



# NEWSLETTER

The Antigua and Barbuda High Commission

ISSUE No. 99 May 2005



On 25<sup>th</sup> May Antiguans and Barbudans were given a very special gift in memory of an historic adventure.

James 'Tiny' Little ended his three thousand mile journey to English Harbour, and was given the warmest island welcome that has become synonymous to the people of Antigua and Barbuda.

(left) James 'Tiny' Little's boat, The Womble, donated to one of the island's museums

In his special tribute to nationals for the warmth and hospitality extended to him and his family during their stay in the country he

has donated his boat "The Womble", as an exhibit to be placed in one of the islands' museums.

He said "On the 17<sup>th</sup> of May at 3:30 pm, my 3,000-mile journey across the Atlantic Ocean came to an end. Arriving in Antigua was both a relief and a thrill. In 1975 I visited Antigua and experienced a deep affinity for the island and its people. The hospitality and support received by my family and the generous way we have been treated display the human spirit of the island people and for all this we thank you so much.

My wife and I have decided that we would like to donate my boat, the Womble, to the Island of Antigua, in the hope that it will be used as an exhibit in one of the museums, until the museum of ocean rowing is established. It is my hope that a team or individual from Antigua might enter one of the rowing races in the future, and that the Womble be made available to them for that purpose. In that event I will make myself available to offer every assistance.

In conclusion I would like to say that future ocean rowers are in for a wonderful landfall in this tropical paradise and I hope to spend many more happy times here with my family."

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# HIGH COMMISSIONER'S MESSAGE

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*Greetings!*

*Investment is the key to economic growth in Antigua and Barbuda, whether it is investment in Tourism, Financial Services, ICT Services or Manufacturing, our country stands ready to accept investment regionally and internationally .*

*In a recent address to the Barbados Chamber of Commerce, Prime Minister Baldwin Spencer promoted the idea of regional investment to its members. He said, "Of particular relevance to prospective investors, the Government of Antigua and Barbuda is poised to take a Bill to Parliament for the establishment of the Antigua and Barbuda Investment Authority."*

*That Authority will report directly to the Prime Minister.*

*Prime Minister explained, "Simultaneous with the Antigua and Barbuda Investment Authority Act, the Government will introduce companion legislation in the form of the Antigua and Barbuda Investment Code.*

*This legislation will provide the ethical moorings for the Antigua and Barbuda Investment Authority. Governed by the Investment Act and the Investment Code, the Investment Authority will remove political manipulation from the investment approvals process in Antigua and Barbuda.*

*The Antigua and Barbuda Investment Authority's function will be to promote direct investment, local as well as foreign; and CARICOM. The Authority will coordinate the processes related to investment proposals. It will assist in expediting official approvals. It will be under obligation to foster a transparent, ethical, and generally productive and profitable business environment in Antigua and Barbuda.*

*We welcome investment in tourism, which is experiencing significant growth over last year. Infrastructural development, including housing and sewage systems are also welcomed.*

*We also welcome investment in Financial Services. This includes international banking, trusts and insurances, International Business Companies, Internet gaming, and the Information and Communications Technology sector.*

*Incentives include generous tax holidays, import duty exemptions, repatriation of profits, and exemptions of withholding taxes. Investors are entitled to repatriate all capital royalties, dividends, and profits free of all taxes or any other charges on foreign exchange.*

*There should be no doubt about my Government's resolve to ensure that the economy of Antigua and Barbuda becomes increasingly vibrant and attractive to investors."*

*This High Commission will be working with the Authority and other agencies to promote investment. in Antigua and Barbuda. Returning nationals who are interested in investing in their country should, when the time comes, contact this High Commission for additional details.*

**Dr Carl Roberts**  
**High Commissioner**

**ICT to be the driving force of a knowledge-based economy**

Minister of State in the Office of the Prime Minister responsible for Information, Broadcasting and Communications, Dr. Edmond Mansoor, announced that the accessibility to Information Communication Technologies ICT's will determine the rate at which a knowledge-based economy will emerge in Antigua and Barbuda.

