

GRENADA

STATUTORY RULES AND ORDERS NO. 16 OF 2019

IN EXERCISE OF THE POWERS CONFERRED BY SECTION 50(1) OF THE CONSTITUTION OF GRENADA, THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES MAKES THE FOLLOWING AMENDMENTS TO THE STANDING ORDERS TO THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES (SRO No. 39 OF 1993).

(Gazetted 6th September, 2019).

The House of Representatives Standing Orders is hereby amended as follows—

1. By inserting after the heading “MEMBERS AND OFFICERS OF THE HOUSE” in Standing Order 1 the following new Standing Order—

“**1A. Definitions.** In these Standing Orders, unless the context otherwise requires—

“Chair” means the Speaker or other person presiding;

“Chairman” means the Chairman of a Committee of the Whole House or of a Select Committee;

“circulate” means to distribute electronically as far as possible;

“Clerk” means the Clerk of the House or, if the office is vacant or the Clerk is absent from duty, the person appointed to act as Clerk of the House; and includes any person authorised by the Clerk to perform any of the functions or exercise any of the powers of the Clerk under these Standing Orders;

“Clerk of the Committee” means the Clerk of the House or a person authorised by the Clerk to be a Clerk of a Committee;

“Constitution” means the Grenada Constitution;

“Court” means a court of record in Grenada and includes a Judicial Committee;

“House” means the House of Representatives;

“Leader of the Opposition” means the Member appointed by the Governor-General pursuant to section 66 of the Constitution;

“Leave of the House or Leave of the Committee” means permission to do something;

“Member” means a Member of the House of Representatives or of a Committee;

“Minister” means a person appointed by the Governor-General under section 58(3) and (4) of the Grenada Constitution and assigned the responsibility for any business of the Government of Grenada including the administration of any department of Government;

“Order Book” means a listing of all the business of the House;

“Order Paper” means a document showing the business before the House in sequence in which orders of business are called;

“paper” means a document, including a report, laid on the table of the House, usually in accordance with a statutory provision;

“person” includes an organisation;

“Petition” means a formal written request from one or more persons addressed to the House in respect of some particular cause;

“Private Member” refers to a Member of the House who is not a Minister or Parliamentary Secretary;

“privilege” means the special rights and immunities belonging to the House, its Committees and its Members in accordance with section 50 (3) of the Constitution and as may be prescribed by Parliament from time to time;

“Session” means the period of sittings commencing when the House first meets after a prorogation or dissolution and

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terminating when the Parliament is prorogued or is dissolved without having been prorogued;

“*sub judice*” for the purposes of Standing Order 38 (1) refers to a matter that is before the Court and awaiting adjudication;

“substantive motion” means a self-contained proposal, drafted in a form which expresses an opinion or decision of the House;

“visitor” means a person other than a Member or employee of the Houses of Parliament; and

“writing” includes any communication which hand is written or printed, and is hand delivered or transmitted by fax, post, or any electronic means or in any other manner approved by the Clerk.

2. In Standing Order 6, as follows—

- (a) by repealing paragraph (2) and substituting therefor the following new paragraph—

“(2) The Clerk shall circulate the Minutes of proceedings of each sitting to the Speaker electronically or a printed copy for his signature, after which he shall circulate copies thereof to Members before the commencement of the next Sitting.”.

- (b) by repealing paragraph (4) and substituting therefor the following new paragraph—

“(4) The Clerk is responsible for preparing an Order Book daily which must be accessible to Members at all reasonable hours.”.

- (c) by inserting after paragraph (5) the following new paragraph (5a) to read as follows—

“(5a) The Clerk shall make available to the Members all draft bills, notices and any other communication or

information electronically. However, a printed copy will be made available upon request.”; and

- (d) in paragraph 7, by repealing the word “short-hand” and substituting therefor the word “transcriptionist”.

3. In Standing Order 13 at paragraph (3), by deleting the word “often” where it appears and substituting therefor the words “of ten”.

4. In Standing Order 16 at paragraph (l), by deleting “ten (10)” and substituting therefor “fifteen (15)”.

5. In Standing Order 18, by inserting after paragraph (3) the following new paragraph—

“(4) All papers, reports and other documents that are required to be laid in the House of Representatives must be done electronically.”.

6. By repealing Standing Order 19 and substituting therefor the following new Standing Order—

“19. Nature of Questions. Whenever a question is asked of a Member, the Member is required to provide a response to the question within thirty (30) days after the question is first asked in the House. Should the Member be unable to provide a response within thirty days, that Member may request additional time from the Speaker within which to respond to the question and the Speaker may grant such additional number of days within his or her discretion. Where there is no Minister in the House who is exclusively responsible for the matter forming the subject of a question, the question may be put to the Leader of Government’s Business.”.

7. In Standing Order 35 by inserting after paragraph (5) the following new paragraph (5a) to read as follows—

“(5a) A Member may use an electronic device in making his or her presentation to the House.”.

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8. In Standing Order 40 by inserting after paragraph (40) (1) (i) the following new paragraph (ia) to read as follows—

“(ia) The Minister of Finance may use any electronic medium when presenting the Budget.”.

9. In Standing Order 47 as follows—

(a) in paragraph (2),

(i) by deleting the word “be” where it appears after the word “unless” and substituting therefor the words “he or she”;

(ii) by deleting the word “he” where it appears and substituting therefor the words “he or she”; and

(iii) by deleting the word “his” where it appears and substituting therefor the words “his or her”.

10. In Standing Order 48, by inserting after paragraph 48 (1) the following new paragraph (1a) to read as follows—

“(1a). Pursuant to section 26 (1) of the Public Finance Management Act, No. 17 of 2015, every draft bill submitted to the Parliament for debate and approval shall at the time of being submitted to the Parliament, be accompanied by a Fiscal Impact Analysis at the time of being submitted to Parliament.”.

11. In Standing Order 55, by inserting after paragraph (12) the following new paragraph (12a) to read as follows—

“(12a). If at any stage while the House is in Committee, a request is made for a short adjournment, the Chairman shall first return from the Committee Stage to the full sitting before granting the adjournment.”.

12. In Standing Order 69, as follows—

(a) by repealing paragraph (3)(ii)(b) and substituting therefor the following new paragraph—

- “(b) Where there are no Members of the Opposition in the House of Representatives, one of the Senators appointed by the Governor-General under section 62 (2) of the Constitution of Grenada may be appointed by the House of Representatives as Chairman.”;
- (b) by inserting after paragraph (3)(ii)(b) the following new paragraph (3)(ba) to read as follows—
- “(ba) Where there are insufficient eligible members to serve on the Committee at least one of the Senators appointed by the Leader of the Opposition under Section 24 (b) of the Constitution of Grenada may be appointed by the House of Representatives to the Committee.”;
- (c) in paragraph (3)(c) by repealing the words “if the Senator so named declines” and substituting with the words “if a Senator so named under subparagraph (b) or (ba) of this paragraph declines”; and
- (d) by inserting after paragraph (4) the following new paragraph (4)(a) to read as follows—
- “(4)(a) The Committee shall meet at least once per quarter.”.

Approved by the House of Representatives this 9th day of August, 2019.

ANDREW AUGUSTINE
Clerk to the House of Representatives (Ag.).

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