



Judge Feika Dismisses Indictment

...Over State's Failure To Prosecute Some Former Bureau Of State Enterprise Officials

The Assigned Circuit Judge of Criminal Court "C" at the Temple of Justice, His Honor Ousman F. Feika, has dismissed the indictment and charges brought against several former officials of the Bureau of State and Enterprise, citing the government's failure to prosecute the defendants for two successive terms of court.

The ruling, delivered on Monday, August 31, 2026, discharged Arthur S. Massaquoi (former Director General), Mathew Kotio (former Financial Comptroller), Kathanal Mitchell, Isaac Kporkulah, and Jessephen Yeh Dahn.

Judge Feika emphasized that the dismissal was “Without prejudice to the prosecution,” meaning the state retains the right to refile charges in the future.

“It is the holding of this court that the defendants’ request to dismiss should be granted. The indictment that brought the defendants within the court’s jurisdiction is accordingly dismissed without prejudice to the prosecution. The defendants are ordered discharged of the crimes and their constitutional rights restored in keeping with law,” Judge Feika stated.

The ruling was grounded in Chapter 18, Section 18.2 of the Criminal Procedure Law, which mandates dismissal of an indictment if a defendant is not tried within two successive terms of court, unless the prosecution shows good cause for delay.

On August 7, 2026, the defendants filed a nine-count motion seeking dismissal of the indictment, which had been secured against them during the November A.D. 2025 Term of Court.

The Grand Jury accused them of Economic sabotage, Theft of property, Misapplication of entrusted property, Criminal conspiracy, and Criminal facilitation in Montserrado County.

Defense lawyers argued that the state’s failure to commence trial within the statutory period violated the defendants’ constitutional rights to a fair and speedy trial.

Prosecutors, in response, admitted the delay but attributed it to the court’s heavy docket and ongoing cases that prevented assignment of the matter for trial.

Judge Feika’s ruling underscores the constitutional guarantee of speedy trial and reinforces statutory safeguards against prolonged prosecutorial inaction.