

**CAYMAN ISLANDS**



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**IMMIGRATION LAW**

**(2015 Revision)**

Law 34 of 2003 consolidated with Laws 13 of 2005, 3 of 2006, 35 of 2006, 3 of 2007, 17 of 2008, 15 of 2010, 31 of 2010, 12 of 2011, 24 of 2011, 27 of 2011, 2 of 2012, 12 of 2013, 23 of 2013 and 6 of 2015.

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*Immigration Law (2015 Revision)*

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Consolidated and revised this 2nd day of July, 2015.

*Note (not forming part of the Law): This revision replaces the 2014 Revision which should now be discarded.*

**IMMIGRATION LAW**

**(2015 Revision)**

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**IMMIGRATION LAW**

**(2015 Revision)**

**PART 1 - Preliminary**

1. This Law may be cited as the Immigration Law (2015 Revision). Short title
2. In this Law- Definitions
  - “adopted” means adopted in such manner as is recognised by the law of the domicile of the person adopted at the time of the adoption;
  - “Appellate Tribunal” means the Work Permit Board or the Immigration Appeals Tribunal, as the case may be, acting in an appellate capacity;
  - “appointed date” means the date of commencement of the Immigration (Amendment) (No. 2) Law, 2013; Law 23 of 2013
  - “appropriate authority” means a body or other entity charged with the responsibility for regulating the particular profession;
  - “arms” means firearms as defined in the Firearms Law (2008 Revision), and includes batons and handcuffs; 2008 Revision
  - “Board” means one of the three Boards established under section 4 and includes, for the purposes of sections 44(4)(b), 49, 52 and 56, the Cayman Brac and Little Cayman Immigration Board;
  - “Business Staffing Plan” means the Plan referred to in section 45;
  - “Business Staffing Plan Board” means the Business Staffing Plan Board established under section 4(4);
  - “Business Staffing Plan Certificate” means the certificate that is issued by the Business Staffing Plan Board to the holder of an approved Business Staffing Plan;
  - “business visitor” means a person who has been issued with a business visitor’s permit granted under section 54;
  - “by entitlement” in relation to the right to be Caymanian under section 20(1)(d) means entitlement by a person by virtue only of his being, in the determination of the Chief Immigration Officer;
    - (a) the child of a Caymanian;
    - (b) under the age of eighteen years; and
    - (c) legally and ordinarily resident in the Islands for a period of not less than one year

“career development bureau” means a bureau established by a special economic zone developer and approved by the Special Economic Zone Authority to review and aid the training, employment and advancement of Caymanians in a special economic zone;

“Cayman Brac and Little Cayman Immigration Board” means the Immigration Board appointed under section 5;

2003 Revision

“Caymanian” means a person who possesses Caymanian status under the repealed Immigration Law (2003 Revision) or any earlier law providing for the same or similar rights, and includes a person who acquired that status under Part III;

“Caymanian Status and Permanent Residency Board” means the Caymanian Status and Permanent Residency Board established under section 4(3);

“Chairman” means the Chairman of the pertinent Board;

“child” means the biological or adopted child, whether or not born in wedlock;

“convicted and deportable”, in relation to a person, means a person in respect of whom any court-

- (a) certifies to the Governor that he has been convicted by that court, or by an inferior court from which his case has been brought by way of appeal, of any offence punishable with imprisonment otherwise than only in default of payment of a fine; and
- (b) recommends that a deportation order should be made in his case, either in addition to or in lieu of sentence;

“court” means a court in any jurisdiction but where a foreign court hands down a conviction, the offence in relation to that conviction shall be one which is recognised as such in the Islands;

“crew” means persons employed in the working or service of a vessel;

“cut-off date” means a date falling two years after the appointed date;

“dependant”, in relation to a person, other than a person referred to in section 67 means the spouse of that person, or one of the following relations of that person, namely a child, step-child, adopted child, grandchild, parent, step-parent, grandparent, brother, sister, half-brother, half-sister, being, in each case, wholly or substantially dependent upon that person;

“deportation order” means an order made or in force under Part VIII requiring the person in respect of whom it is made to leave and remain out of the Islands;

“destitute person” means a person who is, or is likely to be, a charge on public funds by reason of mental or bodily ill-health or insufficiency of means to support himself and his dependants, if any;

“Director of Boards and Work Permits” means the Director of Boards and Work Permits holding office under section 7(1);

“disembark” includes alight from;

“elderly person” means a person over the age of sixty-five years;

“electoral district” bears the meaning ascribed to that expression in section 2 of the Elections Law (2013 Revision);

“employee” means a person who engages in gainful occupation in the service of himself or an employer;

“employer” means a person who for reward engages the services of another and includes a prospective employer;

“employment generating business” means business in which at least thirty per cent of the total number of employees are Caymanians unless overriding circumstances dictate a lower percentage;

