

Thunderbirds Carnival Band/Karnival Korner Carnival Band
C/o P.O Box 2410
Roseau
Commonwealth of Dominica

February 17, 2016

Chief Executive Officer
Dominica Festivals Commission (DFC)
Financial Centre
Roseau
Commonwealth of Dominica

Dear Sir,

We write on behalf of the Thunderbirds Carnival Band and the Karnival Korner Carnival Band primarily concerning our disagreement and opposition to the Afrikulture Stilt Walkers being adjudged the Adult Band of the Year for Carnival 2016.

We wish to refer to the document entitled "Judging Criteria for Adult Band of the Year Carnival Tuesday Parade Judging Time 11:00am to 2:00pm" which specifically states inter alia:-

"Guidelines

A. Band must satisfy the following criteria to be eligible to participate in the competition and be adjudged Band of the Year.

The Carnival Band must:

1. Be registered with the Dominica Festival Committee.
2. Have a minimum of 50 adults' persons.
3. Carry measuring 4' x 9' banner depicting the title of the concept being portrayed.
4. Display its banner at the front of the band.
5. Have a King and Queen of the band.
6. Make at least 2 complete rounds along the route."

Based on video presentation that showcased the Afrikulture Stilt Walkers on Carnival Tuesday and revelling activities in general on the said day coupled with eye witness accounts and in the very words aired in the media of a senior member of the Afrikulture Stilt Walker group, the latter could not and did not have a minimum of 50 adult persons taken to mean persons of 18 years and over.

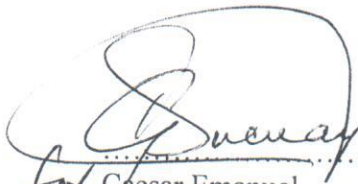
In fact, the said member stated that last year the group had 39 persons and that this year the number had increased to 51 persons. Assuming but not admitting that what was quoted by the said member is and was true, we submit that 50 of those 51 persons were not of adult age.


Additionally, we draw to the attention of your office that the Band did not "make at least 2 complete rounds along the route" in accordance with the guidelines.

In the circumstances, we request that the Afrikulture Stilt Walkers be disqualified as a participant and the winner of the Adult Band of the year for having clearly breached the criteria to be eligible to participate in the Adult Band Parade on Carnival Tuesday and be adjudged the Adult Band of the Year.

Failure to disqualify Afrikulture Stilt Walkers or to provide a satisfactory response (including evidence that the Afrikulture Stilt Walkers did not on Carnival Tuesday violate the judging criteria) no later than February 26, 2016 will leave us with no alternative but to seek legal redress to address the matter.

Yours Sincerely,


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for Caesar Emanuel
Band Leader Thunderbirds
Carnival Band


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Emmanuel Loblack
Band Leader Karnival Komer
Carnival Band