



SOUTHERN REGIONAL HEALTH AUTHORITY

3 BRUMALIA ROAD, MANDEVILLE, MANCHESTER, JAMAICA WI
TEL.: (876) 625-0612-3, 962-9491 or 962-8232 | FAX: (876) 962-8233 | WWW.SRHA.GOV.JM



Mandeville Regional Hospital
32 Hargreaves Avenue
Mandeville
Ph: 962-2067/2744/1094
Fax: 625-8493

May Pen Hospital
1 Muirhead Avenue
May Pen
Ph: 986-2528/7708/6938
Fax: 986-2650

Black River Hospital
45 High Street
Black River
Ph: 965-2224/2212
634-3700
Fax: 965-9294

Percy Junior Hospital
Spalding P.O.
Clarendon
Ph: 964-1181/2222/2322
Fax: 964-1548

Lionel Town Hospital
Bustamante Drive
Vere, Clarendon
Ph: 986-3226
Fax: 986-3373

Chapelton Hospital
Chapelton P.O.
Clarendon
Ph: 987-2215

Manchester Health Dept.
Race Course Rd.
Mandeville
Ph: 962-2288/7033
625-3433
Fax: 962-2171

Clarendon Health Dept.
1 Muirhead Avenue
May Pen
Ph: 986-4548/7869
Fax: 986-9713

St. Elizabeth Health Dept
High Street
Black River
Ph: 965-9174-5
Fax: 965-2701

STATEMENT

November 7, 2016 FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

The midwife involved in the incident where it is reported that a woman gave birth to a baby outside of the Chapelton Community Hospital's compound in Clarendon after being referred to the May Pen Hospital, has been taken from front line duty.

In a Gleaner article today, November 15, it is reported that the midwife has been suspended. However, at a press conference yesterday, November 14 hosted by the Southern Regional Health Authority (SRHA) at its office in Mandeville, it was stated that she was removed from frontline duty.

Chairman of the SRHA Board, Mr. Wayne Chen explained that "suspension is a very technical word. I have to be mindful because I don't want to use a word in public that comes back to prejudice the process and tie our hands."

"We don't want to prejudice a Human Resource process which is currently in train so if we choose our words carefully it is not to shy away from it...the public can judge from the sequence of events. Using particular words may sound like we have already passed judgment which would be in breach of natural justice," Mr. Chen added.

The report also stated that SRHA Regional Technical Director, Dr. Michael Coombs said "though it was unfortunate that Smith gave birth on the street, she could have avoided such an occurrence had she remained up-to-date with her prenatal examinations."

Dr. Coombs told journalists that this incident is being used as teaching moment for both patients and staff and encouraged patients to follow the instructions given by healthcare workers because "the instructions are for very good reasons to make sure they get the proper and required care."

-30-

For more information contact:
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Public Relations & Advocacy Officer

Chairman: Wayne Chen; Vice Chairman: Michael Stern **Board Members:** Marcus Greenwood, Krishan James, Stafford Haughton, Lorraine Green Mason, Lennox Powell, Dr Lloyd Reynolds, Winston Maragh, Dr St Aubyn Bartlett, Dr Lundie Richards, **Directors: Regional Director and Secretary:** Michael Bent; **Regional Technical Director:** Dr Michael Coombs; **CEO Mandeville Regional Hospital:** Alwyn Miller; **SMO, Mandeville Regional Hospital:** Dr Everton McIntosh



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