“final work permit”, other than in section 52(10), means a work permit which at the time of its grant or renewal is stated to be the final work permit for a worker in accordance with his term limit or, where not so expressly stated, is the last work permit that can be granted or renewed in respect of a worker as a consequence thereof;

“fixed term work permit” means the special work permit that the Chief Immigration Officer may grant under section 52;

“full-time”, in relation to a student, means attendance at a single educational institution for a minimum of ten hours per week of organised daytime study;

“gainful occupation” means the carrying on of or employment in any profession, trade, business or other vocation in or in relation to the Islands and, for the purposes of Part V, a person so engaged is deemed to be working for gain or reward unless the contrary is proved;

“Health Officer” means a registered medical practitioner appointed by the Cabinet to be a Health Officer for the purposes of this Law;

“health practitioner” bears the meaning ascribed to that expression in the Health Practice Law (2013 Revision);

“immigration advice” means advice which-

- (a) relates to a particular individual;
- (b) is given in connection with one or more relevant matters;
- (c) is given by a person who knows that he is giving it in relation to a particular individual and in connection with one or more relevant matters; and
- (d) is not given in connection with representing an individual before a court in legal proceedings or matters ancillary to such proceedings;

“Immigration Appeals Tribunal” means the Immigration Appeals Tribunal established under section 11;

“immigration function” means a function of an immigration officer under this Law;

“immigration officer” means the Chief Immigration Officer or any other immigration officer holding office under section 3(1);

“immigration services” means the making of representations on behalf of a particular individual-

- (a) in civil proceedings before a court, tribunal or adjudicator in the Islands; or
- (b) in correspondence with a Government department in connection with one or more relevant matters;

“immigration stamp” means a device which is designed for the purpose of stamping documents in the exercise of an immigration function;

“keeper”, where used in relation to premises where accommodation is provided for reward, includes a person who, for reward, is licensed under the Tourism Law (1995 Revision) to provide accommodation to another to lodge in the premises whether on his own behalf or as a manager or otherwise on behalf of any other person;

1995 Revision

“key employee” means a person who has been identified by his employer and designated by the Work Permit Board or the Business Staffing Plan Board as such for having satisfied any criterion contained in section 49(4);

“land” means to go to, to be, to remain or to reside in any place in the Islands other than-

- (a) on board a vessel; or
- (b) in a place under the control of an immigration officer in his official capacity;

“legal and ordinary residence” means a person’s uninterrupted voluntary physical presence in the Islands for a period of time without legal impediment (other than a tourist visitor or transit passenger) during which period the Islands are regarded as his normal place of abode for the time being, save that-

- (a) absences abroad of six consecutive months’ duration or less for, *inter alia*, purposes of education, health, vacation or business during such period shall count as residence in the Islands;
- (b) absences abroad of more than six consecutive months but less than one year shall raise the presumption that there has been a break in residence; and
- (c) absences abroad for twelve consecutive months or more shall constitute a break in residence;

“levy” means the annual work permit fee applicable to a worker-

- (a) at the date when he first engaged in gainful occupation without a valid work permit; or
- (b) at the date of the first failure to comply with the conditions and limitations of his work permit,

as the case may be; and a certificate issued by the Chief Immigration Officer shall be *prima facie* evidence of such fee;

“local agent”, in relation to a vessel, means-

- (a) the owner of the vessel, if the owner is in the Islands;
- (b) any corporate body owning or operating, whether under charter or otherwise, the vessel for the time being, where such corporate body maintains an office in the Islands; or
- (c) the agent in the Islands for the person or corporate body for the time being owning or operating the vessel;

“marriage of convenience” means a marriage entered into with the primary intention of avoiding, or benefiting from, any of the provisions of this Law;

“Marriage Officer” means a Marriage Officer under the Marriage Law (2010 Revision);

“master of a vessel” includes the pilot of an aircraft or hovercraft;

“offence” for the purposes of a grant of a work permit, the revocation of a work permit or the refusal to renew a work permit by the Board under Parts III, (other than sections 22 and 28), IV or V means a contravention against this or any other Law of the Islands in respect of which-

- (a) a term of imprisonment in excess of six months could be imposed otherwise than in default of payment of a fine; or
- (b) lesser terms of imprisonment totalling in excess of six months in the aggregate as a result of multiple convictions could be imposed, and
- (c) no appeal is pending and the time for lodging an appeal has expired;

“passenger” means a person, other than a member of the crew, travelling on board a vessel;

“passport” means a current valid passport furnished with a photograph and duly issued in favour of the person named therein;

“permanent resident” means a person who has been granted permission-

- (a) under Part IV; or
- (b) by virtue of any earlier law,

to remain permanently in the Islands and whose permission to so remain is still current and has not been revoked or lost in any way;

“person with a disability” means a person who suffers from a permanent physical or mental disability which has been documented by a doctor and who as a result of this disability is dependent on the care of a specialist caregiver;

