



Government of the Republic of Trinidad and Tobago
Ministry of Justice



**Legal Aid & Advisory Authority, an Arm Under the Ministry of Justice Celebrates
50 Years of Service**

September 28, 2026

MEDIA RELEASE

The Legal Aid & Advisory Authority (LAAA) celebrated 50 years of service to the people of Trinidad and Tobago on Friday, September 25, 2026, with an anniversary event held under the theme, “Where We Were, Look At Us Now: 50 Years of Legal Excellence: A Celebration.”

The event brought together the Honourable Chief Justice, Executive Members of the Ministry of Justice, the Legal Aid & Advisory Authority’s Board, Management, current and former staff, specially invited guests and representatives of the justice sector to mark the significant milestone and, in particular, recognise employees who have dedicated many years of service to the organisation.

Delivering the feature address, the Honourable Devesh Maharaj, Minister of Justice and Minister in the Office of the Attorney General, highlighted the important role of the Authority in ensuring that persons, particularly those who may not be able to afford private legal services, can access legal advice and representation.

“The Authority grew because people gave their time and their commitment to it. It grew because generations of staff understood the importance of the service they were providing,” the Minister stated.

Minister Maharaj noted that over its 50-year history, the LAAA has grown from an organisation with a small complement of attorneys into an Authority with offices in Port of Spain, Arima,



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Chaguanas, San Fernando and Tobago stating, “Without you, the Authority would not have grown from an organisation with a few attorneys into an organisation with five offices serving communities across Trinidad and Tobago,”

The Director/Chairman of the Legal Aid & Advisory Authority, Ms. Renuka Rambhajan during her remarks also celebrated this significant milestone stating, “To serve and work with the Legal Aid & Advisory Authority Family is a privilege and blessing,” emphasising the importance of staff giving of themselves to assist persons who require legal assistance.

The celebration included the presentation of long-service awards to staff members in recognition of their years of dedication and contribution to the Authority as well as key-figures who served the Authority for a number of years.

As the LAAA enters its next 50 years, the Ministry of Justice and the Authority remain committed to improving access to legal services and ensuring that justice remains accessible to the people of Trinidad and Tobago.





Photo 1: The Honourable Devesh Maharaj, Minister of Justice and Minister in the Office of the Attorney General (left), and Ms. Renuka Rambhajan, Director/Chairman of the Legal Aid & Advisory Authority (right), present an award to Mr. Kemrajh Harrikissoon SC (centre), the longest-serving Board Member of the Legal Aid & Advisory Authority, during the Authority's 50th Anniversary Celebration.



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Photo 2: From left to right: The Honourable Madame Justice Hasine Shaikh, High Court Judge; Ms. Ayanna Gaspard-Clarke, Permanent Secretary (Ag.), Ministry of Justice; the Honourable Devesh Maharaj, Minister of Justice and Minister in the Office of the Attorney General; and the Honourable Mr. Justice Ronnie Boodoosingh, O.R.T.T., Chief Justice, attend the Legal Aid & Advisory Authority's 50th Anniversary Celebration.



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Photo 3: The Honourable Devesh Maharaj, Minister of Justice and Minister in the Office of the Attorney General, delivers the feature address at the Legal Aid & Advisory Authority's 50th Anniversary Function.



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Photo 4: Ms. Renuka Rambhajan, Director/Chairman delivers remarks at the Legal Aid & Advisory Authority's 50th Anniversary Celebration.

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