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Bill re Magistrate's Court (Amendment) Act, 2026.

Resolution No. 9/2026

M.P. Ref. No. 0301/985 Vol. I

PARLIAMENT

RESOLVED that Parliament in accordance with section 5 of the Land Acquisition Act, Cap. 228, approve the compulsory acquisition by the State of the parcel of land the property of The Ebenezer Methodist Church situate at Ebenezer in the parish of Saint Philip in this Island and more particularly described in the Schedule hereto for the public purpose of housing development.

APPROVED by the House of Assembly this 11th day of August, Two Thousand and Twenty-Six.

A. HOLDER
Speaker.

APPROVED by the Senate this 14th day of October, Two Thousand and Twenty-Six.

R. FARLEY
President.

I assent
J. D. BOSTIC
President of Barbados
20th October, 2026.

SCHEDULE

ALL THAT land the property of The Ebenezer Methodist Church situate at Ebenezer in the parish of Saint Philip in this Island containing by admeasurement 8940.7 square metres Abutting and Bounding on lands now or late of Syndey Forde on lands now or late of Clyde Sealy on lands now or late of Dawnay Lashley and on a public road known as Highway 4B which leads to Sunbury Tenantry in one direction and to Highway 5 in the other direction on lands now or formerly of Edgecumbe Plantation (Cart Road) on other lands now or formerly of Edgecumbe Plantation or however else the same may abut and bound as shown and delineated on a plan certified by Sekani H.C. Franklin, Land Surveyor, on the 30th day of September, 2024 and recorded in the Lands and Surveys Department on the 16th day of October, 2024 as Plan No. 1662/2024.

Resolution No. 10/2026

M.P. Ref. No. 0562/101 Vol. I

PARLIAMENT

RESOLVED that Parliament in accordance with section 5 of the *Crown Lands (Vesting and Disposal) Act*, Cap. 225, approve the lease to the Barbados National Art Gallery of a parcel of land, the property of the State, situate at the Garrison in the parish of Saint Michael in this Island and more particularly described in the *First Schedule* on the terms and conditions set out in the *Second Schedule* for the purpose of headquarters and to house the Barbados National Art Gallery.

APPROVED by the House of Assembly this 29th day of September, Two Thousand and Twenty-Six.

A. HOLDER
Speaker.

APPROVED by the Senate this 14th day of October, Two Thousand and Twenty-Six.

R. FARLEY
President.

I assent
J. D. BOSTIC
President of Barbados
20th October, 2026.

FIRST SCHEDULE

ALL THAT land the property of the State situate at "BLOCK A", the Garrison in the parish of Saint Michael in this Island containing by admeasurement 4035.2 square metres or thereabouts abutting and bounding on a public road on two sides which leads to Garrison Road and to Dalkeith Road in one direction and to Graydon Sealy Secondary School and to Dayrells Road in the other direction on lands now or formerly of the Barbados Government (Block B) and on other lands now or formerly of the Barbados Government (Pavement) or however else the same may abut and bound as shown and delineated on a Plan certified on the 28th day of November, 2023 by Kevin R. Belgrave, Land Surveyor and recorded in the Lands and Surveys Department on the 1st day of December, 2023 as Plan No. 1899/2023 together with the building thereon.

Resolution No. 10/2026 - *Cont'd*

SECOND SCHEDULE

The lease to the Barbados National Art Gallery (“the lessee”) of the property of the State (“the lessor”) situate at the Garrison in the parish of Saint Michael in this Island and more particularly described in the *First Schedule* is on the following terms and conditions:

- (a) the lease shall be for a period of 25 years with an option to renew for a further period of 25 years;
- (b) an initial concessionary rent at a rate of \$6,000 per annum during the first 5 years of the lease, payable monthly in advance at a rate of \$500 per month;
- (c) rent shall be subject to review at 5-yearly intervals;
- (d) the lease shall have a 5-year notice break clause exercisable after the second rent the second rent review allowing either party to bring it to an end;
- (e) notwithstanding paragraph (d), where the lease is brought to an end by the lessor because of a need for it to resume ownership, the lessee shall be compensated for the market renovated costs, less any depreciation at the date of resumption;
- (f) the lessee shall be responsible for the insurance of the building, public liability and occupiers’ liability at the demised premises, the repairs and maintenance of the building, the payment of utilities and other outgoings arising out of the use of the site;
- (g) the lessee shall bear the cost of development of the demised premises and shall comply with the *Planning and Development Act, 2019* (Act 2019-5) any other statutory requirements;
- (h) the lessee shall advise the Ministry responsible for Housing, Lands and Maintenance of the replacement cost of the building and plant on the demised premises on completion of the refurbishment or improvements;
- (i) the lessor shall be indemnified against all actions, costs, claims and demands in respect of any injury to or death of any person or damage to any property which may arise directly or indirectly as a result of the lessee’s use of the demised premises;
- (j) the lessee shall not assign, sublet or otherwise dispose of the demised premises by lease or part with possession without the prior written consent of the lessor, such consent shall not be unreasonably withheld; and
- (k) at the end of the lease period or its earlier determination, the building, structures and other facilities and improvements, regardless of stage of construction, shall revert to the lessor for nil consideration.