“points system” means the guidelines set out in Schedule 2 to the Regulations whereby the Caymanian Status and Permanent Residency Board or the Chief Immigration Officer shall evaluate the merits of an application for permanent residence by awarding to, or discounting from the applicant, credits based on his personal and occupational attributes as well as his potential value to the community;

“prescribed” in relation to any matter, means prescribed by this Law or by regulations made under this Law;

“professional employee” means a person qualified as a lawyer, accountant, medical professional, architect, surveyor, teacher, minister of religion or qualified in any other occupation that may be prescribed;

“prohibited immigrant”, has the meaning ascribed to it in section 82;

“recreational sports fishing vessel” means a sports fishing boat based in the Cayman Islands and registered in accordance with prescribed procedure;

“refugee” bears the meaning ascribed to that expression in the Refugee Convention;

“Refugee Convention” means the Convention relating to the Status of Refugees done at Geneva on the 28th July, 1951 and the Protocol to the Convention;

“regulation” means any rule, order, proclamation, direction, notification or other subsidiary legislation made under this Law;

“relevant matters” means any of the following-

- (a) a claim for asylum;
- (b) an application for a work permit, visa or an extension of permission to enter or remain in the Islands;
- (c) unlawful entry into the Islands;
- (d) an application for the right to be Caymanian;
- (e) an application to reside permanently in the Islands;
- (f) an application for a Residency and Employment Rights Certificate;
- (g) an application for a Residency Certificate for Persons of Independent Means;
- (h) removal or deportation from the Islands;
- (i) an application for bail for an immigration offence; or

- (j) an appeal against, or an application for judicial review in relation to any decision taken in connection with a matter referred to in paragraphs (a) to (i);

“replica immigration stamp” means a device which is designed for the purpose of stamping a document so that it appears to have been stamped in the exercise of an immigration function;

“restricted area of employment” means any profession, trade, business, occupation, vocation or type of employment, designated by the Cabinet under section 46A;

“seasonal worker” means a person who has been or may be granted a temporary work permit by the Chief Immigration Officer under section 53 for employment in the tourism, hospitality or water sports industry during the peak tourism season for a continuous period not exceeding eight months in any period of twelve months;

“Secretary” means the Secretary of the pertinent Board;

“settled”, in relation to a person residing in the Islands, means a person who-

- (a) is legally and ordinarily resident in the Islands;
- (b) is not subject to any immigration restriction or control on the duration of his stay in the Islands; and
- (c) has not voluntarily emigrated with the intention of making his home elsewhere;

“sick person” means a person who suffers from an illness which has been certified by a doctor as not being short-term in nature and as a result of which the person is dependent on the care of a specialist caregiver;

“special circumstances”, in relation to a change of employer or occupation, includes a situation where-

- (a) the position has become redundant;
- (b) the worker is being victimised by the employer or by other employees of that employer;
- (c) the employer has changed due to corporate action such as merger or amalgamation; or
- (d) the worker has been given written consent by his present employer;

“special economic zone” has the meaning assigned to that expression under section 2 of the Special Economic Zone Law, 2011;

Law 22 of 2011

“Special Economic Zone Authority” means the authority established as such under section 3 of the Special Economic Zone Law, 2011;

“special economic zone developer” means a person declared to be a developer pursuant to section 12 of the Special Economic Zone Law, 2011;

“special economic zone enterprise” has the meaning assigned to that expression under section 2 of the Special Economic Zone Law, 2011;

“specialist caregiver” means a person who, in the capacity of domestic helper, nurse, nanny or in some other care-giving capacity, cares for an elderly person, a person with a disability or a sick person;

“sponsor”, in relation to a tourist visitor, means a person who accepts responsibility for the tourist visitor’s care, upkeep and departure from the islands;

“step-child” means a child of one of the parties to a marriage;

“stop list” has the meaning ascribed to it in section 81;

“student” means a non-Caymanian who is neither the spouse of a Caymanian, a permanent resident of the Islands nor the holder of a Residency and Employment Rights Certificate and who-

- (a) is eighteen years of age or older;
- (b) is seeking to enter the Cayman Islands for the purpose of attending a recognised educational institution on a full-time basis;
- (c) intends to leave the Islands at the end of his studies; and
- (d) is not named as a dependant for the purposes of this Law;

“substantial management control” means control exercisable by the applicant by virtue of his being a director on the Board of Directors of each business entity in which he has invested or will be investing;

“term limit” means the maximum period of time in respect of which work permits may be granted or renewed for a worker as prescribed in section 52(1);

“Term Limit Exemption Permit” means a Permit granted under section 52A;

“tourist visitor” means a person arriving in the Islands for a visit of not more than six months’ duration otherwise than for a professional, financial trade or business purpose or for the purpose of seeking or engaging in employment;

