



MINISTRY OF NATIONAL SECURITY

PRESS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Wednesday, June 10th, 2026

Letter of Apology Regarding Remarks Made During the Signing-On Ceremony

On Thursday June 9th, 2026, during the signing-on ceremony for the 81st Cohort of Squad “A”, I made remarks that were perceived as discriminatory and offensive toward women.

I wish to state that my remarks were never intended to demean, disrespect, or discriminate against women. However, I recognize that the comments were inappropriate and caused offense. I accept responsibility for the impact of my words and sincerely regret the disappointment and concern they have caused.

As a public servant, I have always held women in the highest regard and deeply appreciate their invaluable contributions to public service, nation-building, and the advancement of our society. Throughout my career, I have had the privilege of working alongside outstanding women leaders, including the Permanent Secretary, Deputy Commissioner of Corrections, Assistant Commissioners of Corrections, and many other dedicated women whose professionalism, leadership, and commitment I greatly respect and admire.

I accept full responsibility for my remarks and acknowledge that they did not reflect the values, standards, and principles upheld by the Ministry of National Security, the Bahamas Department of Correctional Services, or the Government of The Commonwealth of The Bahamas. I sincerely regret my lapse in judgment and recognize that, as a leader and public servant, I am expected to communicate with professionalism, respect, and sensitivity at all times.

To Ms. Bridget E. Hepburn, Permanent Secretary of the Ministry of National Security, the women of Squad “A”, the women of the Bahamas Department of Correctional Services, and the women of The Commonwealth of The Bahamas, I offer my profound and heartfelt apology. I sincerely regret the offense my remarks caused and acknowledge the disappointment and concern they may have occasioned.

Mr. Doan Cleare
Commissioner
The Bahamas Department of Correctional Services