Speaking at the opening of Information Society Seminar/Workshop sponsored by the University of the West Indies' Centre for International Services and the Commonwealth Secretariat in collaboration with the CARICOM Regional Organization for Standards and Quality CROSQ and the Ministry of Information Broadcasting and Communications, at the Jolly Beach Resort, Dr Mansoor noted that the building of an information-knowledge society is largely dependent on the development of an adequate infrastructure, or accessibility. He said that connectivity is equal to economic opportunity, and more specifically broadband connectivity.

Dr. Mansoor also pointed out that the Government of Antigua and Barbuda fully accepts that the building of a new economy is based on a greater degree of information, knowledge handling and exchange than ever before.

"The United Progressive Party Government of Prime Minister Baldwin Spencer is accorded a high priority both to the development of traditional media (radio, TV) and to the putting in place of a modern ICT infrastructure, which is widely accessible. Indeed, the Government of Antigua and Barbuda has advanced the process of building our national technological capability by



**Dr Mansoor addressing the conference**

promoting Antigua as a Regional Centre of Information Communication Technology Excellence," he said.

He outlined that the Government has also been ensuring the integration and adaptation of ICTs in many spheres including education, commerce, governance systems and law enforcement.

"Antigua and Barbuda will not be left behind," he stated.

On 19th May, the Ministry of Broadcasting, Information and Telecommunications launched via the print and electronic media the first part of an ambitious programme to reduce the digital divide and to increase the tele-density by beginning to provide ordinary citizens with access to ICTs at the community level. In this regard, an international style ICT FEST will be held on September 14 and 15 this year.

This ICT explosion, with a theme of "ICT Solutions for Antigua and Barbuda's Development", will have a number of objectives including showing ICT solutions in as many sectors as

possible as a means of facilitating national development; finding novel ways of getting ICT to have an impact on and reaching ordinary citizens; and showing how ICT can transform problem solving in non-traditional areas such as the environment and in preparation for World Cup 2007.

The three day ICT conference is expected to create a set of Caribbean positions on the Information Society issues for inputs into National Policy, propose areas of action, especially in the area of human capacity-building and ICT policy, and to establish a Regional Technical Committee for the development of CARICOM ICT Standards.





**Prime Minister Spencer (right), Prime Minister Skerritt (left) and Prime Minister Gonsalves of St Vincent and the Grenadines (centre)**

world.” Prime Minister Spencer concluded.

In congratulating Prime Minister Tony Blair of the United Kingdom, who was also returned to power following general elections on 5th May, Prime Minister Spencer said that for him to be elected for a third term is an honour that he is certain he will use for the advancement of the people in his country. “Your party’s goal and strategies for the future have led the people of the United Kingdom, once again, to vote in favour of your experienced administration,” the note read.



**Minister of Finance and the Economy, Dr Errol Cort**

## PM Spencer sends congratulations to Prime Ministers Skerritt and Blair

On 6th May Prime Minister of Baldwin Spencer dispatched letters of congratulations to Prime Minister Roosevelt Skerritt of Dominica and Prime Minister Anthony Tony Blair of the United Kingdom, on their re-election to office.

In his letter to Prime Minister Skerritt, Prime Minister Spencer noted that the fundamental aim of Dominica’s population is the socioeconomic development of that country. “The people of Dominica have once again, placed their confidence in your ability to tackle this mandate successfully,” Prime Minister Spencer said.

“As you assume office, you will be fortified by great expression of faith in your administration. I wish to remind you that Antigua and Barbuda, as well as the other members of the OECS, stand ready to continue working with the Commonwealth of Dominica towards the advancement of our countries position within the Caribbean region, and the

“As our countries continue to work together in economic and political spheres to confront and overcome many challenges, the Government of Antigua and Barbuda pledges to build on the excellent bilateral relations existing between the United Kingdom and Antigua and Barbuda,” the Prime Minister’s letter to Tony Blair concluded.

