

## Members of Parliament of Sint Maarten

The Honorable Chairlady MP Sarah Wescott-Williams Government Administration Building Wilhelmina straat #1 Philipsburg, St. Maarten

November 10<sup>th</sup> 2025

## Reference: Request for urgent Public Meeting on the Status and Placement of Emergency Service Personnel

Dear Honorable Chairlady Wescot-Williams,

Pursuant to Article 63 of the Constitution of Sint Maarten and Chapter 7 of the Rules of Order, the undersigned Members of Parliament hereby request the urgent convening of a Public Meeting of Parliament to address the escalating situation involving the nation's fire and ambulance personnel.

What began as a stand of solidarity within the emergency services has now grown into a broader cry for fairness, recognition, and justice, a call that speaks to the heart of public service and the integrity of governance. The continued action by these essential workers is no longer an isolated labor issue; it is a symptom of deeper systemic neglect that threatens the very stability and safety of our country.

Since April 14th, 2025 fire and ambulance personnel have engaged in a sustained go-slow, standing united in their demand for equitable treatment. Their resilience underscores a profound frustration that can no longer be ignored. The time for dialogue and decisive action is now.

In the interest of public safety, national order, and the continuity of critical emergency services, Parliament must urgently summon the Prime Minister, the Minister of Public Health, Social Development and Labor, and the Minister of Justice to account to the people of Sint Maarten. This meeting must yield not only clarity but a clear course of action that restores trust and reaffirms government's duty to those who protect and serve our citizens.

The following matters demand immediate parliamentary attention and resolution:

- Correct and just placement of all personnel within the official Function Book
- Recognition and enforcement of established career lines within the respective departments
- Application of retroactive measures where due and warranted
- A binding, time-specific written commitment from government to ensure the execution of these measures without delay

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As Sint Maarten enters its peak tourism season, the continued uncertainty and unrest within the emergency services present a direct risk to public confidence, economic stability, and the nation's reputation. Parliament must rise to its constitutional duty to safeguard the people and hold the Executive accountable before this matter deepens into a crisis.

Respectfully,

Omar E.C. Ottley Member of Parliament

Egbert J. Doran
Member of Parliament

Francisco A. Lacroes Member of Parliament

Ardwell M.R Irion Member of Parliament Lyndon C. Lewis Member of Parliament

Darryl T.J. York

Member of Parliament