



BELIZE CHAMBER OF COMMERCE & INDUSTRY

4792 Coney Drive, 2nd Floor Withfield Tower, P.O. Box 291 , Belize City, Belize, Central America

Friday, December 20th, 2019

Gender – Based Violence and Threatening Words

-For Immediate Release-

The Belize Chamber of Commerce and Industry (BCCI) condemns in the strongest possible terms Gender-based Violence (GBV) in any and all of its forms. The most recent incidents reported in the local media this week are vivid reminders that much remains to be done to eradicate GBV and the depraved threats of same via cyberbullying and other methods.

The BCCI joins with all other bodies that have called for urgent and necessary amendments to Belize's laws to protect against all forms and threats of GBV. Additionally, as the International Labour Organization (ILO)'s Employers' representative in Belize, and conscious of the well-documented evidence of the economic and social costs associated with GBV, the BCCI commits to partnering with organizations that actively work toward reducing this societal scourge.

This form of human rights violation is a cross-cutting issue that demands involvement by all citizens and organizations, and the BCCI—while officially mandated to serve as a Business Support Organization—is no exception. In this respect, the BCCI's Executive has prioritized this and related matters as an integral component of the BCCI's advocacy efforts, particularly for the upcoming year. This shall remain on our agenda until concrete results have been realized, and GBV is significantly reduced, with victims feeling reasonably confident that their complaints shall be taken seriously under the law and without fear of further victimization.

-End-

Media Contact:

Ms. Viannie Reyes

Marketing and Public Relations Officer

Tel: 501-223-5330

Email: mpo@belize.org

Website: www.belize.org

