CENTER FOR RESEARCH AND ADVOCACY FOUNDATION
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PRESS STATEMENT

CRAF CALLS FOR SPEEDY, TRANSPARENT, AND CREDIBLE ACTION ON THE US$19.2 MILLION COCAINE CASE

Monrovia, Liberia, July 3, 2026

The Center for Research and Advocacy Foundation (CRAF) expresses grave concern over the ongoing investigation into the cocaine shipment reportedly valued at approximately US$19.2 million and intercepted at Roberts International Airport on June 8, 2026. The magnitude of this case raises serious questions about national security, airport controls, institutional accountability, public safety, and Liberia's international reputation.

CRAF calls on the Government of Liberia and the Joint National Security Investigative Task Force to conclude the investigation without unnecessary delay and to ensure that every individual, institution, or network connected to the shipment is investigated impartially, regardless of status, wealth, or influence.

CRAF Recommendations to the Relevant Authorities:

- Preserve all evidence, cargo records, surveillance footage, financial records, and communications connected to the case.
- Provide timely and factual public updates, without compromising legitimate investigative procedures.
- Bring appropriate charges where sufficient evidence exists and ensure that all accused persons receive due process.
- Protect investigators, witnesses, whistleblowers, and journalists acting lawfully in the public interest.
- Strengthen cargo screening, staff vetting, anti-corruption controls, and accountability at airports and other ports of entry.

CRAF recognizes the constitutional right of citizens and civil society organizations to engage in peaceful advocacy and assembly. Any public action concerning this case should remain lawful, nonviolent, evidence-based, and respectful of the rights and safety of others.

CRAF also cautions against unverified accusations and trial by public opinion. Accountability and due process must advance together. No person should be protected from lawful investigation, and no person should be declared guilty before the evidence is tested through the courts.

This case is a major test of Liberia's commitment to justice, institutional integrity, and the fight against transnational organized crime. The Liberian people deserve the truth, timely accountability, and appropriate reforms that prevent the country from becoming a safe haven or transit point for domestic and international drug traffickers.

Signed:
Prince O. Gboneh
Executive Director
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