



# Parliament of Sint Maarten

---

## Staten van Sint Maarten

To the Hon. Minister of Finance  
Mr. R. Gibson  
Government Administration Building  
**Philipsburg**

UV/139/2015-2016

Philipsburg, January 18, 2016

Re: Questions posed by MP Leona M. Marlin-Romeo

Hon. Minister Gibson,

Herewith I submit to you questions posed by Member of Parliament, Mrs. Leona M. Marlin-Romeo pursuant to article 62 of the Constitution and article 69 of the Rules of Order of the Parliament of Sint Maarten.

The letter is self explanatory.



S.A. Wescot-Williams  
President of Parliament

From The Desk of Independent Member of Parliament

*Leona Marlin-Romeo*

STATEN VAN SINT MAARTEN			
Ingek. 18 JAN 2016			
Volgnr. 151430115-16			
Par.	B	HPJ	

To the President of Parliament,

MP Sarah Wescot-Williams

Friday, January 15, 2016

On January 13<sup>th</sup> 2016, the French gendarmes, stopped a Dutch side resident from driving and took the person to their office/station. It was stated to the individual that the Dutch driver's license plate was stolen in 2009 and therefore they would probably confiscate the vehicle. After numerous talks the individual gave me a call and I went to the Receivers Office to inquire about the sale of a license plate that was stolen. The information given was that the license plate sold was not a stolen license plate as each year the same numbers are sold to clients once they are available and that I should check with the Police Station. I followed those instructions, and was later told that according to the information at the police station this number plate was never reported stolen in 2009 or present. This was quite alarming as it contradicts what the French authorities stated.

This incident has brought me to query the Minister of Justice and the Minister of Finance on the process of communicating between the authorities of French Saint Martin and the authorities of Dutch Sint Maarten regarding stolen number plates.

1. Is it wise for the Receivers Office to sell number plates that have been placed on an "alert stolen list" on the French side?
2. Is there monthly feedback between both entities on updating each other on cases related to number plates?
3. Once the information is given is it then related to the relevant departments for example the Receivers Office.
4. The Receivers Office sells number plates that are available, what mechanism are in place to ensure that the client does not purchase a number that is on an "alert stolen list".
5. When will there be a synchronization between the Receivers Office, the Police Department and the Vehicle Inspection company?
6. There are persons purchasing vehicles only to later find out that the vehicle are stolen. These persons have paid for their vehicles, insured them and are vulnerable to losing their investment once it has been established that the vehicle is stolen. What is being done to remedy this situation? Will there be measures put in place to alleviate this

problem, through means of automating the processes and to include insurance companies, vehicle inspection, Receivers Office and the Police Department.

Looking forward in receiving a response to the posed questions.

I remain yours truly,

MP Leona Marlin-Romeo