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Date: August 28, 2014

### **PRESS RELEASE**

The Jamaica Veterinary Medical Association notes with great sadness the passing of the Hon. Roger Clarke, Minister of Agriculture & Fisheries.

The regulation of the veterinary profession and Jamaica's animal health fell under the portfolio of Minister Clarke and, hence, over the many years of his tireless service to Jamaica, our members from both the public and private sectors interacted and worked with him on a regular basis in many ways. The interaction was always professional and cordial, yet infused with his inimitable sense of humour which endeared him to all.

In fact, on May 18 of this year, he was present at a forum on Continuing Veterinary Medical Education held by the Jamaica Veterinary Board and attended by many members of the veterinary community. He stayed throughout the proceedings and presented new registration and licensing certificates to the veterinarians in attendance. In his address to the gathering he told us how much he appreciated the many roles played by veterinarians in Jamaica and that he was here for us as we charted the way forward for animal health and our profession.

We are grateful to have had that time with him before his untimely passing. Another giant of Jamaica is gone too soon.

We offer sincerest condolences to his family, friends, colleagues and the Government and people of Jamaica.

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