“transit passenger” means a passenger who has arrived in the Islands for a period of not more than twenty-four hours, is in possession of the required travel documents and is on his way to a destination other than the country from which he arrived;

“undesirable person” means a person who in the opinion of the Governor is, or has been, so conducting himself, whether within or outside the Islands, that his presence in the Islands is or is likely to be prejudicial to the maintenance of peace, order and good government or public morals in the Islands;

“vessel” includes aircraft or hovercraft;

“worker” means a person in respect of whom a work permit or a Term Limit Exemption Permit has been or may be granted or renewed, respectively, under Part V;



“work permit” means a work permit granted under section 48, and, subject to section 56, includes a temporary work permit or a temporary work permit for seasonal workers granted under section 53; and

“Work Permit Board” means the Work Permit Board established under section 4(2).

**PART II - Administration**

3. (1) There shall be a Chief Immigration Officer and such other immigration officers as are necessary for the purposes of carrying out this Law, who shall be public officers.

Appointment of immigration officers

(2) Subject to subsection (3), immigration officers shall have all the rights, powers, privileges and immunities of a constable when discharging their duties under this Law and may, for that purpose, board and search any vessel.

(3) Specifically, the following senior immigration officers shall enjoy the same rights, powers, privileges and immunities when discharging their duties under this Law as their counterparts in Her Majesty’s Police Force as shown in the Table-

Immigration Officer	Police Officer
Assistant Chief Immigration Officer	Inspector
Deputy Chief Immigration Officer	Chief Superintendent

4. (1) There are established three Immigration Boards-

Immigration Boards

- (a) the Work Permit Board;
- (b) the Caymanian Status and Permanent Residency Board; and
- (c) the Business Staffing Plan Board.

(2) The Work Permit Board shall consist of the following persons appointed by and holding office at the pleasure of the Cabinet save for those persons referred to in paragraphs (e) to (i) who shall be public officers and shall hold office by virtue of their public service appointment-

- (a) a Chairman;
- (b) a deputy Chairman;
- (c) for each electoral district, one member selected from among persons legally and ordinarily resident in that district;
- (d) not more than three other persons legally and ordinarily resident in the Islands;
- (e) the Chief Immigration Officer or his designate;
- (f) the Director of Boards and Work Permits or his designate;
- (g) the Director of Employment Relations or his deputy or other designate;

- (h) a Secretary; and
- (i) an assistant Secretary.

(3) The Caymanian Status and Permanent Residency Board shall consist of the following persons appointed by and holding office at the pleasure of the Cabinet save for those persons referred to in paragraphs (e) to (h) who shall be public officers and shall hold office by virtue of their public service appointment-

- (a) a Chairman;
- (b) a deputy Chairman;
- (c) for each electoral district, one member selected from among persons legally and ordinarily resident in the district;
- (d) not more than three other persons legally and ordinarily resident in the Islands;
- (e) the Chief Immigration Officer or his designate;
- (f) the Director of Boards and Work Permits or his designate;
- (g) a Secretary; and
- (h) an assistant Secretary.

(4) The Business Staffing Plan Board shall consist of the following persons appointed by and holding office at the pleasure of the Cabinet save for those persons referred to in paragraphs (e) to (j) who shall be public officers and shall hold office by virtue of their public service appointment-

- (a) a Chairman;
- (b) a deputy Chairman;
- (c) six representatives from the business community appointed so as to ensure a broad representation of the various industries in the Islands;
- (d) not more than three other persons legally and ordinarily resident in the Islands;
- (e) the Director of Employment Relations or his deputy or other designate;
- (f) the Chief Education Officer or his designate;
- (g) the Chief Immigration Officer or his designate;
- (h) the Director of Boards and Work Permits or his designate;
- (i) a Secretary; and
- (j) an assistant Secretary.

(5) Subject to this Law, the members of the Boards referred to in subsection (2)(e) to (i), subsection (3)(e) to (h) and subsection (4)(e) to (j) shall have such powers, privileges and responsibilities as the other members of the Board but shall not have the right to vote at Board meetings.

Cayman Brac and Little  
Cayman Immigration  
Board

5. (1) There is established a Board called the Cayman Brac and Little Cayman Immigration Board which shall consist of-

- (a) a Chairman;
- (b) a deputy Chairman; and
- (c) three other members appointed by the Cabinet.

(2) The members of the Cayman Brac and Little Cayman Immigration Board shall be appointed by and hold office at the pleasure of the Cabinet.

(3) The Cabinet may appoint committees of members of the Cayman Brac and Little Cayman Immigration Board and may delegate to any such committee such function of that Board as it considers necessary.

(4) The Cabinet may appoint a Secretary to a committee appointed under subsection (3), and such Secretary shall have no right to vote.

(5) A delegation under subsection (3)-

- (a) shall be in writing;
- (b) may be made subject to such limitations and conditions as are specified in the instrument of delegation;
- (c) may be determined at any time; and
- (d) does not affect the exercise of the delegated function of the Cayman Brac and Little Cayman Immigration Board.

