

PRESS RELEASE

Statement regarding the Purported June 12th National Association of Trial Judges of Liberia (NATJL) Conference Resolution

Monrovia, Liberia July 6, 2021. It has come to our attention that there is a resolution purportedly from the June 12th NATJL Conference making the rounds in the media concerning a planned class action against the government of Liberia relative to the questionable “harmonization” of judges’ salaries by the said government.

Whilst it is true that there was a resolution drafted at the end of the June 12th NATJL Conference relative to several matters, including the questionable “harmonization” of judges’ salaries, such resolution has not been officially released as it continues to be worked on by the Resolution Committee. So, whatever is out there is not, and cannot be the resolution of the herein mentioned conference.

We like to be clear; Judges are sensitive and quite cognizant of the ongoing COVID-19 emergency and the strain it is putting on the government and people of Liberia. Whilst it is true that there is a collective position on the questionable “harmonization” of judges’ salaries, it is also true that it would be ill-timed to raise the issue or make demands, however legitimate, in the midst of an emergency that is overwhelming the government.

This matter of the questionable “harmonization” of judges’ salaries will be taken up at the appropriate time, but certainly not in the midst of this COVID-19 emergency currently ravaging the country. We encourage our colleagues to be patient as we all work collectively to bring the covid-19 pandemic which is claiming the lives of many of our compatriots, under control.

We like to reiterate that the purported resolution circulating out there is not the resolution of the June 12th NATJL Conference because the resolution of the conference has not been fully signed, approved or released.

This brief statement represents our response at this time to the many queries from the media and other individuals regarding the resolution that is out there purportedly from the June 12th NATJL conference.

Signed:

L. Ben Barco (Atty.)
Secretary General, NATJL

Approved:

Her Honor Eva Mappy Morgan
President, NATJL