## Minister Cort calls for “full compliance” by the US in the WTO Dispute on Internet Gaming

In its first official response to the recent recommendations of the WTO’s Appellate Body on the now famous Internet gaming dispute, the US Ambassador to the WTO told a meeting of the WTO’s Dispute Settlement Body (DSB) that the US intends to comply, within its WTO obligations, with the recommendations made by the Appellate Body and adopted by the DSB in April.

In his response to the United States, Minister of Finance and the Economy, Dr. Errol Cort, told the DSB that “Antigua expects full and complete compliance by the United States with the

recommendations adopted by the DSB in this case. As we noted last month, we will monitor the situation very closely to ensure timely and sufficient implementation by the United States. We note again how important this industry is to our delicate economy and to the betterment of our citizens, and time is of the essence in this matter.”

Minister Cort also used the opportunity to correct the record on some of the recent media statements by the US.

He noted that “...in its public pronouncements regarding this case, [the US had] said that it need[ed] only to “clarify Internet gambling restrictions in certain ways” or “tweak” the US Interstate Horseracing Act.” The Minister then proceeded in good lawyerly fashion to correct the errors in the US’ interpretation of the Appellate Body report and concluded that, in order to “... comply with the ruling, the United States must give Antigua market access for the provision of gambling and betting services. This should not be a difficult or time consuming task.

For a start, the United States federal government can immediately cease sending letters and issuing statements that Antiguan operators cannot lawfully do business in the United States.

According to WTO rules both parties to the dispute must agree by 6 June 2005 on a reasonable time period during which the US must fully implement the recommendations of the Appellate Body Report. Failing this, Antigua and Barbuda can seek binding arbitration. It is therefore expected that bilateral discussions between the parties will occur in the very near future in order to meet this timetable.

In addition to Minister Cort, Antigua and Barbuda's delegation to the DSB meeting consisted of Dr. John W. Ashe, Ambassador to the WTO; Mr Elliott Paige, Minister Counsellor; and Mark Mendel, Legal Adviser.

## Special COTED prepares for the Finishing Round

CARICOM Member States met in Georgetown, Guyana at the 12<sup>th</sup> special meeting of the Council of Trade and Economic Development (COTED) on May 13<sup>th</sup> in an attempt to finalise various positions ahead of the conclusion of the DOHA round. The issue of tariff reducing formulas remains a crucial element in this round of negotiations for developing countries, especially the small vulnerable economies.

According to Trade Affairs Officer of the International Trade Division, Michael Freeland, who represented the government of Antigua and Barbuda in this special session of the COTED, this will have a negative ripple effect on trade taxes as most governments are highly dependant on these costs as a source of income. "Although a linear formula is most



*Trade Affairs Officer, International Trade Division, Michael Freeland*

favoured by the region, the July Package suggests a non linear approach as set out in the modalities. Therefore, CARICOM States are formulating their own proposal that will show some progress towards liberalization but address the issue of their small size and dependency on trade taxes," he said

The WTO Director-General Designate Pascal Lamy also addressed the COTED. He outlined his intention to support some of the issues that affected the small vulnerable economies when he takes office from September. In his last assignment as EC Commissioner, Lamy had signalled that developed countries should begin to appreciate the small, vulnerable nature of developing countries, and the lack of capacity that plague these economies to conform to the increasing demands present in the WTO. He has stated that the fight to enable small states to increase their level on the playing field will be in his portfolio as the Director General.

Mr. Freeland further outlined that the COTED also took stock of negotiations within services forum. Ahead of the May deadline for revised offers, most CARICOM members have submitted their initial offers showing more progress towards liberalization within their respective economies.

"Also, the COTED was invited to consider using a "negative list" for future bilateral with the Canadian government. It

is clear that one CARICOM objective in trade agreements should be to attract new investment in services. This is in light of the fact that two-thirds of FDI today is in services. Therefore, the modality that creates the best, most conducive business environment should be the choice. Trade agreements that have followed the negative list approach to services liberalization are much more transparent instruments for service providers than is the GATS," Freeland said.

"This is the case firstly because members of trade agreements based on 'negative listing' are obliged to provide transparency through the listing technique with respect to non-conforming measures or reservations (i.e., those measures which will not be immediately liberalized on the part of a member country)," he outlined.

