



Any reply or subsequent reference to this communication should be addressed to the Contractor-General and the following reference quoted:-

No. :

TELEPHONE No. : 876-929-8560/6466

FAX No. : 876-929-2476

E-mail: gchristie@ocg.gov.jm

**OFFICE OF THE CONTRACTOR-GENERAL
PIOJ BUILDING, 16 OXFORD ROAD**

P.O. BOX 540

KINGSTON 5

JAMAICA, W.I.

VERY URGENT

September 12, 2008

Ambassador Douglas Saunders
Cabinet Secretary
Office of the Prime Minister
1 Devon Road
Kingston 10

Dear Cabinet Secretary:

Re: Ministry of National Security – Jamaica Constabulary Force - Award of Contract to Taylor and Associates for Supply of Ammunition – Allegations of Contract Award Made to Unlicensed and Illegal United States Based Ammunitions Dealer – Request for Cabinet’s Approval to Conduct an Investigation

I write with reference to the captioned matters and, in particular, the recent allegations which have been made in the print and electronic media that the Ministry of National Security and/or the Jamaica Constabulary Force has/have awarded a contract to an unlicensed and illegal United States based ammunitions and arms trader, Taylor and Associates.

It has also been alleged that the principal of Taylor and Associates, a Mr. Lance Brooks, is a self-confessed criminal who is currently being investigated by the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI).

The Office of the Contractor General (OCG) regards these allegations as being extremely serious. They are significantly far-reaching in their implications for national security and issues of accountability. They have also raised critical questions about the integrity and adequacy of the Government’s Procurement Policy and Procedures, particularly as they relate to procurements of a sensitive nature for national defence and/or security purposes.

The matter is substantially compounded by the fact that all media reports to date would seem to suggest that the relevant local authorities have generally conceded that the allegations are truthful.

It is partly against this background that the OCG, acting in pursuance of its mandate under the Contractor General Act, believes that a thorough, independent and immediate investigation by it into the entire matter is warranted.



(2)

As you are aware, Section 15 (2) (a) of the Contractor General Act provides that “a Contractor General, shall not, without the prior approval of the Secretary of the Cabinet, acting on the direction of the Cabinet, investigate any government contract or any matters concerning any such contract entered into for purposes of defence or for the supply of equipment to the Security Forces ... and any report or comment thereon by the Contractor General shall be made only to the Cabinet”.

In keeping with the requirements of Section 15 (2) of the Contractor General Act, I now therefore seek your formal approval, acting at the direction of the Cabinet, to proceed with the referenced investigation.

Very respectfully yours,

Greg Christie (Signed)

Greg Christie
Contractor General

Copy: The Hon. Bruce Golding, MP, Prime Minister of Jamaica