



## **PRESS STATEMENT**

**Office of the Chief Justice**

**5 May 2026**

The Office of the Chief Justice has been made aware of fraudulent messages circulating via WhatsApp in which an individual is falsely purporting to be **Chief Justice Sir Ian Winder**. These messages solicit donations allegedly intended for the construction of a “safe house.”

The Judiciary wishes to make it absolutely clear that **no such request has been made by the Chief Justice or by the Office of the Judiciary**. Any message of this nature is a scam and should be disregarded. Members of the public are strongly advised not to respond to these messages, not to provide personal information, and not to send funds.

The Judiciary condemns this misuse of the Chief Justice’s name and position. Steps have been taken to report the matter to the relevant authorities for investigation.

We urge all citizens to remain vigilant against fraudulent communications and to verify the authenticity of any request purporting to come from judicial officers or institutions. Official communications from the Office of the Chief Justice will always be issued through formal channels and never through unsolicited WhatsApp messages.

**End of Statement**