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PRESS RELEASE

The Government of Belize Mourns the Passing of Mr. Edmund O. Pennil

Belmopan, June 8, 2026.

The Government of Belize joins the legal community and the wider Public Service in mourning the passing of a truly iconic Belizean, retired public servant, Mr. Edmund O. Pennil.

Mr. Pennil served his country with distinction, demonstrating unwavering dedication, integrity, and commitment throughout his career in the Public Service. His contributions have left a lasting and indelible impact on the development of Belize, and his legacy will be remembered for generations.

Mr. Edmund O. Pennil began his remarkable journey in the Public Service at the age of fifteen, joining the General Registry in 1958. Through diligence, perseverance, and unwavering commitment, he rose through the ranks to become Deputy Registrar of the High Court in 1979. Affectionately known as “Mr. P.,” he served in this capacity with distinction for eighteen years, until his retirement in 1997.

In that same year, Mr. Pennil answered the call to service once again, returning on contract as Deputy Registrar. He continued to serve with dedication until 2018, when he transitioned to the role of Supervisor of the General Registry. It was only in 2022, after an extraordinary sixty-four years of service, that Mr. Pennil finally retired from the Public Service of Belize.

Renowned for his promptness, meticulousness, and unparalleled knowledge of the General Registry and the courts, Mr. Pennil earned, and sustained over nearly seven decades, the respect, trust, and admiration of both court users and colleagues alike. In an era before digital search tools, he was an invaluable resource to members of the legal profession, whether assisting with the retrieval of court documents or guiding users through filing processes.

Ever helpful and steadfast in his oath as a public officer, to serve without fear or favour, Mr. Edmund O. Pennil exemplified the highest ideals of public service. A consummate public servant, his legacy will endure, and he will be deeply missed.

The Government of Belize extends its deepest condolences to the family, friends, and colleagues of Mr. Pennil during this time of mourning. His passing is a significant loss to the nation, and he will be greatly missed by all who had the privilege of knowing and working with him.

May his soul rest in eternal peace.

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