MAURITIUS BAR ASSOCIATION



Members are advised that the following email, the contents of which was already communicated on 09 April (see Covid-19 Communiqué #16), is being communicated to the Bar for the sole purpose of assisting counsel in the event that counsel is encountering any difficulty in obtaining a Memo from the police station to assist their client.

Varuna R Bunwaree Goburdhun Secretary of the Bar Council 17 April 2020

From: Staff Officer < <staffofficer.mpf@govmu.org>

Sent: Thursday, April 9, 2020 1:08 PM

To: mba@mba.intnet.mu

Subject: Request from the Bar Council

CP/COR/MISC/20(20)V. 1

9th April, 2020

Secretary to the Bar Council, Mauritius Bar Association, 4th floor, Court View Bldg Pope Henessy Street, Port Louis.

Madam,

Please refer to your email dated 2nd April, 2020, on the above subject.

This Office wishes to inform you that following the outbreak of COVID-19 and the confinement/curfew order prevailing in the country, Work Access Permits are being issued to only those classified as **Essential Services**.

Referring to the Press Communiqué release by the Supreme Court of Mauritius, Office of the Chief Justice, it is understood that Bar-at-Laws may avail themselves of the use of WhatsApp on their smart phones from the place of residence to appear for a client for any bail motion.

As regards the need to assist clients giving statements at Police Station, a memo from the concerned In-Charge Police Stations/Units would be required to confirm the necessity to record such statement at this period of time and services of Barrister have been retained. Request of this nature would be considered only on a case-to-case basis.

The Mauritius Police Force wishes to renew its collaboration of its highest esteem to members of the Bar Council and hope that they all adhere to a national spirit of the current confinement/curfew order by staying safe at home.

Office of the Commissioner of Police

Disclaimer Notice:

This e-mail message (including any attachments) is intended for the addressee only, and may contain confidential information. The unauthorised use, disclosure or copying of this e-mail or any information contained within it is strictly prohibited. If you are not the intended recipient, please notify the author and delete this e-mail (including any attachments) immediately in its entirety.

This e-mail message has been swept by a virus checker for the presence of known computer viruses. Besides, any opinion or other information in this email (including any attachments) that does not have anything to do with the official business of the Government of Mauritius, is personal to the author, and therefore does not engage any liability whatsoever of the Government of Mauritius.

The above statement does not constitute an acceptance of liability on the part of the Government of Mauritius or its employees in the event of technical or virus issues generated by this e-mail. It is the responsibility of the recipient to take adequate security measures. Further, the Government of Mauritius or its employees do not accept liability however arising, including liability for negligence, for any loss resulting from the use of or reliance upon the information contained in the email (including any attachments) and/or reliance or its availability at any time. The recipient must also verify/check any information with the relevant Government department(s) and/or other source(s), and to obtain any appropriate professional advice before acting on the contents of this email (including any attachments).