



## SEPTEMBER 1, 2015 Withholding Tax on Specified Services *comes into effect:*

- ✓ Government Ministries
- ✓ Departments & Agencies
- ✓ Tourism Operators
- ✓ Utility & Cable Operators
- ✓ Financial Institutions  
*(regulated by the FSC & BOJ)*

Grossing over \$500M will be required to withhold 3% from payments made on specified services on invoice value of \$50,000 or more.



FOR MORE DETAILS VISIT [WWW.JAMAICATAX.GOV.JM](http://WWW.JAMAICATAX.GOV.JM)  
1-888-TAX-HELP (829-4357)  
Working together to serve you EVEN better

## PwC tax alert: 3% withholding tax on specified services comes into effect on 1st September, 2015

As you will have realized from notices in the newspapers, the tax authorities at TAJ have now advised that the 3% withholding tax on specified services will now come into effect as at September 1, 2015. It was previously scheduled to be implemented as at May 1, 2015.

With the kind permission of JCC member firm PricewaterhouseCoopers you can view a copy of their information newsletter regarding the Withholding tax at this link: [PwC-Jamaica-Tax-Newsletter-3%-Withholding-Tax-Regime](#) which was released ahead of the initially scheduled implementation date, with comments/considerations based on information available at that time.

Please note that, the new legislation is being introduced on a phased basis. PwC notes that "at this time only government ministries, departments and agencies, as well as financial institutions regulated by the FSC and BOJ, tourism operators, utility and cable companies grossing over \$500 million will be required to withhold from payments made on specified services".

## CUSTOMS TARIFF & PORT USERS COMMITTEE 14th ANNUAL CUSTOMS SEMINAR *'Control Crime and Watch Trade Grow'*

Thursday September 24, 2015 - Registration 1:30 p.m. / Seminar 2:00 p.m.  
Jamaica Pegasus Hotel - Talk of the Town (17th Fl.)  
For more info Tel: (876) 922-0150-1 or Email: [membership@jamaicachamber.org.jm](mailto:membership@jamaicachamber.org.jm)



## INTERNATIONAL ARBITRATION IN AND FOR THE CARIBBEAN Jamaica Pegasus Hotel, Kingston, Jamaica – September 11, 2015

Debevoise & Plimpton LLP, a New York (Wall Street) based law firm with offices in New York, Washington DC, London, Paris, Frankfurt, Hong Kong, Moscow and Shanghai have partnered with the Association of Caribbean Corporate Counsel to host a seminar focusing on international arbitration.

Arbitration has become an increasingly efficient way of resolving disputes when dealing with international counterparties. The seminar titled ‘International Arbitration in and for the Caribbean’ will be held at the Pegasus Hotel on September 11, 2015.

Persons interested in participating can complete the Registration Form at the link: [Arbitration-Seminar-Registration-Form](#) You can visit [www.debevoise.com](http://www.debevoise.com) for more information, or call Akima Paul Lambert at Tel: +44 20 7786 9006 or email: [apaul Lambert@debevoise.com](mailto:apaul Lambert@debevoise.com).

## 19th Annual Health, Safety, Security & Environment (HSSE) Conference & Exhibition October 7<sup>th</sup> - 8<sup>th</sup>, 2015 Hyatt Regency, Trinidad

The American Chamber of Commerce of Trinidad & Tobago (AMCHAM T&T) is pleased to announce that its **19th Annual Health, Safety, Security & Environment (HSSE) Conference & Exhibition will be held on October 7th and 8<sup>th</sup>, 2015 at the Hyatt Regency Trinidad.** The theme for this year’s event is **“Managing Risk in Economic Uncertainty.”**

This year the Conference features:

- ◆ World-renowned expert in Occupational Health & Safety and Process Safety Professor Andrew Hopkins, delivers two presentations: **“The Human and Organisational causes of Gulf of Mexico Blowout”** and **“The Mindful Organization”**.
- ◆ Keynote Address from Scott S. Smith, Special Agent in Charge (SAC), Pittsburgh Division, **Federal Bureau of Investigation**
- ◆ Features a CEO/President’s session where you would hear from the large energy companies’ CEOs on investment in HSE despite the economic downturn
- ◆ Dedicated day to Cyber Security, which includes Cyber Security technical session at which Certificates will be awarded

Open the links for more information on the following:

- Conference Flyer: [19th-HSSE-Conference-Flyer](#)
- Conference agenda: [Conference-Agenda](#)
- Participant Registration Form: [Participant-Package](#)
- One day package: [One-day-Package](#)
- Professor Hopkins CV: [Prof-Hopkins-CV](#)

For more information visit [www.amchamtt.com](http://www.amchamtt.com) or contact Breanne McIvor, Administrative Co-ordinator, American Chamber of Commerce of Trinidad and Tobago, Tel: (868) 622-4466; 0340; 628-2508 ext. 232 or Email: [breannemcivor@amchamtt.com](mailto:breannemcivor@amchamtt.com).



## Criticism

*Submitted by James Moss-Solomon, CD, JCC Past President - August 27, 2015*

The concept of criticism will always have a dual meaning to me. Meaningless criticism is simply the easiest tool for non- achievers, while criticism based on critical thinking requires more substantial thought processes. In my own summary thoughts, criticism without offering solutions is a pursuit for the mindless.

This may seem unnecessarily harsh but in our present circumstances, any remarks that do not inspire progress or the correction of faults, seems to merely present a negative value to our future efforts and planned successes. We may have been in a state of induced paranoia where all colours are orange or green at a national level, (or purple, blue, maroon, or other combinations for secondary minds). Whichever is our choice, they all hold us in stasis and from there; little progress can take place, or even set the stage for a full escape from the vortex of cultism.

Let us start with the Nation that some of us love more than Party allegiances. Everything and everyone is fair game on a political platform without deference to race, religion, integrity, or age, and as a result the normal restraints to poor behavior are unleashed in the media for public consumption.

We, "The Innocents", are therefore forced to swallow the dirty underwear (bodily fluids and all). In the face of rising tension, increasing murders and lawlessness, "is there no balm in Gilead?" Have we lost all decency?...**TO READ MORE OPEN THE LINK: [criticism](#)**

## UPCOMING ACTIVITIES AND EVENTS IN SEPTEMBER...SAVE THE DATES

- ◆ **ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING** - Tues., September 22, 2015 - Knutsford Court Hotel. All members are encouraged to attend.
- ◆ **ANNUAL CUSTOMS SEMINAR** - Thurs., September 24, 2015 - Jamaica Pegasus Hotel. Review of Customs operations and activities at Jamaica's ports.
- ◆ **BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING** - Tues., September 29, 2015 - Venue to be advised. Members are invited to attend.

### For information on upcoming JCC events please contact:



The Jamaica Chamber of Commerce

Ste. 13-15, UDC Office Centre Bldg., 12 Ocean Boulevard, Kingston

Tel: (876) 922-0150 Fax: (876) 924-9056

Email: [info@jamaicachamber.org.jm](mailto:info@jamaicachamber.org.jm) Webpage: [www.jamaicachamber.org.jm](http://www.jamaicachamber.org.jm)

Editor: Maria McLaughlin, Business Administrator