild of the Jamaican Bar Association (JAMBAR), acknowledges the integral role and contribution of the bar association to the foundation's conception and early operations. To this end, the DRF is recognised as a pioneer shaping the Alternative Dispute Resolution (ADR) landscape in the jurisdiction for almost three decades.

The DRF has proudly flown the flag of the Jamaican Bar Association. Accordingly, the foundation has worked with key stakeholders on the modernisation of justice. This has involved the development of a credible, capable and respected institution, the Dispute Resolution Foundation. The organisation has

worked on protocols, legislations and training to institutionalise ADR across Jamaica and the Caribbean, particularly for mediation and arbitration.

The DRF with the blessing of the JAMBAR Association has worked diligently with the judiciary, the executive, private sector, civil society, academia, schools, communities, international development partners and young people in efforts of promoting and providing quality alternatives to the traditional justice modalities.

The foundation will continue to work closely with the ADR Committee of the bar association and look forward to greater collaboration to further advance ADR for the profession and the public.

We commend the leaders and members of the bar for their vision and faithfulness in this journey. Congratulations on 50 years of service!

Sincerely,

JOHN BASSIE LLB (Hons), LLM, FCI Arb, CArb
Chairman
Dispute Resolution Foundation



JAMBAR HIGHLIGHTS



Honouree Mr John Junor accompanied by Ms Jaavone Taylor, co-chair of JAMBAR's social affairs committee.

A celebratory banner for JAMBAR's Golden Jubilee. The background is blue with white stars and fireworks. The text reads: "Congratulations JAMBAR on your Golden Jubilee from Hylton & Hylton Attorneys-at-Law". The Hylton & Hylton logo is a stylized 'H' and 'H' inside a circle. Below the logo, the address and contact information are listed: "19 Norwood Avenue | Kingston 5 | Jamaica, W.I. (876) 924-2481 | (876) 755-0757 mail@hyltonlaw.com http://www.hyltonlaw.com". At the bottom, there is a graphic of a three-tiered golden podium.

JAMBAR HIGHLIGHTS



Mr K.D. Knight, KC, accepts his award.



Mr AJ Nicholson, KC, accepts his award.



Mr Afeef Lazarus accepting his award.



Mr Maurice Saunders accepts his citation.



The citation is accepted by the widow of Mr Donovan Jackson, and the firm of Nunes, Scholefield, Deleon & Co.



Mr Earl Witter, KC, accepting his award.



Mr John Leiba accepting his award.



Ms Janet Nosworthy accepting her award.



Happy 50th anniversary Best wishes from LexisNexis

LexisNexis would like to wish the Jamaican Bar Association and all of its members a happy 50th anniversary! We look forward to our continued partnership for another 50 and beyond! See you all in November at JAMBAR 2023.

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JAMBAR HIGHLIGHTS



(From left) Past presidents: Jacqueline Samuels-Brown, KC, Emile Leiba, Jacqueline Cummings, John Bassie (current president), Hilary Phillips, KC (retired judge of appeal), Dr Lloyd Barnett, Alexander Williams, Arlene Harrison-Henry, KC, John Leiba.



The citation is accepted by the widow of Mr Donovan Jackson, and the firm of Nunes, Scholefield, Deleon & Co.



Mr Arturo Stewart accepting his award.



The panellists greet the convenor of the public lecture, Mrs Georgia Gibson-Henlin, KC.



Jamaican Bar Association donates to the Boulevard Baptist Church at the anniversary church service on May 7, 2023. Pictured are then president Alexander Williams (left) and Rev Devon Dick, pastor.



Ms Deidre Benka Coker accepting the citation for Mrs Pamela Benka Coker, KC.

JAMBAR HIGHLIGHTS



Ms Justice Simmonds and Mr Lowell Morgan.



Immediate past president Alexander Williams accepting congratulations from president John Bassie.



Henlin Gibson Henlin
Attorneys-at-Law, Trademark Agents & Notaries Public

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The president of the Court of Appeal Mr Justice Patrick Brooks greets the panellists.



Attendees at the Jamaican Bar Association public lecture.



A light moment



The Jamaican Bar Association staged a public lecture on constitutional reform, held at the Norman Manley Law School on June 15, 2023. Panellists included Hon Dr Peter Phillips and Dr Lloyd Barnett. From left: President Alexander Williams, Minister Marlene Malahoo-Forte, Dr Lloyd Barnett.

JAMBAR HIGHLIGHTS



ARCHER CUMMINGS & Co.

Attorneys-at-Law (1997) and Notary Public

CONGRATULATIONS Jamaican Bar Association

50th

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