

The Hon. K. H. Randolph Horton, JP, MP Speaker of the House of Assembly

Statement to the House of Assembly

February 19, 2016

I should like to make a few brief comments about the sudden and unexpected outburst that occurred last Friday in the visitor's gallery.

First, while I know members know this, inside these Chambers demonstrations of any sort are not permitted. Our rules are clear on this as well as our governing legislation, the Parliament Act 1957, which provides that any member of the public who willfully disturbs the House of Legislature while in session commits an offence against the Act, which is punishable by the Courts.

Secondly, members and the public should also be assured that I have since spoken with the police who are responsible for security here at the House of Assembly to ensure that there is better control. Finally, and more importantly, I take this opportunity to put the public on notice that any attempt at future disruptions inside the House of Assembly will not be tolerated. These Chambers are the place for debate and not public demonstrations. The place for demonstration is, as it always has been, outside our building and these Chambers.

Thank you.