

# PSOJ NEWS



January/February 2002  
Volume 1, Issue 1

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## Welcome To Our New Members

**A Special Welcome to the following companies and associations who joined the PSOJ between October to December 2001.**

### Companies:

- ♦ **Alliance Investments Management Ltd.**
- ♦ **Assurance Brokers Jamaica Ltd.**
- ♦ **Boyken Mortimer Int. LLC**
- ♦ **Century 21 Heave-Ho Properties**
- ♦ **Ernst & Young**
- ♦ **Ravers Limited**
- ♦ **University of New Orleans**

### Associations:

- ♦ **Customs Brokers Association of Jamaica Ltd.**

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## TEAM 2002

The PSOJ has put forward a strong and experienced team to guide the organisation and to work with all the other private sector organisations in the year to December 2002.

The PSOJ Officer team consists of:

- Hon. Oliver F. Clarke, OJ—President (Chairman and Managing Director, The Gleaner Company Limited)
- Senator Douglas Orane—Vice President (Chairman and CEO, Grace, Kennedy & Company Limited)
- Mr. Desmond Blades—Vice President (Chairman, Mussons (Jamaica) Limited)
- Mr. Peter Melhado—Vice President (President and CEO, Manufacturers Sigma Merchant Bank Limited)
- Mr. William McConnell—Honorary Secretary (Managing Director, Lascelles deMercardo Group Limited)
- Mr. Hayden Singh—Honorary Treasurer PSOJ (Managing Director of Courts Jamaica Limited)
- Miss Greta Bogues—Chief Executive Officer The Private Sector Organization of Jamaica and Jamaica Exporters Association

This new team will focus on three major areas affecting businesses:

- \* Crime & Violence
- \* Corruption
- \* Job Creation and Growth

Team 2002 will seek to work with all honest and principled associations throughout Jamaica and will only succeed if they get the support of many organisations and the silent majority of Jamaicans who want to see a BETTER JAMAICA!!!

## UPCOMING EVENTS—2002

### • March 02

National Seminar on Trade Policy. This seminar is being organised by the Jamaic Trade and Adjustment Team (JTAT) in the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Foreign Trade in collaboration with the University of the West Indies. This seminar will be held at the University of the West Indies, Assembly Hall, commencing at 8:30 a.m.

### • March 21

At our next PSOJ Council Meeting scheduled to commence at 4:00 p.m., the Institute of Chartered Accountants of Jamaica (ICAJ) will be making a presentation on the new National Accounting Standards. Come and learn how these standards will impact on your business.

### • March 26

PSOJ will host the next Job Creation Awards Breakfast at the Terra Nova Hotel commencing at 7:45 a.m.

### • March 28

We will be taking our seminar on HIV/AIDS to Montego Bay. Kindly contact the Secretariat for details.

### • April 18—24

PSOJ will be hosting the next Caribbean Transnational Conference at the Ritz Carlton. This forum is for CEOs and Foreign Trade Ministers of CARICOM. The Conference is expected to facilitate the development of regional sectoral plans that will guide international negotiations.

### • May 16

Our next Hall of Fame Banquet will be held at the Hilton Kingston Hotel.

### • May 22

During this month the Association will be staging its Annual Economic Seminar on the Jamaican Economy which will be held at the Jamaica Conference Centre beginning at 8:30 a.m.



## CRIME IN JAMAICA

by: *Dalvin John Golden*

In its continuing efforts to maintain law and order in our country the PSOJ again met with the Prime Minister and the Leader of the Opposition on February 1, at Vale Royal. The purpose of this meeting was to discuss the nation's crime problems and to review the sixteen recommendations in the report of the National Committee on Crime and Violence prepared last October.

Emerging from this meeting was a commitment from both leaders to make the upcoming general elections "the most peaceful in the history of Jamaica", an agreement to appoint an Acting Political Ombudsman and the commissioning of a study on the Drug Industry in Jamaica. A report on the decisions taken at this meeting will be prepared and made public in due course.

This meeting took place after the January 16<sup>th</sup> announcement by the new Minister of National Security, Dr. Peter Phillips of a 12-point Crime Fighting Plan and the announcement of a 4-pronged crime fighting strategy by the Jamaica Labour Party (JLP) the day before.

Dr. Phillips' 12-point plan includes Border Control, Intelligence Gathering, Increasing Manpower of the security forces, Re-organizing the Jamaica Constabulary Force (JCF) Crime Fighting Capabilities, Stiffer Firearm Penalties, Restoration of Public Order, Peace Management, Police Public Complaints and the Well-being of the Security Forces.

The JLP's 4-pronged plan includes Independence of the Police Services Commission, Effective Intelligence Gathering, Infrastructure Improvement and Intensified Penalties for acts of terrorism and other atrocities.

These meetings and plans to combat crime came as a result of the high level of crime in particular murder that Jamaicans have experienced since last year. Crime statistics for last year show murders increasing by 28% to 1,139, shootings by 17% to 1,183, and rapes by 5% to 912.

