UNION NEWS / PENGASSAN VEHICLE DISPOSALS

MEMBERS PAID FOR THE VEHICLES. WHO GOT THE KEYS?



Your dues bought the SUV. An outgoing officer was offered the keys. Who signed off? What was the price? Where is the receipt?

Dr Ifeanyi Eze, PENGASSAN's former National Industrial Relations Officer (NIRO), says he was offered a choice at the end of his tenure. Return the SUV or keep it by paying its assessed depreciated value. He says he chose to keep it and began making payments. He disputes the figures put to him, cites an established vehicle policy and directs members to the PENGASSAN Secretariat.

If there was a policy, show PENGASSAN members

Save the Union's position is that PENGASSAN had no formally approved policy governing these sales. If the Secretariat says otherwise, it should share the policy with PENGASSAN members and show who adopted it and when. If there was no policy, what written authority was used to approve each sale?

Members have raised concerns about similar arrangements involving several outgoing officers. How many got the option to buy? Did anyone who stood to benefit help pick the valuer, set the price or approve a deal? Using union office to secure a private benefit would be an abuse of the authority members entrusted to those officers.

Show members the money

An SUV can be worth far more on the open market than its depreciated value in the union's books. If a vehicle was still fit for use, why sell it and have members pay for a replacement?

For every vehicle sold to an outgoing officer, the Secretariat should disclose to PENGASSAN members:

- **The deal** – What did the union originally pay, who bought the vehicle, and who authorised the sale? If National Executive Council approval was required, where are the minutes?
- **The price** – Who valued the vehicle, what was it worth on the market, and what price did the union accept?
- **The payments** – How much reached the union's accounts, what is still owed, and when did ownership transfer?
- **The replacement** – Did PENGASSAN buy another vehicle for the same office? Why, and at what cost?

The figures disputed in Dr Eze's exchange remain unverified. The Secretariat can settle them by making the invoices, valuations, approvals and payment records available to members. If those records show that officers used their positions to secure favourable terms or that the union took an avoidable loss, PENGASSAN members should demand an independent review and press for recovery of any losses.

PENGASSAN members paid for the vehicles. They deserve to see who got them, who signed off and how much came back.

OUR DUES. OUR SAY. OUR VOTE!