

**National Network for the Defense of Human Rights (RNDDH)**  
**National Episcopal Commission for Justice and Peace (CE-JILAP)**  
**Centre for Analysis and Research on Human Rights (CARDH)**  
**Platform of Haitian Human Rights Organizations (POHDH)**

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Contact:

Me Marie Rosy Kesner Auguste DUCENA  
Programme Manager at RNDDH.  
+(509)3782-2897

Me Maxime RONY General  
Coordinator POHDH  
+(509)3604-5965

**Attacks on the Cabinet of Samuel MADISTIN: Human rights organizations call for investigation**

The National Network for the Defense of Human Rights (RNDDH), the National Episcopal Commission for Justice and Peace (CE- JILAP), the Centre for Analysis and Research in Human Rights (CARDH) and the Platform of Haitian Human Rights Organizations (POHDH) learned with astonishment that, in the afternoon of February 19, 2020, the Cabinet of Me Samuel MADISTIN, President of the Je Klere Foundation (FJKL), an organization for the promotion and defense of human rights, was vandalized and several vehicles parked in the Cabinet parking lot as well as a generator, were torched.

These events, which took place in the wake of a rebellious movement initiated by police officers demanding the enjoyment of their freedom of association, and perpetrated with the obvious intention of harming Me Samuel MADISTIN because of his position vis-à-vis With regard to the creation of a union within the National Police of Haiti (PNH), denote the enormous level of intolerance within Haitian society.

Based on the findings of one of the signatory organizations to this note:

- The cabinet enclosure has been overturned,
- Fire was rigged at the front door of the waiting room,
- Fuel was found on chairs placed on the cabinet gallery,
- Broken bottles, broken glass, stones, and bullet holes were noted,
- Five (5) car and one (1) burned motorcycle carcasses were noted in the Cabinet parking lot.

The signatory organizations of this note consider that the attacks perpetrated against the cabinet of Me Samuel MADISTIN are unacceptable in a democratic society and remind that the freedoms of expression and conscience are guaranteed by the Constitution currently in force as well as by the various conventions ratified by Haiti.

Police officers cannot, on the one hand, rely on the prescribed provisions of the Constitution and regional and international instruments to demand respect for their right to organize and the enjoyment of their freedom of association for, on the other hand, violating the rights of other members of society on the grounds that they do not share their views.

The National Network for the Defense of Human Rights (RNDDH), the National Episcopal Commission for Justice and Peace (CE-JILAP), the Centre for Analysis and Research in Human Rights (CARDH) and the Platform of Haitian Human Rights Organizations (POHDH) Condemn with the utmost rigor the aforementioned attacks and invite the General Inspection of the PNH to conduct an investigation in order to identify the culprits and transfer them to the judicial authorities, in order to be judged in accordance with the Law.

Port-au-Prince, February 20, 2020