



Georgetown Chamber of Commerce & Industry

"Serving Guyana through Commerce and Industry since 1889"

President: Mrs. Kathy S. Smith

July 20, 2026

PRESS RELEASE *by*
The Georgetown Chamber of Commerce & Industry *on*
the MV Barima Maritime Tragedy

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The Georgetown Chamber of Commerce and Industry (GCCCI) extends its deepest condolences to the families and loved ones of those who lost their lives in the MV Barima maritime tragedy. Our thoughts are also with those who survived this tragic incident and now face the difficult journey of recovery, as well as the families awaiting news of their loved ones.

We express our sincere appreciation to the Guyana Defence Force, the Maritime Administration Department, emergency response agencies, members of the private sector, volunteers, and every individual contributing to the ongoing search and rescue efforts. Their swift response reflects the resilience, compassion, and unity of our nation during this difficult time.

Reliable transportation is essential to the movement of people and goods, national connectivity, and economic progress. Economic progress and public safety must advance hand in hand. Public safety remains fundamental to protecting lives, supporting commerce, and sustaining investor confidence.

The Chamber supports a thorough, transparent, and evidence-based investigation into the circumstances surrounding this tragedy. The findings will play an important role in informing any measures considered necessary to strengthen safety standards, enhance regulatory oversight, and support continuous improvement across the transport sector.

The GCCCI stands in solidarity with the victims, survivors, their families, and all those impacted by this tragedy. As a nation, we honour those affected by renewing our collective commitment to safeguarding lives and fostering a culture where public safety remains a shared national priority.

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