



GRASSROOTS AGENCY FOR SOCIAL SERVICES (G R A S S)

Date: April 11, 2025

Report on the Investigating the Misuse of County Resources under Acting Superintendent Duin

Our perspectives

In light of recent revelations concerning the sale of county equipment, the proceeds received by Acting Superintendent James Duin, and the subsequent expenditure of those funds, our primary concern now centers on the governance of these assets. The internal audit team is actively investigating discrepancies, and we trust that this statement will assist in uncovering any potential fraud.

Proper governance over county funds relies on the legal instruments and oversight mechanisms established to ensure the proper administration of our collective properties and finances. It is essential to recognize that the county is owned by all its citizens—not by any single acting superintendent, his associates, or even by lawmakers who claim to have direct oversight over transactions. For the past five months, the county's administration has been under scrutiny, and transparency must be upheld.

The late Superintendent worked diligently to enhance oversight by reforming the scrap and procurement committees based on consultations with various stakeholders. These reestablished committees were a testament to her commitment to respect, protect, and uphold the tenets of good governance. However, following her passing, Acting Superintendent Duin and his team appear to have exploited the situation. While many mourned the loss of a dedicated leader, Duin and his associates transferred county equipment to an individual named Varney, and the transaction was conducted under cover of darkness. Varney began transporting what was identified as scrap metal at night, raising serious questions about the legitimacy of the deal.

Several questions require answers:

- Did Acting Superintendent Duin utilize the expertise of the established oversight committees, or did he proceed independently?
- Why was the transfer of county property executed in secrecy if the transaction was legitimate?

Should Acting Superintendent Duin have followed established procedures, then accountability remains intact. If not, the citizens of Grand Bassa deserve to know the truth about his actions, the fate of his associates, and the management of county funds.

“Nobody is above the law.” We remain committed to this principle, in line with the call to “Speak up for those who cannot speak for themselves, for the rights of all who are destitute” (Proverbs 31:8-9).

Next, we will address the issue of tiling.