COTED finalized many positions in relation to other negotiations, especially that of the ACP-EU EPAs, which is due to start the next phase of negotiations in September following an official meeting of negotiators in St. Lucia.

The Minister of Agriculture Charlesworth Samuel, Ambassador Dr. Clarence Henry and Director of Agriculture Florida Kentish participated in the regular session held May 9-12.

## Roads in Five Islands being resurfaced after 28 years of neglect

On 25<sup>th</sup> May Prime Minister and Parliamentary Representative of the Constituency of St. John's Rural West, Baldwin Spencer paid a special visit to the Five Islands area

of his constituency to observe the ongoing road works.

Prime Minister Spencer said that the road works in his constituency is an important development as the area has been neglected for over 20 years by the Antigua Labour Party administration while he was in the opposition.

"We are commencing the national road works programme in this area as it has been the most neglected over the years. Nothing was done by the previous administration in this constituency and my government decided to start the road project here," he said.

"My government is asking the people of this country to be patient as we accelerate the road works programme and tackle every section of the two islands. We realize that the conditions of the roads are deplorable, but we are doing all within our powers to tackle the worst affected areas in the quickest possible time," he outlined.

The government a few weeks ago also commenced a road construction programme in the sister island of Barbuda which was without paved roads during the tenure of the previous administration.

Supervisor of the Road Works Programme, Smokey Benjamin said that the first part of the project in the Rural West Constituency includes the construction of proper drains, the cutting of new roads and the surfacing of all the roads in Five Islands.

Liaison Officer for the Prime Minister in the constituency, Livingston Samuel, said that the Ministry of Public Works has been very cooperative in the entire project and outlined that very shortly they will be moving to other areas of the constituency.

"We want the constituents to know that we are committed to completing this project and ensuring that the roads in the area are developed to a very high standard. So we are asking them to be cooperative and patient as we carry out the necessary work," Samuel noted.

The road works programme on both islands is expected to last over a year as almost all the major roads in the country are in need of repair.



## Chinese Ambassador seeks Antigua and Barbuda support on UN Reform

On 24th May Prime Minister Baldwin Spencer received Ambassador Liu, the special representative of the Foreign Minister of China and his delegation at his office.

Prime Minister Spencer met Ambassador Liu to exchange views on United Nations reform.

Ambassador Liu brought greetings from the Chinese Foreign Minister and spoke of the need for developing countries to achieve consensus on an important subject that will affect their development efforts.

Prime Minister Spencer explained the attempts by CARICOM to arrive at a common position both at the Foreign Ministers and Heads of Government levels.

The United Nations General Assembly expects to make a decision on the matter of UN Reform in September of this year. Several countries are lobbying for various positions, especially the so called G4 comprising Germany, Japan, Brazil and India.

## Government repositions leadership of Police Force

On 22nd May Prime Minister Baldwin Spencer confirmed the repositioning of the leadership of the Royal Police Force of Antigua and Barbuda in an effort to fight crime, maintain public peace, justice and security.

In his weekly broadcast to the nation, Prime Minister Spencer announced the appointment of Ms. Delano Christopher as the new Acting Commissioner of Police, making her the first woman to hold the position. He also announced the appointment of Davidson Whyte as Acting Deputy Commissioner and Albert Smith as Acting Deputy Commissioner.

The new Acting Commissioner of Police, who said that she is up to the new challenge, entered the Force in the 1960's and has held numerous positions including the head of the St. John's Police Station.

The former Acting Commissioner of Police, Rolston Pompey and Deputy Commissioner of Police, James Hill along with sixteen other members of the force have proceeded on ninety days accumulated leave in the first instance.

The hierarchy of the Police Force was informed of the changes on the 20th May.

In making the announcement, the Prime Minister said that in order to decrease crime in the society, the police will have to invest in building trust and establish constructive, collaborative



*(left to right) Acting Commissioner of Police Delano Christopher seen here with National Security Advisor Alec Vanderpoole, Prime Minister Spencer and Commander of Defence Force Trevor Thomas*

community policing relationships with everyone and every agency and organisation in the society.

