

REJOINDER

SOCIAL SECURITY & NATIONAL INSURANCE TRUST - SSNIT

"PENSIONER DIES AFTER DEMANDING FOR HIS MONEY"

The Social Security and National Insurance Trust (SSNIT) has noted the story captioned "PENSIONER DIES AFTER DEMANDING FOR HIS MONEY" which appeared in the Tuesday, August 18, 2015 edition of the "Ghanaian Times" and respond as follows:

 In applying for his benefit in February of 2008, Mr. Paul Kenneth Kwame Benyih claimed that he worked as follows:

Establishment	Period
Internal Revenue Service	November, 1969 to December, 1971
Cocobod	January, 1982 to December, 1989
Ghana Timbers Ltd	May, 1993 to December, 1993

- His records at SSNIT confirmed the claim except that with respect to his work at Cocobod, contributions were made on his behalf from January, 1982 to December, 1986, a total of 60 months.
- His total contributions to the Scheme as at February, 2008 was therefore calculated.
- Mr. Benyih refused to collect this benefit, claiming that he worked at Cocobod up to December, 1989.
- In April, 2013, he **petitioned** for a re-computation of his benefit. His petition was upheld by SSNIT and his statement of account was subsequently amended. His total number of months of contributions came up to 103 months which did not qualify him for a monthly pension.

He was therefore, in accordance with the Law entitled to a return of his contributions with interest, hence the lump sum payment.

- The details of his benefit was thus re-computed in May, 2013.
- Mr. Benyih refused to collect his benefit from SSNIT claiming the amount did not meet his expectations in the light of his 103 months of contributions.
- No cheque was therefore issued to him and no cheque has gone missing in the Koforidua Branch of SSNIT, since cheques are written only when the claimant shows up.
- The family is advised to contact the Branch Manager at Koforidua immediately for the payment of the relevant benefits as prescribed and calculated in accordance with the Law applicable to his case.
- 10. We also wish to reiterate that, Pension Administration is complex and to a fairly large extent depends on Data and shared responsibility on the part of all stakeholders.

The Social Security and National Insurance Trust (SSNIT) wishes to assure all its stakeholders of excellent customer service at all times and will continue to reach out to all members and pensioners who cannot reach us due to incapacitation.

Our Contact Centre can always be reached on;

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