



Publishers of The New Today

June 3, 2023

Email: impactprinters1957@gmail.com
newtoday4461@gmail.com
newtoday.gnd@gmail.com

Ag. Commissioner of Police Don McKenzie

Police Headquarters
Fort George
St George's

P.O. Box 1970 Tel: 1(473) 440-7760
St. George's 1(473) 435-9363
Grenada, W. I. Fax: 1(473) 435-9435

Dear Sir,

This letter is an official complaint in my capacity as Media Consultant and Journalist with The New Today newspaper, which is published by Impact Printers.

This complaint is in regards to the action of officers of the Royal Grenada Police Force (RGPF) to prevent me from executing my duties as a member of the media fraternity at the No. 1 Magistrate's Court.

On Friday, June 2, I was instructed by one Sgt Emerson Baptiste who was in plain clothes to leave the No.1 St George's Magistrate's Court which had the effect of preventing me from covering a matter in which a murder suspect in a wheelchair was brought into the court by the Police.

Mr. Baptiste informed me that I was not dressed properly even though I was clad in the official jersey from Impact Printers.

When I objected to this kind of treatment, another police officer in plain clothes who I cannot put a name to at this point in time said that the police were acting on instructions from the Magistrate.

I contacted the office of the Acting Chief Magistrate after the sitting and a member of the Staff who brought the matter to her attention informed me that the Acting Chief Magistrate indicated that she did not give any such instructions to the Police and that the matter should be raised with the Police High Command.

Where did the police get the authority to prevent the media from exercising their legal and legitimate right as a member of the Fourth Estate in our Democracy?

Mr. Acting Police Commissioner, the dress code posted on a board on entering the Court and available to the public reads as follows:

- 1) No short pants, tank tops, halter tops spaghetti or strapless tops
- 2) No exposed underwear midriffs, stomachs or buttocks
- 3) No slacks, trousers or jeans that can only be supported by the wearer's hands.
- 4) No bare feet, bedroom slippers or swimmer's "flip flop, Darkers
- 5) No images or writing depicting illegal, violent, obscene or suggestive slogans or caricatures shall be displayed on clothing or hats.

Mr. Acting Commissioner, I am requesting that you investigate this matter to the fullest extent and please inform me which of the Dress Code that I was in violation of in my attempt to cover the proceedings in the court.

As far as I know it is the Magistrate who runs the court and not any member of the Royal Grenada Police Force.

The New Today is a legitimate and leading newspaper publication in Grenada and will continue to defend press freedom in the country.

We await your prompt action and response.

Respectfully Yours,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "George Worme".

George Worme
Media Consultant/Journalist

cc: Prime Minister and Minister of National Security and Information, the Hon. Dickon Mitchell
The Acting Chief Magistrate Francine Foster