(6) The Cayman Brac and Little Cayman Immigration Board shall have the following functions and powers-

- (a) the processing and determination of applications for the grant or renewal of work permits, other than for an employer with a Business Staffing Plan Certificate, applied for by persons who are seeking gainful occupation in Cayman Brac or Little Cayman;
- (b) the determination of any ancillary matter connected with the grant of permits under paragraph (a); and
- (c) such other functions and powers within the scope of this Law as the Cabinet may, from time to time, assign to it by regulation.

(7) Subject to subsection (8), sections 8, 9, 10, 14, 15, 16 and 18 with all necessary amendments shall be construed as applying also to the Cayman Brac and Little Cayman Immigration Board.

(8) Three members of the Cayman Brac and Little Cayman Immigration Board present at any meeting shall form a quorum.

6. (1) The Chairman of a Board may appoint committees comprising no fewer than three members of his Board including himself or his deputy, and may delegate to such committees any of the functions of his Board, save that-

Appointment and  
functions of committees

- (a) he shall, as soon as practicable, notify the Cabinet of the appointment of any such committee; and

- (b) either he or his deputy shall be the Chairman of each committee so appointed.
- (2) Notwithstanding subsection (1), no committee shall be empowered to-
  - (a) grant the right to be Caymanian;
  - (b) grant permanent residence;
  - (c) grant Residency and Employment Rights Certificates;
  - (d) issue Business Staffing Plans Certificates;
  - (e) adjudicate appeals from the decisions of immigration officers; or
  - (f) designate a worker as a key employee.
- (3) The Secretary or Assistant Secretary of the Board shall be the Secretary of each committee so appointed.

Appointment of  
Immigration Boards,  
Director of Boards and  
Work Permits and  
functions of Boards

- 7. (1) There shall be a Director of Boards and Work Permits who shall be a public officer and to whom each Secretary shall report.
- (2) The duties of the Director of Boards and Work Permits shall include-
  - (a) the planning and co-ordination of the activities of-
    - (i) the Boards; and
    - (ii) the Work Permit and Permanent Residence Administration section;
  - (b) development and implementation of strategies and systems to promote efficiency in the processing of applications by the Boards and by the Work Permit and Permanent Residence Administration section;
  - (c) meetings with the public, at his sole discretion, in relation to immigration matters; and
  - (d) attending to administrative matters assigned to him by the Chief Immigration Officer.
- (3) The Boards shall have the following functions and powers-
  - (a) the Work Permit Board shall have responsibility for-
    - (i) processing, determining and granting of applications for the grant or renewal of work permits other than for an employer with a Business Staffing Plan Certificate; and
    - (ii) the adjudication of appeals from the decisions of immigration officers.
  - (b) the Caymanian Status and Permanent Residency Board shall have responsibility for the processing, determining and granting of applications for the right-
    - (i) to be Caymanian;
    - (ii) to reside permanently in the Islands; and

- (iii) of a spouse of a Caymanian to possess a Residency and Employment Rights Certificate; and
- (c) the Business Staffing Plan Board shall have responsibility in Grand Cayman, Little Cayman and Cayman Brac for-
  - (i) processing and determining Business Staffing Plans;
  - (ii) issuing Business Staffing Plan Certificates; and
  - (iii) processing, determining and granting applications for the grant or renewal of work permits applied for by any employer who possesses a Business Staffing Plan Certificate.
- (4) In addition to the functions referred to in subsection (3), the Boards shall-
  - (a) determine any ancillary matter connected to subsection (3);
  - (b) exercise such other functions and powers within the scope of this Law as the Governor may, from time to time, assign to it by regulation; and
  - (c) exercise such other powers and functions as may be assigned to it under this or any other law.

8. (1) Each Board shall meet at least once in every calendar month and upon such other occasions as, in the opinion of its Chairman, may be necessary or desirable in the public interest.

Meetings of Boards

(2) Any member of a Board who, without obtaining the prior written permission of the Chairman, is absent from more than two out of five consecutive meetings of that Board shall cease to be a member of that Board.

(3) In the absence of the Chairman and the deputy Chairman at any meeting, the members present may elect one of their number to preside as Chairman at that meeting.

(4) At every meeting of a Board-

- (a) it shall reach its decisions by a majority of the votes of members present and voting;
- (b) the Chairman or presiding member shall have no original but only a casting vote; and
- (c) five voting members present shall form a quorum.

(5) Where a member of a Board has a personal or pecuniary interest, direct or indirect, in any matter which is to be determined by that Board, he shall, if present at the meeting of that Board at which such matter is to be determined, as soon as practicable after the commencement thereof, disclose the fact and leave the meeting.

(6) The Secretary of each Board shall record and keep all minutes of the meetings, proceedings and decisions of that Board.

