



Judge Dixon Talks Tough On Jury Tampering

The Assigned Judge of the 14th Judicial Circuit Court of Rivercess County, His Honor A. Blamo Dixon, emphasized that it remains the prerogative of the state, judicial actors, and the Law Reform Commission to review Chapter “C” or the entire Penal Law to make jury tampering a criminal offense, either a felony or a First-degree misdemeanor, through the National Legislature.

At the formal opening of the August Term of Court on Monday, August 10, 2026, Judge Dixon acknowledged that while the New Jury Law and Penal Code are silent on jury tampering, Chapter Twelve (12), Subchapter “C” on Obstruction of Justice provides room to accommodate such offenses.

He explained that the enactment of the New Jury Law was based on recommendations from the Ministry of Justice and the Department of Rule of Law of the former United Nations Mission in Liberia (UNMIL), following cases that ended in hung juries due to suspected tampering. In those cases, the Ministry of Justice pulled eleven jurors, highlighting the need for reforms to ensure transparency.

He stressed that jury tampering undermines the Judiciary and affects subordinate courts, prosecutors, defense lawyers, defendants, and jurors themselves. Jury tampering is defined as illegal attempts to influence a jury's decision or composition through bribery, intimidation, or unauthorized contact. It erodes fairness and is treated globally as a serious criminal offense.

"Therefore, all prospective jurors, lawyers, court staff, and the public in Cestos City, Rivercess County, are hereby warned to desist from jury tampering. The law shall take its due course when you are caught, and it is established that you are involved in such an act. Jury tampering is a crime against humanity," Judge Dixon stated.