



REPUBLIC OF LIBERIA
INDEPENDENT NATIONAL COMMISSION ON HUMAN RIGHTS (INCHR)
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Office of the Acting Chairperson

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

**INCHR ANNOUNCES DISMISSAL OF SUSPENDED EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR
AND DIRECTOR FOR PLANNING FOR ALLEGED UNAUTHORIZED
REPRESENTATION OF THE COMMISSION**

Monrovia, Liberia — August 5, 2026: The Board of Commissioners of the Independent National Commission on Human Rights (INCHR) in keeping with the staff handbook # 37 titled "Disciplinary and complaint Resolution procedure" & Article 16 of the Commission's act, announced the dismissal of Atty. Urias Teh-Pour, former Executive Director, and Mr. Baw Wah Brownell, former Director for Planning, following serious violations of their responsibilities while under suspension from the Commission.

The two former officials were previously suspended and referred to the Liberia Anti-Corruption Commission (LACC) for investigation for financial impropriety and related administrative misconduct. The suspension was intended to remove them from the performance of their official duties pending the outcome of the investigations.

Despite their suspension, the Commission has established that Atty. Teh-Pour continued to communicate on behalf of the Commission and received official

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communication from a regional human rights organization specifically the Network of African National Human Rights Institutions (NHRI). More seriously, he purportedly nominated Mr. Baw-Wah Brownell to represent the Commission in an

official capacity, notwithstanding the fact that both individuals were under suspension and had no authority to act for or represent the INCHR.

The Board considers this conduct an extremely grave violation of Part four, specifically 4.3 of the National Code of Conduct. It constitutes an apparent disregard for the authority of the Board, undermines the integrity of the Commission's administrative processes, and creates serious risks to the reputation and independence of Liberia's national human rights institution. Furthermore, such conduct violates the Code of Ethics of the Commission's Staff handbook, #28, and part 4.2 of the National Code of Conduct governing all public officials and employees.

The Board therefore resolved to dismiss Atty. Urias Teh-Pour and Mr. Baw Wah Brownell from their respective positions, consistent with provisions mentioned supra and section 12.35 of the Penal Code of Liberia.

The Commission has also formally communicated these developments to the Ministry of Justice and the Liberia National Police because this matter is also

criminal" Impersonating officials" a crime under the 12.35 of the Penal Code that requires criminal investigation.

The INCHR emphasizes that the referral of these matters to the Ministry of Justice is intended to ensure an independent and lawful investigation. The Commission will respect due process and the presumption of innocence while insisting that all persons entrusted with public responsibility remain accountable for their actions.

The Board wishes to make clear that no suspended officer or employee of the Commission has the authority to communicate, negotiate, transact business, or represent the INCHR in any official capacity during the period of suspension, unless expressly authorized by the competent authority.

The Commission remains committed to restoring institutional discipline, protecting public resources, strengthening accountability, and ensuring that the INCHR operates in accordance with the law and the highest standards of human rights governance.

Issued by:



Board of Commissioners



Independent National Commission on Human Rights (INCHR)