(7) Subject to subsections (1) to (6), each Board shall have power to regulate its own procedure.

Duty of confidentiality

9. (1) The fact and any particulars of, or relating to, any matter falling for consideration by, or the decision of, a Board shall be treated as confidential by each member of that Board and he shall not disclose any such fact or particular otherwise than in the proper performance of his duties under this Law or in compliance with the order of a court of competent jurisdiction.

(2) The failure of any member to comply with subsection (1)-

- (a) is an offence; and
- (b) constitutes a sufficient ground for the termination of his appointment.

(3) Any allegation of a breach of subsection (1) shall be fully investigated by a constable of the rank of Inspector or above.

Remuneration and immunity of members of Boards

10. (1) Those members of a Board who are not public officers shall receive such remuneration in respect of each meeting attended, and the Chairman and deputy Chairman shall receive such additional remuneration, as may be determined, from time to time, by the Cabinet.

(2) Every member of each Board shall be personally indemnified against all claims, damages, costs, charges or expenses incurred by him in the discharge or purported discharge of his functions or duties under this Law except claims, damages, costs, charges or expenses caused by his bad faith.

Immigration Appeals Tribunal

11. (1) For the purposes of this Law there is established an Immigration Appeals Tribunal which shall consist of the following members-

- (a) a Chairman;
- (b) up to five deputy Chairmen; and
- (c) a panel of persons,

all of whom shall be appointed by and hold office at the pleasure of the Cabinet.

(2) The Chairman shall be an attorney-at-law of at least seven years call to the bar; and each deputy Chairman shall be an attorney-at-law of at least five years call to the bar.

(3) For the purposes of exercising its jurisdiction the Immigration Appeals Tribunal may, if the Chairman so directs, sit in up to six divisions simultaneously or otherwise, each division presided over either by the Chairman or by a deputy

Chairman sitting together with no fewer than two other members; and each such division shall be deemed to be a fully constituted Immigration Appeals Tribunal to hear and determine appeals under this Law.

(4) The Cabinet shall appoint as many Secretaries as it considers necessary to the Immigration Appeals Tribunal who shall cause to be recorded and shall keep all minutes of the meetings, proceedings and decisions of that Tribunal, and such Secretaries shall have no right to vote.

12. (1) The Immigration Appeals Tribunal shall meet at least once in every calendar month and upon such other occasions as, in the opinion of the Chairman, may be necessary or desirable in the public interest.

Meetings of Immigration Appeals Tribunal

(2) Any member of the Immigration Appeals Tribunal who, without obtaining the prior written permission of the Chairman, is absent from more than two out of five consecutive meetings of that Tribunal shall cease to be a member of the Tribunal.

(3) In the temporary absence of the Chairman or in the event of his inability to act, the deputy Chairman shall act as Chairman and exercise all the powers and functions of Chairman.

- (4) At every meeting of the Immigration Appeals Tribunal-
- (a) it shall reach its decisions by a majority of the votes of members present and voting;
  - (b) the Chairman or presiding member shall have no original but only a casting vote; and
  - (c) three members present shall form a quorum.

(5) Where a member of the Immigration Appeals Tribunal has a personal or pecuniary interest, direct or indirect, in any matter which is to be determined by the Immigration Appeals Tribunal, he shall, if present at the meeting at which such matter is to be determined, as soon as possible after the commencement thereof, disclose the fact and leave the meeting.

(6) Subject to subsections (1) to (5) and to section 19, the Immigration Appeals Tribunal shall have power to regulate its own procedure.

13. Sections 9 and 10 apply to the Immigration Appeals Tribunal as if references in those sections to the Boards were references to the Immigration Appeals Tribunal.

Application of sections 9 and 10 to the Immigration Appeals Tribunal

14. (1) Subject to subsections (2) and (5), any person aggrieved by, or dissatisfied with, any decision of an immigration officer may, within seven days of the communication of the decision to him, appeal therefrom to the pertinent

Appeals from decisions of immigration officer

Board whose decision shall be final and binding upon the appellant; and the Board's decision shall, if notice thereof is sent to the appellant -

- (a) by post, be deemed to have been received by him no later than seven days from the date of dispatch; or
- (b) by electronic mail, be deemed to have been received by him no later than twenty-four hours after its transmission.

(2) The appeal to which subsection (1) refers is restricted to dissatisfaction with the decision of an immigration officer-

- (a) to refuse permission to enter the Islands;
- (b) *Repealed by section 4 of Law 23 of 2013*
- (c) to revoke permission to remain in the Islands;
- (d) to refuse an application for the grant of a student's visa or the extension thereof or to attach conditions to such grant;
- (e) to refuse or revoke a temporary work permit; and
- (f) to refuse an application for a Residency Certificate for Persons of Independent Means, a Certificate of Direct Investment, a Residency Certificate (Substantial Business Presence) or a Certificate of Permanent Residence for Persons of Independent Means.