The New Year began with violent killings in Park Lane and 100 Lane areas of Red Hills Road resulting in concern among citizens for potentially high crime levels during this election year. Crime statistics for the period January 1<sup>st</sup> to February 10<sup>th</sup> show a total of 106 murders compared with 98 for the same period last year. Four parishes namely, St. Thomas, Trelawny, St. Mary and Portland have had no reports of murders for this period.

The motives for these 106 murders have been classified in the main as Reprisals, Domestic and Gang Related and the gun was the murder weapon in 66% of the cases.

Despite the increase in the murder rate for last year, major crimes – murder, shooting, rape, carnal abuse (sexual intercourse with individual under 16 years of age), robbery, break-in, and larceny – have been on the decline since the 1970s.

For the period 1997-2001 major crimes

Declined from a total of 12,691 to 8,061. This overall decline is attributed to the cumulative effect of a decline in robbery, break-in, larceny and carnal abuse for this period. Murder, shooting and rape on the other hand have fluctuated for this period. They all declined during the period 1997 to 1999 and have increased since 2000.

In 2001, 14% of all major crimes were murders, 15% shootings and 11% rapes. In the case of murder, 93% of the motives were classified as reprisals, domestic, drug/gang related, and robbery. The gun and the knife were the main implements used; the gun being used 69% of the time and the knife 18% of the time.

MURDER MOTIVE	PERCENT OF TOTAL
Reprisal	32.3
Domestic	29.1
Drug/Gang Related	18.7
Robbery	12.8
Other	7.1
Total	100.0

Source: Statistical Dept., Police Commissioner's Office

Seventy-five percent (75%) of shootings in 2001 occurred in the Kingston Metropolitan Area. Seventy-eight (78%) of these were categorized as Civilian shootings and 22% as Police/Criminal Confrontation. In the rural areas 80% of the shootings were Civilian shootings and the remainder were Police/Criminal Confrontations.

The effectiveness of the police in clearing up murder crimes has been declining over the past two years.

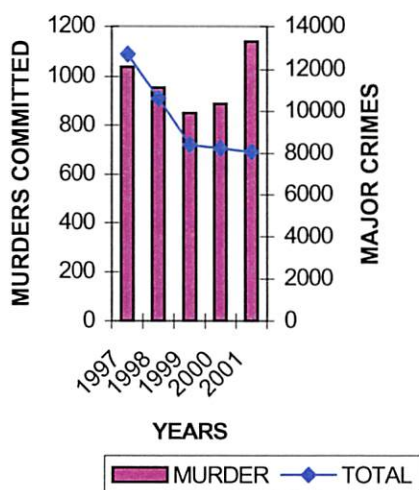
### Percent cleared-up Murder, 1999-2001

Year	Reported Murder	Percent Cleared-up
1999	849	61
2000	887	54
2001	1139	42

Murders cleared up in 2001 were 42% compared to 61% in 1999. With regards to firearm recovery, 2,521 have been recovered since 1997 averaging 504 per year.

(Cont'd ...page 3)

Major Crimes, 1997-2001





## FIREARMS RECOVERED 1997-2001

Source: Statistical Dept., Police Commissioner's Office

Firearms	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	Total
Pistol	213	222	209	218	266	1,128
Revolver	134	121	132	134	118	639
Home-made	110	84	99	88	112	493
Shotgun	23	25	32	12	9	101
Rifle	9	12	21	15	26	83
SMG	15	10	18	19	15	77
<b>Total</b>	<b>504</b>	<b>474</b>	<b>511</b>	<b>486</b>	<b>546</b>	<b>2,521</b>

Crime Stop, a PSOJ initiative played an important role in intelligence gathering during the period 2000-2001. Thirty firearms and 42,266 rounds of ammunition were recovered in 2001.

## Crime Stop Firearm and Ammunition Recovery, 2000-2001

Firearms	2000	2001
Pistols	11	14
Revolvers	5	5
Homemade	5	4
Shot guns	3	5
Rifle	1	1
SMG	0	1
<b>Total</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>30</b>
<b>Rounds of Ammunitions</b>	<b>83</b>	<b>42,266</b>

Source: Crime Stop Office

The impact of crime and violence on productivity continues to be a major area of concern for all businesses and well thinking Jamaicans. The PSOJ will continue to update our members by-monthly on crime related information which we hope will guide organisations in their business decisions.

