



*Right to Know...Power to Change!*

# ACCESS TIP

November 2016

- Under the Access to Information Act, a person commits an offence if he alters or defaces, blocks or erases, destroys or conceals an official document, to which a right of access has been conferred under the Act, with the intention of preventing its disclosure.



- A fine of a maximum of five hundred thousand dollars (\$500,000) or six (6) months imprisonment or both could be applicable in those circumstances.
- If an exempted document is unlawfully disclosed, penalties under the Official Secrets Act will apply. [http://www.mwh.gov.jm/Library/Public/HR/Official\\_Secrets\\_Act.pdf](http://www.mwh.gov.jm/Library/Public/HR/Official_Secrets_Act.pdf)

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