

OFFICIAL STATEMENT ON ALLEGED BRIBERY INVOLVING SOME MEMBERS OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

October 21st, 2024

The Liberia Anti-Corruption Commission (LACC) has been made aware of serious allegations regarding the involvement of certain members of the House of Representatives in acts of bribery aimed at influencing the removal of the Speaker of the House. The LACC is also made aware of sources of fundings in the total amount of US\$750,000.00 (Seven Hundred Fifty Thousand United States Dollars) which was allegedly made available to the Lawmakers through the accounts of the Ministry of Transport and the Liberia Water and Sewer Corporation (LWSC) respectively.

We wish to address these concerns publicly and transparently.

1. Acknowledgment of Allegations

The LACC has received complaints from several stakeholders calling for investigation into these allegations. These allegations, if proven true, represent a grave threat to the integrity of Liberia's legislative processes and the principles of democratic governance. Bribery and corruption in any form undermine public confidence in elected institutions and disrupt the rule of law.

2. Launch of a Formal Investigation

The LACC is committed to upholding its mandate to investigate the conduct of any person irrespective of status or office if the conduct of the person constitutes acts of corruption. In light of these allegations, we have initiated preliminary assessments to ascertain the facts and gather evidence. This investigation will be carried out in collaboration with relevant institutions, including the Ministry of Justice (MOJ), the Financial Intelligence Agency (FIA), and other integrity bodies where necessary.

3. Commitment to Fairness and Impartiality

We wish to assure the public that our investigation will be conducted with utmost fairness and impartiality. We will seek to ensure that all parties involved are afforded due process, and that no premature conclusions are drawn. Our goal is to establish the facts based on evidence, and we will not hesitate to take the necessary actions if wrongdoing is uncovered.

4. Zero Tolerance for Corruption

As an institution dedicated to the fight against corruption, we emphasize that bribery in any form is illegal and unacceptable. Any individual, regardless of their position or status, found to have participated in corrupt practices will be held accountable to the full extent of the law.

5. Call for Cooperation and Public Patience

We call upon all Representatives, public officials, and individuals who may have information relevant to this investigation to fully cooperate with our inquiries. We also urge the public and the media to exercise patience as we carry out our duties. Speculation and premature judgments could jeopardize the integrity of our investigation.

6. Upholding Institutional Integrity

The LACC remains steadfast in its mission to uphold transparency, accountability, and the rule of law. These allegations, if substantiated, would signal a breach of the trust placed in elected representatives by the people of Liberia. It is our duty to ensure that this trust is restored by holding those responsible accountable.

7. Conclusion

In closing, we reiterate our commitment to protecting the integrity of Liberia's institutions. Any proven acts of bribery or corruption will be met with the necessary legal and administrative actions.

Thank you.

Signed,

Cllr. Alexandra K. Zoe
Executive Chairperson