## PAST EVENTS

### 2001

We kept our membership and the wider business community abreast of various important economic and social issues whilst helping to increase the fellowship among our members. This was done by hosting the following functions:

- ◆ **July 24** – Annual Economic Seminar on the Jamaican Economy 2000-2001
- ◆ **October 2** - Our first Labour Market Seminar entitled "Changes in the Labour Force: Implications for Employment and Competitiveness of Jamaican Firms".
- ◆ **October 24** – As we take steps towards consolidation, the first jointly held PSOJ/JBA/JEA membership luncheon was held at the Hilton Kingston Hotel. Our guest speaker was the Right Hon. P.J. Patterson, Prime Minister.
- ◆ **October 29** - Our first Forum on Grant Funding that's available to Jamaican businesses was held in collaboration with the JEA. Presentations were made by, CPEC-CIDA, EU's Trade Development Project and USAID—New Economy Project.

*Papers from the above events are available from the Secretariat*

### 2002

- ◆ **February 20** - The PSOJ hosted its inaugural monthly Job Creation Awards Ceremony at the Hilton Kingston Hotel. Three companies were recognized for their recent investment that led to the provision of additional employment. They were: Centennial Digital, Big City Brewing (Real Rock) and Island Grill Limited.
- ◆ **February 27** - The first quarterly luncheon of the PSOJ/JEA was held at the Hilton Kingston Hotel. Guest speaker was Dr. the Hon. Peter Phillips, Minister of National Security, who spoke on new legislative strategies that will be utilized in the fight against crime and violence.

Another highlight of the luncheon was the presentation of donations from PSOJ's Inner-City Fund which was established in September 2001. Six charities received donations. They were: Laws Street Trade Training Centre; PALS Jamaica; St. Andrew Settlement; Stella Maris Food Feeding Programme; Vision Development Foundation; and West Kingston Development Fund.

**Members please remember this is an on-going fund and we look forward to receiving your contributions.**



## PSOJ HOSTS HIV/AIDS SEMINAR

The PSOJ in its continuing efforts to keep its membership and the wider business community informed of issues that seriously affect both productivity and profitability, hosted a breakfast seminar entitled **"HIV/AIDS: Implications for Businesses and the Workplace"**, on January 31, 2002 at the Terra Nova Hotel.

The Seminar provided an overview of the spread of the epidemic in Jamaica and the region and also examined HIV/AIDS Policy in the workplace. The PSOJ will be taking this Seminar to Montego-Bay at the end of March...so look out for further details on this event!!!

THE PSOJ FAMILY WISHES TO EXPRESS  
SINCERE CONDOLENCES TO THE FAMILIES OF  
THE LATE DICKIE COKE AND BRUCE RICKARDS

## PSOJ'S GETTING A FACELIFT!!

- ◆ If you've passed by our offices recently, you'd have noticed some changes in the car park and the building. As the march towards consolidation continues, we are putting in additional parking space and offices, whilst improving the property's landscape.
- ◆ Our website is now being upgraded to be more user-friendly for you, our members. When completed you will see new web pages addressing national issues including Crime, Trade and Environment, Corporate Governance and more... We will need your comments on the 'new look', so we will advise you when our website [www.psoj.org](http://www.psoj.org) is completed.
- ◆ We'd love to have your comments on this revamped publication, or any ideas on topics that are of interest to you. Please e-mail us at [psoj@cwjamaica.com](mailto:psoj@cwjamaica.com), attention Karen Payton. We look forward to receiving your feedback!!

## PSOJ CELEBRATES 25 YEARS

The latter part of 2001 was full of activities as the PSOJ celebrated its silver anniversary. The official celebrations started with an ecumenical church service which was held at the University of the West Indies Chapel, Mona on Sunday, December 2. That day saw the publication of a commemorative supplement in both the Sunday Gleaner and the Sunday Observer

On Thursday, December 6, we hosted a celebratory banquet and dance at the Hilton Kingston Hotel. Our guests were treated to fine entertainment by renowned playwright Louis Marriot whose specially commissioned revue chronicled in a satirical fashion, the PSOJ's contribution to local private sector development through the years. Fab 5 provided great dance music after the formal ceremony was over.

A very special citation was presented to immediate past president, Peter Moses, for a monumental three-year term which saw a continuing of the healing process in the private sector, improved government relations, which led to a meeting between the governing party and the Opposition to discuss the unsettling crime prob-

lem and the furtherance of steps towards consolidating the Private Sector associations.

Three staff members were recognized for long and outstanding years of service to the organization. They were:

**Mrs. Ann Marie Hendriks**  
Accounting Officer and  
Membership Co-ordinator  
**21 years of service**

**Mr. Cecil Lindo**  
Caretaker  
**15 years of service**

**Mrs. Evett Evans-Coombs**  
Executive Assistant  
**10 years of service**

We thank all our members for their continued support of the Association.

## ELECTION DAY VOLUNTEERS

The Electoral Advisory Committee is once again appealing to members from our association to volunteer as Election Day workers in the quest for a well run and fair Election Day.

Please contact the PSOJ Secretariat for application forms or call us at 927-6238, 978-6795-6 for more information. You may also call the Electoral Advisory Committee at 929-1310 or Fax them at 926-4057 for application forms or for further information.

**Let's help make this Election Day  
the most peaceful and best  
organized ever!!**