"I acknowledged that this counsel would only work if the Police high command is committed to community oriented and problem solving policing. Intensified Community Policing as a philosophy, as a management style, as an organizational strategy for proactive problem solving, and for police-community partnerships in dealing with the causes of crime and in detecting and prosecuting crime, could swiftly turn out to be a productive investment," he said.

He also called for police involvement with young people in their communities as counselors, coaches and confidantes, as a pre-emptive strategy for dealing with youth involvement in gangs.

"I call upon the Police Force to move to new levels of effectiveness and I give the assurance that I would do everything within my competence to

rapidly reduce and to ultimately eliminate the handicaps that continue to affect our police officers. I envisage increased troop strength, better accommodation, up-to-date equipment, new technologies, extensive training and better pay," Prime Minister Spencer concluded.

### Ministry of Culture Assist in Staging CARABEX

Antigua is to be the venue for the first ever Best of Caribbean Arts and Craft on Exhibition CARABEX, which will be held from 30<sup>th</sup> June through 2<sup>nd</sup> July 2005 at the Multipurpose Cultural and Exhibition Centre and will feature representatives from twenty Caribbean islands including host country Antigua and Barbuda.

CARABEX is the brainchild of Clovis St. Romain of Business Success Institute. Speaking at the launch St Romain said "This is a dream come true and I hope that CARABEX will be associated with arts and craft at its best."

Ministers within the Ministry of Culture were unavoidably out of the country on Government business and were represented by Minister of Youth and Sports, Winston Williams.

Minister Williams said that CARABEX is another link in the regional integration process and believes that it's important to the cultural development of the country.

"This Arts and Craft Festival Exhibition is timely and important for Antigua and Barbuda. The logical marriage between culture and tourism must be urgently recognized and registered", Williams said.

The Minister encouraged persons involved in the enhancement of culture to use the opportunities provided by CARABEX to market themselves.

Director of Culture, Heather Doram, commended Mr. St. Romain for having the foresight in staging the event and added that the timing was perfect.

She said, "This expo could not have come at a more opportune time, a time when Governments in the region are beginning to realize the great potential of the creative and cultural industries to the development of our people and our economies." Mrs Doram added that there are many tangible benefits to be gained including a professional development approach to production and marketing of products, facilitating cultural exchange and providing a learning experience as producers and buyers will interact with each other."



**VACANCY NOTICE**

Particulars of the Post of Magistrate, Magistrates Court  
Ministry of Justice, Antigua and Barbuda

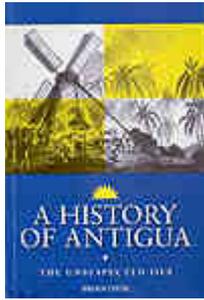
Applications are invited from suitably qualified persons for the post of Magistrate, High Court, Ministry of Justice.

<b>Post:</b>	Magistrate
<b>Qualifications:</b>	Bachelor of Law Degree Legal Education Certificate At least seven (7) years experience as an advocate in a Court having unlimited jurisdiction in civil matters in some part of the Commonwealth.
<b>Salary:</b>	\$58,836.00 per annum
<b>Travelling Allowance:</b>	\$5,844.00 per annum (provided the officer maintains a car for the performance of official duties).
<b>Housing Allowance:</b>	\$18,000.00 per annum
<b>Duty Allowance:</b>	\$18,000.00 per annum
<b>Telephone:</b>	Free telephone (limited to local calls)
<b>Vacation Leave:</b>	Twenty-seven (27) working days per annum and in accordance with existing regulations.
<b>Sick Leave:</b>	Thirty (30) calendar days during the period of twelve (12) months.
<b>Duties:</b>	(a) adjudicate all criminal, quasi-criminal and civil cases within the limits prescribed by the Magistrate's Code of Procedure Act, Cap. 255 and any other law; (b) conduct coroner's inquiries and licensing sessions; (c) hear affiliation matters, certain matrimonial matters and other matters relating to the custody of children; (d) conduct juvenile court; (e) perform other judicial and administrative functions (e.g., issuing of warrants and granting of bail) (f) perform any other duties which may be assigned by the Chief Magistrate, or as required by statute.
<b>Hours of Work:</b>	(1) Mondays to Thursdays 8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Fridays 8:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. (2) Notwithstanding (1) above, the nature of the duties will require the Officer to perform work outside of the hours mentioned above, in addition to Sundays and Public Holidays when necessary.

