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COMMONWEALTH OF THE BAHAMAS  
IN THE COURT OF APPEAL  
SCCrApp & CAIS No. 123 of 2021

Joel Bullard

Appellant

vs

Director of Public Prosecutions

Respondent

(Substantive Appeal)  
(Adjournment)

Before: The Hon Sir Michael Barnett, President  
The Hon Mr Justice Jones, JA  
The Hon Sir Brian Moree, JA

Mr David Cash, Counsel for Appellant  
Ms Cassie Bethel, Counsel for Respondent

26 September 2022

1 The oral judgment of the court was delivered by

2 Sir Michael Barnett, P:

3           The application for an adjournment is one that  
4 causes us great anxiety. We adjourned this matter in July at  
5 counsel, Mr. Cash's request. We also adjourned the matter to  
6 the latter part of September giving him the month of July and  
7 the month of August as well as the month of September to  
8 prepare this appeal.

9           It is clear that he has done nothing. There are no  
10 submissions nor has the Notice of Appeal been amended to  
11 reflect what the grounds of appeal actually are. It appears  
12 to us that this matter has not been given the attention that  
13 it should have.

14           We are very surprised and disappointed that Mr. Cash  
15 is the counsel who has put us in this position, because he has  
16 thus far enjoyed a great reputation in this court of  
17 preparedness, of thoroughness and in providing much assistance  
18 to this court. We have no reason or explanation from him as  
19 to why he finds himself in this position. It is inexcusable.

20           We have to balance, however, that this is  
21 a conviction for murder for which the appellant has been given  
22 a substantial term of incarceration. He is entitled to have  
23 responsible representation and he is entitled to have whatever  
24 just complaints that he has properly ventilated in this court.  
25 It is only for that reason, and that reason alone, that with

1 much reluctance we are going to accede to the request for an  
2 adjournment. However, I must caution counsel that the  
3 goodwill that he has developed in this court has been used up  
4 and that he should not find himself in this position again.

5 We are going to grant a short adjournment. We are  
6 not going to give counsel an adjournment of a month. We are  
7 going to have this matter heard in the month of October and a  
8 date convenient to us, which is Tuesday, 11th October, 2022,  
9 at 11:00 a.m.

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Dated this 26th day of September, 2022

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SIR MICHAEL BARNETT, P

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