(3) Pending the outcome of an appeal under this section-

- (a) an appellant under subsection (2)(a) and (c) shall leave the Islands; and
- (b) an appellant under subsection (2)(d) to (f) may be allowed to remain in the Islands if he satisfies the Chief Immigration Officer that he is able to support himself and his dependants, if any.

(4) Notwithstanding subsection (3)(a), where a passenger holds a valid visa to enter the Islands he may appeal, from within the Islands, the decision of the immigration officer to refuse him entry.

(5) In this section-

“pertinent Board” means the Work Permit Board, the Business Staffing Plan Board or the Cayman Brac and Little Cayman Immigration Board where relevant, except that an appeal in respect of-

- (a) subsection (2)(f) shall be heard by the Caymanian Status and Permanent Residency Board; and
- (b) the decision of an immigration officer who at the relevant time was stationed in Cayman Brac or Little Cayman shall be heard by the Cayman Brac and Little Cayman Immigration Board.

15. (1) Save as otherwise provided in this Law, any person aggrieved by, or dissatisfied with, any decision of the Chief Immigration Officer under section 30,



37C, 42(5) or 49 or of a Board other than a decision under section 14 may, within-

- (a) twenty-eight days of the communication of the decision to him; or
- (b) such longer period as the Chairman of the Appeals Tribunal may, for good reason shown, allow,

serve notice on the Immigration Appeals Tribunal of his intention to appeal such decision.

(2) Appeals under this section and section 14 shall be by notice in writing addressed to the Secretary of the Immigration Appeals Tribunal or, in the case of an appeal under section 14, the Secretary of the pertinent Board and such notice-

- (a) shall set forth the decision against which the appeal is made; and
- (b) shall be accompanied by a copy of the original application which is the subject of appeal and the prescribed non-refundable fee.

(3) Any correspondence from the pertinent Board or the Immigration Appeals Tribunal under this section or section 16 to the appellant-

- (a) by post, shall be deemed to have been received by him no later than seven days from the date of dispatch; or
- (b) by electronic mail, shall be deemed to have been received by him no later than twenty-four hours after its transmission.

(3A) At a hearing on grounds under subsection (1) the Immigration Appeals Tribunal shall apply the Law that is or was in effect at the time of the Board's or the Chief Immigration Officer's decision.

(4) On receipt of a notice of appeal the pertinent Board or the Immigration Appeals Tribunal shall, within fourteen days, notify the Chief Immigration Officer or the Board, as the case may be, of the decision against which the appeal is made.

(5) Upon receipt of a notification under subsection (4) the Chief Immigration Officer or the Board, as the case may be, shall, within a reasonable period, deliver to the Immigration Appeals Tribunal or the Board and the appellant, the reasons for his or its decision.

(6) Upon receipt of the reasons referred to in subsection (5) the appellant shall within twenty-eight days in the case of an appeal under this section, or fourteen days in the case of an appeal under section 14, file his detailed grounds of appeal upon which the hearing shall be determined by the Immigration Appeals Tribunal or the pertinent Board, as the case may be, and serve a copy thereof on the Board or the Chief Immigration Officer.

(7) An appeal under this section or section 14 may be lodged on the ground, or grounds, and no other, that the decision in question is-

- (a) erroneous in law;
- (b) unreasonable;
- (c) contrary to the principles of natural justice; or
- (d) at variance with the Regulations.

(8) Upon receipt of the detailed grounds and any subsequent information requested, the Immigration Appeals Tribunal or the pertinent Board may-

- (a) if it is satisfied that the appellant has complied with the requirements of this section, proceed with a hearing on grounds; or
- (b) if it is satisfied that the appellant has failed to comply with any of the requirements of this section, quash the appeal without a hearing on grounds.

(9) In considering the detailed grounds submitted by the appellant under subsection (6), the Immigration Appeals Tribunal or the pertinent Board may request additional information or further particulars from him.

(10) A decision under subsection (8) to quash an appeal shall not in itself give rise to a right of appeal.

(11) The period within which detailed grounds of appeal must be filed under subsection (6) may be extended at the discretion of the Chairman of the Immigration Appeals Tribunal or the Chairman of the pertinent Board upon request of the appellant for good reason shown in writing.

(12) The Chief Immigration Officer or the Board may, within twenty-eight days of the receipt of the grounds of appeal served under subsection (6) provide a written defence which shall be filed with the pertinent Board or the Immigration Appeals Tribunal and served on the appellant.

Conduct of appeals

16 (1) A hearing on grounds as referred to in section 15(8)(a) shall take into account-

- (a) the reasons provided by the Chief Immigration Officer or the Board under section 15(5) and all information that was submitted by the appellant at the time of his original application; and
- (b) the written detailed grounds filed by the appellant under section 15(6).