Applications stating qualifications, experience, the names and addresses of at least two referees, along with copies of Certificates should be sent by June 15<sup>th</sup> 2005 to:

The Permanent Secretary  
Ministry of Justice  
New Office Complex  
Parliament Drive  
St. John's, Antigua W.I.

**NATIONALS' CORNER**



**A HISTORY OF ANTIGUA:  
THE UNSUSPECTED ISLE.**

This book, written by Brian Dyde and published by Macmillan Education in 2000, not only covers the history of Antigua from pre-Columbian days until the achievement of Independence in 1981 but also deals with events over the same period in both Barbuda and Redonda.

The author is an Englishman who, having known the island for over 40 years and being married to an Antiguan, has taken great care to treat what could be thought of as potentially dry historical material from a balanced cultural perspective and to write for the widest possible readership.

His 360-page book covers the pre-Columbian migrations, colonialism, slavery and the plantation economy, the rise of the trade union movement, Associated Statehood, Independence, and the transition from an agricultural to a tourist economy in an interesting and highly-readable manner. As well as being illustrated with maps, reproductions of paintings and prints, and many photographs, the text also contains numerous apt contemporary quotations from each significant period of Antigua's history. It is a book which will appeal to anyone with any connection with Antigua, or with an interest in West Indian history.

The author has also written the definitive visitor's guide to Antigua (now in its third edition) as well as a history of the West India Regiments.

His book, ISBN number 0 333 75169 8, is available from any good bookshop, priced at £17.95

**Antigua and Barbuda – Best Brand in Caribbean Tourism**

Antigua and Barbuda has once again emerged as one of the top tourist destinations in the Caribbean region. This after participating in the St. Maarten Regional Tradeshow SMART.

SMART was sponsored by the St. Maarten Hospitality and Trade Association and Association des Hoteliers de St. Maarten.

The event which ran from the 12<sup>th</sup> to the 14<sup>th</sup> of May provided 2 days of pre-scheduled appointment sessions where Wholesalers and Tour Operators could meet and conduct business with suppliers in the tourism industry. Antigua and Barbuda was represented by the Antigua Hotels and Tourist Association (AHTA), LIAT and the Ministry of Tourism.

Tourism Minister, Harold Lovell is strongly advocating the resurgence of Antigua and Barbuda as a foremost regional tourist destination. The facts and figures were measured recently as to Antigua's presence and performance within this market at the Destination Management and Marketing Awareness Workshop held in January.

Minister Lovell has pledged the governments' support in ensuring that the country is continuously featured at such regional tradeshows so that the emerging slogan "Antigua and Barbuda....Best Brand in Caribbean Tourism" can be manifested as truth at every forum where the country is placed against its regional counterparts.

Minister Lovell is depending on private sector organizations such as the AHTA, small hoteliers and other event sub-committees such as Sailing Week committee, and event festival committees to play their role and get involved in the regional marketing of Antigua and Barbuda.

**Grays Green area earmarked for major development**

Prime Minister Baldwin Spencer has announced a major development for the King George V Grounds area in his constituency of St. John's Rural West.

Speaking to a packed hall of constituents during a community meeting, Prime Minister Spencer said that the plans include the complete redevelopment of the Christian Building known as "Knuckle Block" into a centre designed to benefit the members of the area.

He said that "Knuckle Block" which is a hang-out spot for many of the community's young people, will be transformed into a building complex featuring a library, computer centre, meeting hall, accommodation hall, and an area for ten vendors' shops.

Prime Minister Spencer said that too many of the young people of the area have fallen by the wayside into anti social and other types of behaviour and he is committed to addressing the problem immediately.

