

# GHANA BAR ASSOCIATION

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## **STATEMENT BY THE GHANA BAR ASSOCIATION ON THE INCREASING NUMBER OF CONFIRMED COVID-19 CASES IN WORKPLACES**

The Ghana Bar Association (GBA) has noted with great disquiet the increasing number of confirmed cases of COVID-19 in the country. The GBA is particularly concerned about the incidents of confirmed cases in institutions and businesses in general that have resulted in the shutting down of some workplaces.

The Bar hereby calls upon all citizens and residents of Ghana to comply with all laws that have been made as a safeguard to combat the COVID-19 pandemic, and to guarantee public safety and protection. The GBA would particularly entreat citizens and residents to ensure compliance with, among others, prescribed social distancing and enhanced hygiene protocols, and the wearing of face coverings at all times.

We hereby further call on all recognised Professional Bodies and Associations and the media to be ambassadors in a sustained effort to compliment all efforts made so far to ensure public health, safety and protection. The increasing number of COVID-19 cases in institutions and establishments is worrying and we must all cooperate and combat the pandemic in our dear country. It is in our interest that we comply with all laws and precautionary measures that have been put in place to stem the spread of the COVID-19 virus.

The GBA would wish to reinforce that persons who flout the said laws may be arrested, duly prosecuted and convicted. While in our preceding statement issued on 30<sup>th</sup> June 2020, we advocated the amendment of the laws to impose punishments that are less severe and more practical, the punishment regime has not changed. Thus presently the punishments for contravening the laws are severe.

We wish to take this opportunity to call upon the Electoral Commission and law enforcement agencies to ensure that all the requisite protocols are strictly

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observed at all the registration centres, in the current voters registration exercise. Any breaches at the registration centres will result in the increase in the number of COVID-19 cases and it is therefore imperative that the protocols are rigorously enforced.

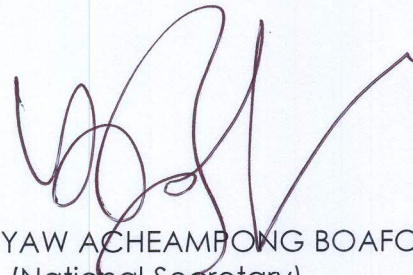
We wish all persons afflicted with the disease a speedy recovery and sympathise with families who have unfortunately lost loved ones.

We hereby reiterate our earlier calls for citizens to collaborate in the fight against COVID-19. The Director-General of the World Health Organisation rightly observed recently "Only aggressive action combined with national unity and global solidarity can turn this pandemic around". It is our fervent prayer that God will protect and keep Ghana safe.

DATED AT ACCRA THIS 15<sup>TH</sup> DAY OF JULY 2020.



ANTHONY FORSON, JNR.  
(National President)



YAW ACHEAMPONG BOAFO  
(National Secretary)