

**Press Release**  
**Bradley B. Roberts**  
**National Chairman**  
**Progressive Liberal Party**  
**PLP blasts Environment Minister Earl Deveaux**  
**11<sup>th</sup> April 2010**

For Immediate Release

The PLP again notes that 13 days have passed since Grand Bahama suffered the onslaught of several major tornados, and pertinent questions asked and issues raised in the public interest have **NOT** been satisfactorily addressed by the FNM Government and in particular, the substantive Minister for The Environment.

The PLP is appalled at the behavior of Minister Earl Deveaux who seeks to use tactics of diversion and distraction in a feeble attempt to avoid accepting full responsibility for the actions or inactions of the government that contributed to the loss of life, injury, and needless suffering in the wake of the tornados that pounded Grand Bahama on 26<sup>th</sup> March 2010.

When asked about the value and utility of a Commission of Inquiry, Mr. Deveaux termed it “**absolute nonsense**” and accused the PLP of having a “**thirst for blood**” and of having “**kept us in a state of siege since election of 2007. They (the PLP) go to any length to keep a sense of chaos in the country.**”

This failure to accept collective responsibility for their decisions or indecisions is all the more reason why **the FNM is not fit for governance**. The PLP reminds Minister Deveaux and the FNM that they control public policy; they drive the legislative agenda in Parliament; they control the public purse; and they are supposed to be at the steering wheel of the ship of state. It is unconscionable that a Government that brags about trust, accountability, transparency, and about being in charge of this country for three non-consecutive terms is so pre disposed to abdication of duty and responsibility and blaming everybody but themselves for the failings of their doing.

We remind Minister Earl Deveaux of the FNM’s much touted “Principles of Public Life,” namely **Accountability** and **Openness**:

**“Holders of public office are ACCOUNTABLE to the public for their decisions and actions and must submit themselves to scrutiny appropriate to their office.”**

**“Holders of public office must be OPEN about all the decisions and actions that they take. They should give reasons for their decisions and restrict information only when the wider public interest clearly so demands.”**

Clearly the Chairman of the FNM, Carl Bethel, and Minister Deveaux do not subscribe to their own conceived Principles of Public Life.

**END**