"I need the support of the community, when we move into that area to develop it. Once and for all we must tackle that area and rid it of the unwholesome activities that take place there," he said

He further pointed out that the King George V grounds which forms part of the area earmarked for development, will be further enhanced to include spectator stands and other amenities required for sporting activities.

**VACANCY NOTICE****Particulars of the Post of Deputy Registrar, High Court  
Ministry of Justice, Antigua and Barbuda**

Applications are invited from suitably qualified persons for the post of Deputy Registrar, High Court, Ministry of Justice.

<b>Post:</b>	Deputy Registrar
<b>Qualifications:</b>	Three (3) years experience in a Registry or Five (5) years experience at the Bar
<b>Salary:</b>	\$54,876.00 per annum
<b>Travelling Allowance:</b>	\$4,800.00 per annum (provided the officer maintains a car for the performance of official duties).
<b>Housing Allowance:</b>	\$14,400.00 per annum
<b>Telephone:</b>	Free telephone (limited to local calls)
<b>Payment in lieu of Private Practice:</b>	In accordance with legal experience
<b>Vacation Leave:</b>	Twenty-seven (27) working days per annum and in accordance with existing regulations.
<b>Sick Leave:</b>	Thirty (30) calendar days during the period of twelve (12) months.
<b>Duties:</b>	(a) Supervision of the Registry in the absence of the Registrar. Any other related duties assigned by the Registrar from time to time.  (b) Processing of Probates, Letters of Administration, Small Estates, Unrepresented Estates.  (c) Supervision of Births, Deaths & Marriages, including amendments; Places of Public Worship, Trade Unions, Newspapers, Marriage Officers, Medical Practitioners.  (d) Assist the Registrar generally in managing the operations of the Division.
<b>Gratuity:</b>	Twelve and a half percent (12 ½%) of basic aggregate salary drawn during the period of employment.
<b>Hours of Work:</b>	(1) Mondays to Thursdays 8:00a.m. to 3:00p.m. Fridays 8:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.  (2) Notwithstanding (1) above, the nature of the duties will require the Officer to perform work outside of the hours mentioned above, in addition to Sundays and Public Holidays when necessary.

Applications stating qualifications, experience, the names and addresses of at least two referees, along with copies of Certificates should be sent by June 15<sup>th</sup> 2005 to:

**The Permanent Secretary  
Ministry of Justice  
New Office Complex  
Parliament Drive  
St. John's  
Antigua W.I.**

**VACANCY NOTICE****Particulars of the Post of Registrar, High Court  
Ministry of Justice, Antigua and Barbuda**

Applications are invited from suitably qualified persons for the post of Registrar, High Court, Ministry of Justice.

- Post:** Registrar
- Qualifications:** Bachelor of Law Degree  
Legal Education Certificate  
At least seven (7) years experience as an advocate in a Court having unlimited jurisdiction in civil matters in some part of the Commonwealth.
- Salary:** \$64,596.00 per annum
- Travelling Allowance:** \$5,844.00 per annum (provided the officer maintains a car for the performance of official duties).
- Housing Allowance:** \$18,000.00 per annum
- Telephone:** Free telephone (limited to local calls)
- Payment in lieu of Private Practice:** In accordance with legal experience
- Vacation Leave:** Twenty-seven (27) working days per annum and in accordance with existing regulations.
- Sick Leave:** Thirty (30) calendar days during the period of twelve (12) months.
- Duties:** (a) **To function as the Chief Court Administrator under the rules of Court (Civil & Criminal) which includes:**
- The general management of the Court System including case fixtures, the allocation of cases to the Judges, Master etc.
  - Supervising the Mediation process
  - The transmission of case results to the Supreme Court Headquarters, and to the Law Library and other relevant Institutions
  - To communicate to the Ministry Headquarters all changes and updates on matters pertaining to the Court System
  - To advise the Ministry Headquarters on matters pertaining to Court reform, staff recruitment/requirements, and matters pertaining to the Judges' general welfare and working conditions
  - To liaise with the President of the Bar Association in reference to the operations of the Court, that is, reforms, updates, activities, etc.
- (b) **To function as the Deputy Registrar of the Court of Appeal which includes:**
- The receipt and transmission of application and the preparation of documents for the Court of Appeal and Privy Council process (Records of appeal etc.)
  - To provide all the requirements in respect of lodging, office space, etc. for the Court of Appeal Judges
  - To transmit documents/communication from the Court of Appeal and Privy Council to the relevant Attorneys-at-Law
  - To prepare the digest of the results of the matters during each session and to transmit to the Court of Appeal
- (c) **The processing of:**
- Probates and Letters of Administration
  - Small Estates
  - Unrepresented Estates

