

**Ministry of Social Development and Family Services** 



## MEDIA RELEASE

Tuesday, 04 February 2020

Priority: <u>HIGH</u>

## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

## Ministry of Social Development and Family Services honours local icons

Minister of Social Development and Family Services, the Honourable Camille Robinson-Regis received a lusty round of applause from the relatives of three of this country's icons who were in receipt of the Special Achievers Grant from the Ministry. A brief distribution ceremony took place at the Ministry's Head Office on St. Vincent Street in Port-of-Spain, on Monday February 3, 2020.

Dr. Roy Francis Cape, Mr. Timothy Baron Watkins and Mr. Leslie Stewart were three of the four most recent recipients of the Ministry's Special Achievers Grant, for which eligible nationals are recommended, based on their outstanding contributions to national development. Their eligibility for the grant is generally determined by their inability to meet general expenses, inclusive of pharmaceuticals and medical care, dietary needs, house repairs and in some instances, rental assistance. It was with regret that Mr. Dennis Sprangalang Hall was unable to attend the ceremony to receive his grant.

During her remarks, Minister Robinson-Regis commended the icons for their contributions, which she described as undeniably reminiscent of our national motto. She explained that the words, together we aspire, together we achieve, spoke to the unifying bond that citizens are able to share in the realisation of their fullest potential for the collective good. It was within this context that she lauded all recipients for their selfless contributions in the development and prosperity of Trinidad and Tobago. According to the Minister, this was made evident by the creation of employment and the nurturing of positive values, attitudes and behaviours, due to their involvement in the fields of media, entertainment, sports and culture respectively.

It was however, Minister Robinson-Regis' reaffirmation of the Ministry's commitment to ensuring that the rights and dignity of our local icons are protected and enhanced when they are most in need, and that her aim is to have the grants processed expeditiously, that seemed to resonate most with the recipients and guests the most. Each recipient will receive this grant on a monthly basis from the Ministry

In closing, Mr. Leslie Stewart, who is also known as the Laventille Tiger, ended the formal proceedings by expressing his elation and thanking the Ministry for not only recognising his years

of yeoman service to this country's sporting fraternity, but also for the additional support to" further his efforts in making Trinidad and Tobago a greater place".



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All Smiles: Minister of Social Development and Family Services, the Honourable Camille Robinson-Regis and new special achievers Dr. Roy Francis Cape, Mr. Timothy Baron Watkins and Mr. Leslie Stewart are all smiles following the distribution ceremony yesterday.



Minister Robinson-Regis chats with our local icons following the distribution ceremony at the Ministry's Head Office.



Minister Robinson-Regis takes a photo with new special achievers Dr. Roy Francis Cape, Mr. Timothy Baron Watkins and Mr. Leslie Stewart following the distribution ceremony yesterday.

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