

Lawyer Devindra Kissoon admitted

- Brings family tree at the bar to 16
- Acting President Sam Hinds and Mayor Green among spectators

By George Barclay

ACTING Chief Justice, Ian Chang, Friday admitted to practice at the Bar of Guyana, lawyer Devindra Kissoon, whose admission brought the Kissoons' family tree of lawyers to 16.

Acting President Sam Hinds, Mayor Hamilton Green, Law Professor Aubrey Bishop and Labour Minister Mansoor Nadir were among the spectators in the CJ's Court room who learnt that:

"Devindra Kissoon is the only Attorney in the United States working for AM Law 100 firms who can in the three jurisdictions— namely the United States, UK and Caribbean - without the need for local counsel."

The petition to practice was presented by Senior Counsel Edward Luckhoo, Mr. Rex Mc Kay, S.C., and uncle of the new entrant, Mr. Jailall Kissoon.

Lawyers in civil and criminal jurisdictions, both from the State as well as those in private practice, were on hand to see for the first time a filmed cer-

emony of the proceedings.

Chief Justice Chang congratulated the new lawyer and told him that despite his qualifications, he must always consider himself a student, and pointed that one can become more learned by being a student.

Presenting the petition for admission to the Bar, Mr. Luckhoo told the Court that the new entrant born to parents Ramesh Kissoon (late former Deputy Mayor) and Vijay Kissoon, attended the Watooka Day School and placed in the top ten in Common Entrance Examinations. He Attended Queen's College where he did 11 subjects, was one of two students to achieve 10 grades ones at CXC, the most ones ever at one sitting for the first time in the history of Guyana, and was the first student in Guyana to ever top the Caribbean in Science at CXC.

He pursued 'A' levels in Science subjects at Queen's College

before moving on to University College London, to read law. He comes from a family of lawyers, with over 16 lawyers in the extended family.

After completing UCL degree, he took the Bar at the Inns Of Court School of Law where he was a Leonard Worsley Scholar of the Inner Temple. He worked at 6 King's Bench Walk, the leading criminal law Chambers in Europe, for six months, before turning to civil law. He joined the leading Commercial litigation Chambers in Europe - Essex Court Chambers (which has over 32 Queen's counsel as members) and worked there for two years.

He studied corporate law and international commercial arbitration at Cornell Law School, an Ivy League School, and then joined the political heavyweight firm of Fischbein Badillo Wagner Harding in 2002, working alongside the former Mayor and Deputy Mayor of

New York. His work included cases for Donald Trump, Eminem, the Estate of Tupac Shakur, and against Phillip Morris.

He then joined Cozen O'Connor Attorneys which merged with Fischbein in 2005 and has been practicing there since.

Lawyer Devindra Kissoon is currently representing one of Trinidad's largest oil services and support companies, Capital Signal, in a multi-million dollar law suit in Texas, and represents India's second largest private bank, ICICI Bank, which has over 100 Billion USD in assets. He has most recently completed the Commonwealth Caribbean's Council of Legal Education Bar Programme, in Trinidad and Tobago at the Hugh Wooding Law School, and will be admitted to practice in Guyana, Trinidad and Barbados.



LEFT to right are Mayor Hamilton Green, Mr. Jailall Kissoon, new entrant Devindra Kissoon, Mr. Edward Luckhoo, S.C., and Acting President Samuel Hinds.