

## **SERVICES COMMISSION**

*The Belize Constitution (Third Amendment) Act No. 2 of 2001 provides for the separation of powers historically held by the Public Services Commission among three 'new' Commissions, whose profile are outlined below.*

The three Commissions are:

- The Public Services Commission
- The Security Services Commission
- The Judicial and Legal Services Commission

All three Commissions have the same chairman. The Security Services Commission and the Judicial and Legal Services Commission have additional responsibility for setting terms and conditions of service for public officers under their jurisdiction.

The Office of the Services Commission, headed by a Director, serves as the Secretariat to all three Commissions, and also functions as administrator for personnel matters within the Belize Public Service. The tasks under this function are:

1. Allowances – Housing, Transfer, Relocation, Social Security
2. Training Services – Approval of Study Leave, Resettlement, Warm clothing
3. Committee Representation – Administrative & Accounts Posts Panel, NEMO - Human Resources

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## **PUBLIC SERVICES COMMISSION**

The Public Services Commission (PSC) is established under Section 105 of Belize Constitution (Third Amendment) Act No. 2 of 2001 and consists of a Chairman and five other members.

The power of the Public Service Commission are listed below:

- Power to appoint persons to hold or act in offices in the public service, other than the offices in the judicial and legal services and the security services,
- Power to transfer or to confirm appointments
- Power to exercise disciplinary control over persons
- Power to remove such persons from office,

These powers are itemized as follows:

1. Appointment
2. Transfer
3. Promotion
4. Removal from office
  - i. Dismissal
  - ii. Retirement
  - iii. Termination
5. Discipline

The Public Services Commission shall, in the exercise of its functions, be governed by the regulations made under section 106(3) of the Constitution.

The Public Services Commission, may by directions in writing and subject to such conditions as it thinks fit, delegate any of its powers to anyone or more members of the Commission or, with the consent of the Prime Minister, to any Public Officers.

## **SECURITY SERVICES COMMISSION**

The Security Services Commission (SSC) is established under section 100 C of the Belize Constitution. The members of the Security Services Commission are appointed by the Governor General, on the recommendation of the Prime Minister given after consultation with the Leader of the Opposition. Its membership consists of:

- The Chairman of the Public Services Commission, as Chairman
- A former senior officer of the Belize Police Department
- A former senior officer of the Belize Defence Force
- One person nominated by the Leader of the Opposition;
- One person from the private sector.

*Security services means service in the Belize Police Department, The Belize Defence Force or any other military, naval or air force established in Belize.*

The powers of the Security Services Commission as listed below are:

- Power to appoint persons to hold or act in offices in the security services, and to deal with all matters relating to the conditions of service of such officers.
- Power to exercise disciplinary control over persons holding or acting such offices
- Power to remove persons

These powers are itemized as follows:

1. Appointment & Confirmation
2. Transfer
3. Promotion
4. Removal from office
  - i. Dismissal
  - ii. Retirement
  - iii. Termination
5. Discipline
6. Conditions of service

The Security Services Commission may, by directions in writing and subject to such conditions as it thinks fit, delegate any of its power under section 100C to any one or more members with the consent of the Prime Minister, or to the Commissioner of Police or the Commander, Belize Defence Force.

## **JUDICIAL AND LEGAL SERVICES COMMISSION**

The Judicial and Legal Services Commission is established under section 110E of the Belize Constitution. The members of the Judicial and Legal Services Commission are appointed by the Governor-General and comprise of: -

- The Chairman of the Public Services Commission, as Chairman
- The Chief Justice
- The Solicitor General
- The President of the Bar Association of Belize

*“Judicial and Legal Services” means service in the Departments or Offices of the General Registry of the Supreme Court, Court of Appeal, Magistracy, Chief Parliamentary Counsel, Law Revision, Family Courts, Intellectual Property, Corporate Affairs and Companies, Director of Public Prosecutions and Solicitor General.*

The powers of the Judicial and Legal Services are listed below:

1. Appointment & Confirmation
2. Transfer
3. Promotion
4. Removal from office
  - i. Dismissal
  - ii. Retirement
  - iii. Termination
5. Discipline
6. Conditions of service
7. Review the suitability of applications

The Judicial and Legal Services Commission may, by directions in writing and subject to such conditions as it thinks fit, delegate any of its powers under subsection 110F(1) to any one or more members of the Judicial and Legal Services Commission or, with the consent of the Prime Minister, to any public officer who is a judicial or legal officer.