

ADDRESS

BY

HON. JUDITH S. JONES-MORGAN

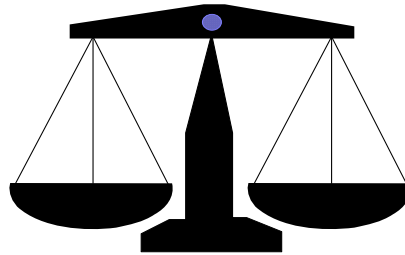
ATTORNEY GENERAL

OF

ST. VINCENT & THE GRENADINES

TO MARK

THE 40th ANNIVERSARY OF THE ECSC



ST. VINCENT & THE GRENADINES

TUESDAY, 27th FEBRUARY 2007

May it please Your Lordship, Your Ladyship.

My Lord the Hon. Mr. Justice Frederick Bruce-Lyle and Madam Justice Gertel Thom (Resident High Court Judges).

Queen's Counsels – Mr. Bertram Commissiong, Mr. Parnel Campbell – also Chairman of the Constitutional Review Commission,

Vice President of the Saint Vincent and the Grenadines Bar Association – Ms. Kay Bacchus-Browne

Assistant Director of Public Prosecutions – Mrs. Sandra Drayton

Chief Magistrate – Ms. Simone Churaman and Learned Senior Magistrate, Mr. Donald Browne

Madam Registrar of the High Court Mrs. Tamara Gibson-Marks

Madam Registrar of the Commerce and Intellectual Property Office – Mrs. Andrea Young-Lewis

Chairman of the Public Service Commission – Mr. Cecil Blazer Williams

Other Distinguished Members of the Utter Bar

Representatives of the Agency of Public Information, SVG Television Station, Members of the Press.

Distinguished Ladies and Gentlemen

It is good for us to emphasise today the blessings we have received. Citizens of the entire Eastern Caribbean Islands can remind themselves of this special day – With David the Psalmist, we should say:-

“O give thanks unto the Lord, for he is good: for his mercy endureth forever....

O that men would praise the Lord for his goodness, and for his wonderful works to the children of men!”

Psalm 107:1,8

This is indeed a historic occasion, the achievement of professionalism and excellence in the timely, effective and efficient access to, and administration of a cohesive, independent and accountable system of justice for the benefit of its members States.

Forty years of unparalleled exemplary service is worthy of recognition and heartiest congratulations.

Thus Your Lordship, Your Ladyship

On behalf of the Government and people of Saint Vincent and the Grenadines I extend sincere congratulations to the Eastern Caribbean Supreme Court on the celebration of its 40th Anniversary.

I know the Office of the Director of Public Prosecutions joins the Ministry of Legal Affairs in expressing congratulations to the Chief Justice (Ag.) and his entire Team on this wonderful event.

My Lord, Lady, decisions emanating from the Eastern Caribbean Supreme Court have withstood the tests of time, commanding both locally and internationally full respect for judicial excellence.

To have achieved this significant milestone we also have to recognize the tremendous contribution made by the Judiciary, past and present. I am reminded of the words of the prophet Micah who said so eloquently in the Book of **Micah Chapter 6: vs. 8.**

“He hath shewed thee, O man, what a good; and what doth the Lord require of thee, but to do justly, and to love mercy, and to walk humbly with thy God?”

The Caribbean has produced some of the most outstanding and exemplary legal luminaries whom the Eastern Caribbean Supreme Court has been fortunate to have sit at its helm. Undoubtedly the credibility of this unique organization has been enhanced by the presence of these excellent men and women. I salute you today. In this 200th year of the abolition of the Atlantic Slave Trade, we can be justly proud of ourselves, children of this noble Caribbean civilization. Our achievements in this respect testify to our determination, our love of hard work, our dedication, our sense of humour, our peaceable nature.

It is my sincere wish that for the years ahead the Eastern Caribbean Supreme Court will continue to evolve – to be applicable and practical in an increasing globalized world. That our stable democratic system will continue to lend full support to the growth of this organization.

I do not fear for the future of this Court – because on a more personal note, I have been fortunate to have served for about 15 years of its existence. These have been exciting, satisfying and rewarding years for me. I wish to admonish all

of us, the people of Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, that we continue to be responsible and exemplary citizens, to carry out the great principles of justice and mercy in our relations to one another. If we do these things, God becomes our surety, and promises to bless all that we undertake and I have absolute confidence that the Eastern Caribbean Supreme Court shall never be moved.

I thank you for your kind attention.

I am obliged.

Hon. Judith S. Jones-Morgan
Attorney General

27th February, 2007