

National Secretariat
100 Bethel Avenue
Stapledon Gardens
P.O. Box N-3482



Telephone: (242) 323-4491
(242) 323-7085
(242) 356-2687
Vibe: 225-1447
Fax: (242) 323-7086

WEBSITE: www.teachersvoicebahamas.com

THE BAHAMAS UNION OF TEACHERS

Acting President: Joan Knowles-Turnquest

Secretary General: John Musgrove

Affiliation: Education International (EI), Caribbean Union of Teachers (CUT) & National Congress of Trade Unions (NCTU)

MEMBERS UPDATE

March 9th, 2017

To: All Members
FROM: THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Dear Members,

Press Release

Court Ruling

The ruling of the matter regarding Wilson, Knowles, and Pintard-Munroe vs. The Bahamas Union of Teachers by Justice Winder was issued today.

His ruling was as follows:

- i.** No salaries, monies, or benefits requested by the plaintiffs were awarded because the suspensions of the plaintiffs were not lifted by the 2016 AGM. Justice Winder said that he **COULD NOT** provide them with this request or reinstate them to office. He acknowledged that their actions, which caused loss to the Union, could not be overlooked. Therefore, he suggested that this issue be taken to the AGM for a decision.
- ii.** In the matter of payment of salary after June, 2016 Justice Winder stated that their contract had expired and so he could not rule for them to get salaries or the half pays that was taken from them. Again he suggested that this matter be dealt with at the AGM.
- iii.** Although the plaintiffs sought to make the election of ALL the committees null and void, Justice Winder ruled against that. However, he did acknowledge that the Candidates' Committee erred in their ruling by referring to a "member in good standing" as defined by the Industrial Relations Act. For this he awarded the plaintiffs 2/3 of the legal fees to be paid by the BUT.
- iv.** Justice Winder ruled that the plaintiffs be placed on the ballot and that elections be called by 7th April, 2017.

Solidarity Forever

Sincerely,
THE BAHAMAS UNION OF TEACHERS

John Musgrove (Mr.)
Secretary General

JM/ey