



PR#188-23

## PRESS RELEASE

### **Minister Andre Perez Granted Leave of Absence**

*Belmopan, August 21, 2023.*

Prime Minister Hon. John Briceño has accepted a request from Hon. Andre Perez, Minister of Blue Economy and Civil Aviation, for a leave of absence from the Cabinet.

During his leave of absence, an investigation will be conducted into the recent allegations against Minister Perez. At the conclusion of the investigation, the Attorney General and Minister of Legal Affairs will advise the Prime Minister on whether there has been any actionable wrongdoing.

During Minister Perez's leave of absence, his portfolio duties will be temporarily reassigned to the Prime Minister.

The Cabinet is confident that Minister Perez remains committed to and will continue to serve the interests of his constituents in Belize Rural South.

In the meantime, the Cabinet respects Minister Perez's privacy as he and his family work through this difficult situation.

**Ends**