

## Dual Citizenship Battle Begins

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The legal battle between the Peoples National Party's (PNP's) Abe Dabdoub and the Jamaica Labour Party's (JLP's) Daryl Vaz on the dual citizenship issue began Tuesday in the Supreme Court.

Lawyers for both sides battled over objections raised by Mr. Vaz's attorneys in the day's proceedings.

Mr. Vaz's lawyers first raised

objection to sections of the affidavit submitted by Mr. Dabdoub.

They asked the court to reject aspects of the affidavit on the grounds that some of the information was hearsay and breached the rules of evidence and that Mr. Dabdoub was unable to prove some of the claims contained in his affidavit.

Mr. Vaz's attorneys also objected to an affidavit submitted by United States (US) Professor David Rowe who was called as an expert witness.

But after hearing the objections, Chief Justice Zalia McCalla accepted the affidavit of Professor Rowe.

The Chief Justice is to rule Wednesday on the objections raised about the affidavit testimony of Mr. Dabdoub.

Mr. Dabdoub is asking the High Court to remove Mr. Vaz as Member of Parliament (MP) for West Portland.

He filed an election petition in October challenging Mr. Vaz's victory in the September 3 general election.

In the petition, Mr. Dabdoub claims Mr. Vaz is a US citizen and should therefore be disqualified as MP.

The dual citizenship issue became a hot topic following the September 3 polls.

Several defeated candidates for the Opposition PNP filed petitions, challenging the right of several JLP MPs to sit in Parliament.

They claim that MPs such as Shahine Robinson, Gregory Mair, Michael Stern and Daryl Vaz, all hold dual citizenship and are in clear breach of the constitution.