

### THE JUDICIAL EDUCATION INSTITUTE OF THE TURKS & CAICOS ISLANDS

Presents

# 2 years on-A Review of the Criminal Procedure Rules

**Presented by:** 

The Hon. Justice Vivian Georgis Taylor-Alexander, ECSC. The Hon Mr. Eugene Otuonye, K.C., DPP. Dr. Angela Brooks, DDPP.

# MONDAY 18th SEPTEMBER, 2023

11:00am to 1:00pm

A Virtual Event



https://us06web.zoom.us/j/84978956143?pwd=8pXAZFejC5ZbZJeXKVG4zaBixxRbiG.1 Meeting ID: 849 7895 6143 Passcode: YJuP51

#### PROGRAMME

**10:45 am** JEI Week Opening Ceremony

The Hon Chief Justice, Mabel Agyemang, Chairperson of the JEI Committee.

11:05 am2 YEARS ON-A REVIEW OF THE<br/>CRIMINAL PROCEDURE RULESThe Hon. Justice Vivian Georgis Taylor-<br/>Alexander, ECSC.<br/>The Hon Mr. Eugene Otuonye, K.C., DPP.<br/>Dr. Angela Brooks, DDPP.

12:30 pm QUESTIONS

12:55 pm VOTE OF THANKS

Ms. Tanya Carter, Executive Director Office of the Chief Justice

#### **BIOGRAPHY OF PRESENTERS**

# The Hon. Justice Vivian Georgis Taylor-Alexander, ECSC.



**Justice Taylor-Alexander** currently serves a High Court Judge of the Eastern Caribbean Supreme Court. She formally served as Master of the Court and has served the court both in its Civil and Criminal Jurisdictions. She is a former Solicitor General of Saint Lucia and former private practitioner.

Justice Taylor-Alexander has been involved in advocating for reforms consistent with the implementation of the conventions on the Rights of the Child, and the advancement of reforms in family law. She has appeared before the United Nations committees on the Conventions

on the Rights of the Child, and on the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women, in Geneva Switzerland and in New York reporting on Saint Lucia progress in the implementation of the articles of these Conventions.

In the 2011, she was instrumental in assisting the draft of amendments to the Civil Procedure Rules and drafted the now implemented procedure for the appointment to Queen's Counsel of the Eastern Caribbean; She also assisted in drafting the Disciplinary Procedure Rules, under the Legal Practitioners Act of St. Lucia. Recently, Justice Alexander was engaged by Impact Justice, to see to completion protocols for the treatment of vulnerable persons within the court process, and to encourage early intervention strategies, allowing vulnerable persons to equally and fairly participate in court processes.

Justice Taylor-Alexander currently sits on the Sentencing Advisory Committee of the Eastern Caribbean Supreme Court; is a former Vice Chairperson of the Caribbean Association of Judicial Officers (CAJO) and is a fellow of the Commonwealth Judicial Education Institute. In her private life she is married to Anthony Alexander and they raise their two young adults Gabriella Alexander and Anthony Alexander (Jr).

# The Hon Mr. Eugene Otuonye, K.C.

## **Director of Public Prosecutions, Turks and Caicos Islands**

Eugene Otuonye is the Director of Public Prosecutions (DPP) of Turks and Caicos Islands(TCI). He is Nigerian and Caribbean trained Attorney-at-Law with more than 30 years of extensive legal practice in the public and private sectors in Nigeria and across the Commonwealth Caribbean. He has been a King's Counsel since 2006.

Prior to his current appointment as DPP of TCI in January 2019, Mr. Otuonye, served as the first substantive Director of the Turks and Caicos Islands (TCI) Integrity Commission from July 2011 until he demitted office on 30th of June 2018. He is also the former Chairman of the regional anticorruption body – the Commonwealth Caribbean Association of Integrity Commissions and Anti-Corruption Bodies. He demitted this office also in June 2018.

Prior to these recent appointments, and in the period between 2004 and July 2011, Mr. Otuonye served as the Deputy Attorney General of TCI; the Attorney General of Montserrat; the Chairman of the TCI Public Service Commission and a member of the Advisory Council during the UK's interim direct administration of the Turks and Caicos Islands.

Mr. Otuonye is a member of the International Bar Association and a Fellow of the Society of Advanced Legal Studies, IALS, University of London, among other Bar and Professional Associations. Mr. Otuonye is married to Vivian, a Guidance Counsellor, and they have three adult males.

# Dr. Angela Brooks, Deputy Director of Public Prosecutions, Turks and Caicos Islands

Dr. Angela Brooks was born and raised in the beautiful island of Grand Turk. She always knew that she was called to be an advocate, so on completion of her high school at the HJ Robinson High, she continued her educational pursuits at York University, Toronto Canada where she obtained her Bachelors in Sociology in 1994. Thereafter, she acquired her Bachelors of law degree from the Buckingham University, England (Hons) in 2001 and her Masters of Law Degree in International and Commercial Law with merit in 2002 from the same University. Dr. Brooks obtained her Bar Vocational Diploma in 2002 from the University of the West of England in Bristol, England. That same year she was called to the Bar in England and Wales and was admitted to the Turks and Caicos Bar in 2003.

On returning to the Turks and Caicos Islands, she joined the Attorney General Chambers as a Crown Counsel and swiftly climbed the ranks to Senior Crown Counsel. In 2013, the Office of the Director of Public Prosecutions was established as a separate institution of good governance and Dr. Brooks was appointed as the Deputy Director of Public Prosecutions- the first Turks and Caicos Islander in this position.

Her passion for working with the young people-married and single, has been a constant theme in her life and was a great impetus in her pursuing further studies in Christian Counselling. In July 2021 Dr. Brooks graduated with her Doctorate in Philosophy in Christian Counselling- suma cum Laude from Kingdom Truth University in Jacksonville Florida. She aspires to continue her work in counselling, public speaking, national and international, while motivating and encouraging married couples, singles and youths alike.

Dr. Brooks is a fearless Public Prosecutor who upholds the rule of law and criminal justice and works diligently ensuring that justice is dispensed to all, regardless of race, creed or gender, in making the Turks and Caicos Islands a safe and just society.

Over the 21 years as a Prosecutor, Dr. Brooks served as an Adjunct Lecturer at the Grand Turk Community College, she also lectures at Kingdom Truth University, she has acted in the capacity of Director of Public Prosecutions on countless occasions, served on numerous committees, legal and otherwise. She has gained a wealth of experience as a legal professional and benefitted from valuable seminars and symposiums. She is the Head of the Anti-Money Laundering Unit within her Office and is actively engaged in providing training on various areas of law to government and other stake holder bodies.