**The Registration of:** Births, Deaths and Marriages, including amendments  
 Places of Public Worship  
 Trade Unions  
 Newspapers  
 Marriage Officers  
 Medical Practitioners  
 Notary Publics  
 Marriage Venues/Churches  
 Architects  
 Attorneys-at-Law (call to the Bar etc.)

**(d) To function as the Chief Accounting Officer to the Ministry Headquarters which includes:**

The collection of fees, payments into Court, etc. on behalf of the Government in accordance with the relevant Laws  
 The payment of all contributions to the relevant Organisations e.g. the Eastern Supreme Court Headquarters  
 To prepare annual budgetary reports, budgets, monthly statements etc. for submission to the Ministry Headquarters  
 To prepare quarterly reports on the operations of the Division

**(e) To function as the Secretary of the Law Council in accordance with the provisions of the Legal Profession Act of 1997 which includes:**

The receipt and transmission of complaints to the relevant parties  
 The preparation, transmission, and/or service of the relevant notices for meetings, hearings etc.  
 The preparation of minutes, reports etc.  
 Any other duties in accordance with the Act

**Gratuity:** Twelve and a half percent (12 ½%) of basic aggregate salary drawn during the period of employment.

**Hours of Work:** (1) Mondays to Thursdays 8:00a.m. to 4:30p.m.  
 Fridays 8:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.  
 (2) Notwithstanding (1) above, the nature of the duties will require the Officer to perform work outside of the hours mentioned above, in addition to Sundays and Public Holidays when necessary.

Applications stating qualifications, experience, the names and addresses of at least two referees, along with copies of Certificates should be sent by June 15<sup>th</sup> 2005 to:

**The Permanent Secretary  
 Ministry of Justice  
 New Office Complex  
 Parliament Drive  
 St. John's  
 Antigua. W.I.**

**Legal Aid workshop successful**

On 27<sup>th</sup> May the British Caribbean Jurist Group (BCJG) Legal Aid Training Workshop an intensive 5-day work session. It was held at the Jolly Beach Resort and attracted a total of 16 participants, including representatives from seven other Caribbean countries.

Director of the Antigua and Barbuda Legal Aid and Advice Centre, Jose Laurent, stated that during the course, participants were exposed to training that was essentially formulated for in-house management which included recruitment, selection, fundraising, financial planning, as well as service delivery in respect of legal aid centres or clinics.

According to Ms Laurent they were put through their paces in respect of administration, advocacy, mediation and negotiation among other things.

The UK Facilitators – Mrs Sara Chandler, Ms Pamela Rowbotham and Ms Angela Devereaux also paid a courtesy call on the Minister of Justice, Senator Colin Derrick.

The Ministry of Justice and the Legal Aid and Advice Centre also took the opportunity of the presence in Antigua and Barbuda of Mrs. Sara Chandler, herself a representative from the Law Society in the United Kingdom, to formally and publicly thank the Law Society for the gift of books which were received in January 2005.

One of the outcomes of this regional meet was the proposal of a Regional Legal Aid Association, to which positive responses were given.

The Legal Aid Training workshop formed part of the overall Legal Assistance Project between the Government of Antigua and Barbuda and the British Caribbean Jurist Group (UK), an association comprising Caribbean and UK legal groups, including the Law Society of England and the judiciary.

The British Caribbean Jurist Group (BCJG) through the legal facilitators is expected to submit a Report on the regional workshop within the next two months. It is anticipated that any follow-up or suggestions for further training will then be detailed in the forthcoming document.