



His Excellency Anthony Thomas Aquinas Carmona S.C.
Degree of Doctor of Laws (LLD)

Chancellor, the now immortal words, "Powers you think I have, I do not. Powers you think I do not have, I do" spoken on March 18, 2013 after taking the oath as President of the Republic of Trinidad and Tobago seized the attention, electrified the imagination of the national community and became etched into our history books. Was this a rebuke to a nation adrift or was this a direct appeal to us citizens to think about our constitutional rights and responsibilities? He made the point that our humanity confers on us certain rights and freedoms but, at the same time, imposes on us all, corresponding responsibilities.

His Excellency, President Anthony Thomas Aquinas Carmona is currently the 5th president of the Republic of Trinidad & Tobago. He is the eldest of 6 children born in the coastal village of Los Charros, Palo Seco. After attending the Santa Flora Government Primary School followed by Presentation College, San Fernando, His Excellency earned a Bachelor of Arts Degree in English and Political Science from the Mona Campus of The University of the West Indies in 1977 and a Bachelor of Laws from the Cave Hill Campus in Barbados in 1981. He ultimately completed his formal training in Law in 1983 at the Hugh Wooding Law School.

His Excellency's legal career as a prosecutor at both national and international levels spans some 21 years. He served at the Office of the Director of Public Prosecutions from 1983-2000 during which time he functioned as Assistant Director of Public Prosecutions and as Deputy Director of Public Prosecutions. His Excellency did not simply blaze his own trail, however. Making history by being the first to successfully conduct appeals on behalf of the State, he would go on to provide a blueprint for state attorneys by also being instrumental in the preparation of a code of conduct for State prosecutions.

From 2001 to 2004, he held the post of Appeals Counsel in the Office of the Prosecutor at the International Criminal Tribunal for the former Yugoslavia (ICTY), a United Nations court of law dealing with war crimes that took place during the conflicts in the Balkans in the 1990's. The Tribunal is credited with irreversibly changing the landscape of international humanitarian law. His Excellency also went on to serve as Appeals Counsel for the

International Criminal Tribunal for Rwanda (ICTR). As Appeals Counsel, he distinguished himself by the successful prosecution and preparation of appeals on behalf of the Office of the Prosecutor against high ranking war criminals.

In 2002, His Excellency was conferred with the status of Senior Counsel and two years later was appointed a High Court Judge in the Supreme Court of Trinidad & Tobago.

His Excellency was also the Legal Advisor in criminal law to the then President Arthur N.R. Robinson on issues relating to the International Criminal Court (ICC) and participated in meetings of the Preparatory Committee on the establishment of the ICC. In 2011, he was elected a Judge of the ICC and was formally sworn in on March 9, 2012.

In addition to his outstanding contribution to the legal profession, His Excellency has a wealth of experience as an educator, both in Trinidad and Tobago and in Jamaica. He was a teacher at the primary and secondary school levels between 1972 and 1975, first at St. Hugh's High School and Merle Grove High School, Kingston, Jamaica; then in Trinidad and Tobago, at the Palo Seco Government and the Fyzabad Anglican Secondary Schools. At the tertiary level, he taught Business Law at the San Fernando Technical Institute (1983-1985), and also lectured in the Department of Language and Linguistics and was a Tutor in the Department of Government at The University of the West Indies, St. Augustine.

His Excellency is also passionate about the cultural traditions of the communities from which he emerged. He has embraced the village parang with its Spanish roots as well as the national instrument –the steel pan and in a former incarnation was also a calypso performer.

Chancellor, for long, distinguished and meritorious service to the national, regional and wider International community, I present His Excellency, President Anthony Thomas Aquinas Carmona and ask that by the authority vested in you by the Senate and Council of The University of the West Indies, you confer on him the degree of Doctor of Laws, honoris causa

St. Augustine Campus

October 22, 2014