Resolution No. 11/2026

M.P. Ref. No. 0302/OT 471

PARLIAMENT

RESOLVED that Parliament in accordance with section 5 of the *Crown Lands (Vesting and Disposal) Act*, Cap. 225, approve the sale to Collis Crookendale of a parcel of land, the property of the State, situate at 3rd Avenue, Goodland in the parish of Saint Michael in this Island and more particularly described in the *Schedule* for continual residential purposes.

APPROVED by the House of Assembly this 6th day of October, Two Thousand and Twenty-Six.

A. HOLDER
Speaker.

APPROVED by the Senate this 14th day of October, Two Thousand and Twenty-Six.

R. FARLEY
President.

I assent
J. D. BOSTIC
President of Barbados
20th October, 2026.

SCHEDULE

ALL THAT land the property of the State situate at 3rd Avenue, Goodland in the parish of Saint Michael in this Island being Lot 2 containing by admeasurement 35.42 square metres (including 1.66 square metres in road) or thereabouts abutting and bounding on a public road known as 3rd Avenue, Goodland which leads to Lower Richmond in one direction and to Alkins Tenantry in the other direction on two sides of lands now or formerly of the Barbados Government (St. Leonard's Boys School) and on Lot 1 or however else the same may abut and bound as shown and delineated on a Plan certified on the 17th day of July, 2025 by Kevin R. Belgrave, Land Surveyor and recorded in the Lands and Surveys Department on the 21st day of July, 2025 as Plan No. 1200/2025.

MAGISTRATE'S COURT (AMENDMENT) ACT, 2026

OBJECTS AND REASONS

This Bill would amend the *Magistrate's Courts Act*, Cap. 116A to provide for hearings by electronic means and for hearings to be continued where a magistrate leaves office permanently or temporarily.

MAGISTRATE’S COURT (AMENDMENT) ACT, 2026

Arrangement of Sections

1. Short title
2. Amendment of section 2 of Cap. 116A
3. Insertion of section 9A into Cap. 116A
4. Insertion of section 10A into Cap. 116A

BARBADOS

A Bill entitled

An Act to amend the *Magistrate's Courts Act*, Cap. 116A.

ENACTED by the Parliament of Barbados as follows:

Short title

- 1.** This Act may be cited as the *Magistrate's Court (Amendment) Act, 2026*.

Amendment of section 2 of Cap. 116A

2. *The Magistrate’s Courts Act, Cap. 116A, in this Act referred to as the principal Act, is amended in section 2(1) by inserting in alphabetical order, the following definition:*

“ “electronic means” includes teleconference, video-link, internet link or any other manner of instant communication between the court and the parties, facilitated by the use of technology under the management of the court;”.

Insertion of section 9A into Cap. 116A

3. *The principal Act is amended by inserting after section 9, the following:*

“Hearings by electronic means

9A.(1) Notwithstanding any other provision of this Act, hearings of cases may be conducted by electronic means used and supported by the court.

(2) A hearing by electronic means shall be conducted as if the attorney-at-law or the parties to the proceedings are physically present in court.

(3) A hearing by electronic means shall not be recorded by the attorney-at-law or the parties to the proceedings or by any other party not designated to record the proceedings.

(4) A person who contravenes subsection (3) is guilty of an offence and is liable on summary conviction to a fine of \$5 000.

- (5) The court may terminate a hearing by electronic means at any time in the event of a contravention of this section or where it is in the interest of justice to do so.”.

Insertion of section 10A into Cap. 116A

4. *The principal Act is amended by inserting after section 10, the following:*

“Procedure where hearing not concluded

10A. Notwithstanding any other provision of this Act, where the hearing of any proceedings has commenced before a magistrate and prior to the conclusion of the hearing, the magistrate ceases either permanently or temporarily to hold office

- (a) the magistrate may be assigned by the Chief Justice at any time to be the magistrate for the purpose of concluding the hearing; or
- (b) another magistrate may be assigned by the Chief Justice at any time for the purpose of concluding the hearing where
 - (i) the magistrate has been appointed a judge of the High Court;
 - (ii) the magistrate is unable for any sufficient reason to conclude the hearing; or
 - (iii) the Chief Justice otherwise considers it appropriate to do so.”.

Read three times and passed the House of Assembly this
day of _____, 2026.

Speaker

Read three times and passed the Senate this _____ day of
_____, 2026.

President

