

From: **Ayo Johnson** ayojohnson@gmail.com  
Subject: Re: Hamilton Waterfront Lease  
Date: March 10, 2015 at 12:41 PM  
To: Dept. of Communication & Information dci2@gov.bm  
Cc: [REDACTED], mmfahy@gov.bm



Hello,

I am still awaiting responses to my questions on this issue submitted almost a week ago now.

The statement below, issued yesterday, in response to Senator Daniels' press release does not assist in breaking down the two items.

I now have submit further questions:

1. We understand that MJM is the law firm that has been instructed by Minister Fahy to advise on and deal with matters relating to the Corporation of Hamilton, and has been handling the waterfront lease arbitration proceedings . Are there other firms involved? When was MJM initially instructed? Why was this firm chosen?
2. Given that Rana Fozeia Fahy - the wife of the Minister - is a director of MJM, was the Minister and/or the Attorney General not concerned by the appearance of a conflict of interest?
3. What other contracts have MJM been given?
4. Was the Attorney General involved in selecting MJM?
5. If, as your statement says, less than half of the requested amount has been spent, does the Government expect to spend "about" half of \$1.75 million on waterfront legal fees in the next three weeks when the fiscal year comes to an end?

These questions are for the Minister of Home Affairs and the Attorney General.

I would appreciate it if you would let me know by return email whether I should expect a response and when.

That said, given that the Minister has not responded to any of my questions submitted to him through your department over the last year, I plan on publishing a story on this matter at 5:15 pm today, irrespective of whether a response is received or not.

Regards

Ayo Johnson

On Mar 9, 2015, at 5:39 PM, Dept. of Communication & Information <dci2@gov.bm> wrote:

<image001.jpg>

Good Evening all,

Today, the Minister of Home Affairs, Sen. Michael Fahy, offered the following in response to Opposition Sen. Marc Daniels' statement on the Hamilton Waterfront Lease.

Minister Fahy said, "Senator Daniels has made inaccurate statements regarding legal fees in respect of the Ministry of Home Affairs.

"To ensure public clarity, the Ministry has requested supplementary sums for the fiscal year 2014/2015.

"This measure is designed to cover legal fees expended, and fees possibly to be expended in respect of the waterfront arbitration, for fiscal year 2014/15.

"In addition, it is anticipated that the measure would cover costs for the Constitutional challenge to the changes to the Municipalities Act 1923 currently before the Supreme Court of Bermuda, again, for fiscal year 2014/15.

"As an added note, a small portion of the requested allocation relates to funding a guarantee through the Bermuda Economic Development Corporation. The supplementary

request is based on best estimates and the fee request and billings to date are vetted by the Attorney General's chambers."

Minister Fahy continued, "Contrary to the Opposition Senator's statement, the Ministry has **not** spent \$1.5million to obtain advice on voiding the waterfront leases. Such assertions are completely misleading and false.

"Fees have been spent on overseas Counsel, expert advice, preparation of pleadings, witness statements and other litigation expenses.

"To date less than half the requested amount has been spent. It's quite regrettable, as Senator Daniels should know better than to issue such inflammatory and speculative statements particularly when the matter is scheduled to be debated in the House and Senate during the budget debate."

- ENDS -

Regards,

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