

THE ICAC

Public officials must perform their duties with honesty and in the best interest of the public.

In order to help the public, the National Assembly established the Independent Commission Against Corruption (ICAC). The ICAC acts independently. It investigates allegations of corruption that are reported.

The ICAC has the mandate to investigate bribery and other types of corruption involving public officials. The ICAC can, with the consent of the DPP, undertake prosecution.

If you suspect bribery or other forms of corruption by public officials, please contact the ICAC.

All complaints are treated confidentially.

ALL SERVICES PROVIDED BY
ICAC ARE FREE.



CORRUPTION

THE GAME OF POWER, PROFIT,
DOUBLE-DEALING AND DECEIT.



Independent Commission Against Corruption

What is corruption ?



ICAC

WHAT IS CORRUPTION?

Corruption can be defined as the abuse of public or private office for private gain. It involves:

- Offering a sum of money, reward, gift, discount, premium or other advantage to a public official for either one of the following purposes namely for the public official:
 - (a) doing his/her work;
 - (b) not doing his/her work;
 - (c) facilitating, expediting, delaying, hindering or preventing his/her work;
 - (d) screening an offender from legal proceedings for an offence;
 - (e) influencing the decision of a public body;
 - (f) using his/her influence to obtain a work, employment, contract or other benefit from a public body;
 - (g) Procuring contract or influencing terms of contract.
- Exercising any form of violence or pressure by means of threat on a public official for execution of his functions.
- A corruption offence takes place when a public officer accepts or solicits a sum of money, a reward, a gift or a discount for the purposes outlined from (a) to (g).
- Any public official, who does not disclose, in writing, any conflict of interest, also commits an act of corruption.
Corruption offence has a maximum penalty of 10 years in jail.

WHO IS A PUBLIC OFFICIAL?

A public official means:-

- a minister
- a member of the National Assembly.

- a member of the Public Service Commission, Judicial Legal Service Commission, Discipline Forces Service Commission,
- a member of Statutory Corporation e.g. CWA, MMA, D/WC, MBC, CHC, MHC
- an employee of government company
- a director of a government company
- a judge, an arbitrator, an assessor or a member of a jury.

ACTS OF CORRUPTION

Examples of people offering bribes

- If you offer money or gift to a public official to ensure they choose your company to supply stationery
- If you offer money to officials to breach health regulations
- If you offer a holiday to a Local Government officer or councillors to secure approval of your development application
- If you offer money to obtain driver's license
- If you offer money or gift to be moved higher on a waiting list for services such as medical operation or facility for a house
- If you offer a reward to obtain a contract from a public body
- If you offer money to obtain an employment in the Public Service
- If you offer money to clear impounded goods from Customs Department

Examples of public officials seeking bribes

- An official asking money to approve your building permit
- An officer requesting a free meal or drink so as not to report a contravention
- An official asking money or favours so that he/she doesn't book you for speeding on a highway

HOW CAN I KNOW IF SOMEONE IS SEEKING A BRIBE?

Normally, someone seeking a bribe offers you a special benefit or treatment. The bribe money does not go to the government organisation, but instead to the public official's pocket.

A receipt is an official piece of paper that should contain the name of the organisation receiving the money, the date the payment was made, how much money was paid, and the amount paid is stated.

Receipt is not given by those who indulge in corruption. So when you deal with a government department, you should always ask for and receive a receipt as proof of payment.

If you have any doubts about the amount you should pay, ask to see a list of fees and charges.

When a public official asks for money, ask for a receipt.

REPORTING BRIBERY

If a public official asks for a bribe or refuses to give you a receipt you should refuse to pay any sum, and ask to speak to the head of that organisation.

To report an act of corruption, you can

- Write anonymously to the ICAC
- E-mail us at icac@tinet.mu
- Call in person at the ICAC headquarters Marine road, Port Louis
- Phone the ICAC on 800 4222
- Register a complaint on our website www.icac.mu

The ICAC guarantees complete confidentiality.

By law, the identity of an informer of an act of corruption shall be kept secret and can only be revealed by the consent of the informer