(2) A hearing on grounds under subsection (1) shall be on the basis of the written grounds filed by the appellant and neither the parties nor their representatives shall be present at the hearing.

(3) Notwithstanding subsection (2), the Immigration Appeals Tribunal or the pertinent Board, as the case may be, may, in its absolute discretion, call upon either party or any persons as it deems necessary and relevant to address it.

(4) Where at a hearing on grounds the Immigration Appeals Tribunal or the pertinent Board determines that at least one of the grounds contained in section 15(7) has been made out, the Immigration Appeals Tribunal or the pertinent Board shall proceed to a rehearing of the original application which was the subject of the appeal.

(5) The Immigration Appeals Tribunal or the pertinent Board when rehearing an application under subsection (4) shall do so by way of a hearing *de novo* and shall take into account any fresh evidence put forward by the appellant or the Chief Immigration Officer or the Board that may have arisen in relation to the parties, which is to be submitted in writing.

(6) The law in force at the time of the rehearing by the Immigration Appeals Tribunal or the Board shall govern the proceedings under subsection (5).

(7) Neither the appellant nor his representative shall be permitted to be present at the rehearing of the original application which shall be based on written submissions with respect to fresh evidence or changes in circumstances.

(8) Where in the opinion of the Immigration Appeals Tribunal an appeal under this section was made frivolously, vexatiously or in bad faith, it may award costs on an indemnity basis.

(9) Representatives appearing on behalf of either party need not be persons having legal qualifications.

(10) An appeal to the Immigration Appeals Tribunal, and matters referred to the Immigration Appeals Tribunal may not be remitted to the pertinent Board or to the Chief Immigration Officer.

(11) Decisions of the Immigration Appeals Tribunal and the pertinent Board shall be notified to the appellant within a reasonable period of time.

17. (1) On an appeal, the Immigration Appeals Tribunal may make such order, including an order for costs, as it thinks fit.

Orders of Immigration Appeals Tribunal and appeals from its decisions

(2) An appeal may be made to the Grand Court from a decision of the Immigration Appeals Tribunal on a point of law only.

18. (1) Decisions made under or by virtue of sections 7, 14, 15 and 16 shall be deemed to be administrative and not judicial decisions.

Decisions to be administrative

(2) Where a Board or the Chief Immigration Officer rejects an application either in whole or in part, it or he, if requested shall give the applicant brief reasons for that rejection and inform him of his rights under section 15.

(3) Failure of a Board or the Chief Immigration Officer to inform an applicant of the right of appeal referred to in subsection (2) and under section 17(2) shall not of itself give rise to a right of appeal under section 15 or under section 17(2) and failure to give reasons as required by subsection (2) when first promulgating its decision to reject an application shall not give rise to such a right of appeal if the Board or the Chief Immigration Officer gives them to the applicant within thirty days of having made the decision.

(4) Save for decisions of the Immigration Appeals Tribunal or the pertinent Board by virtue of sections 7, 14, 15 and 16, the Immigration Appeals Tribunal or the pertinent Board shall provide brief written reasons for its decisions under sections 15(10) and 16(1) only if requested by the appellant within fourteen days of receipt of the Appellate Tribunal's decision.

Rules relating to appeals

19. The Chief Justice may make rules relating to the procedure and forms to be used for the notice of appeal to the court and the admission of evidence of any appeal heard by the Immigration Appeals Tribunal.

### **PART III - Provisions Relating to Caymanians**

Categories of Caymanians

20. (1) A person shall, for purposes of this Law, be deemed to possess the right to be Caymanian if-

- (a) he is Caymanian at the 1st January, 2004;
- (b) he is Caymanian as of right as defined in section 21;
- (c) he is Caymanian by grant of the Caymanian Status and Permanent Residency Board under section 22;
- (d) he has obtained the right by entitlement; or
- (e) the Cabinet, acting on the recommendation of the Caymanian Status and Permanent Residency Board, grants such right to him and that grant is subsequently ratified by the Legislative Assembly; save that the Cabinet shall not make more than four such grants in any calendar year,

and he shall continue to possess and enjoy the right to be Caymanian unless and until he loses it under section 27.

(2) A person who believes that he possesses the right to be Caymanian under subsection (1) may apply in the prescribed form to the Chief Immigration Officer for the formal acknowledgement of that right in his passport, and the

Chief Immigration Officer shall, within fourteen days, either provide the acknowledgement or give written reasons for his refusal to do so.

(3) Where, by application of law, a person loses his right to be Caymanian, the Chief Immigration Officer may cancel the passport acknowledgement referred to in subsection (2).

(4) A person aggrieved by the Chief Immigration Officer's decision under subsection (2) or (3) may, within seven days of that decision having been communicated to him, appeal to the Caymanian Status and Permanent Residency Board.

(5) Notwithstanding subsection (1)(b) and (d), where a Caymanian holds himself out to be the father of a child born out of wedlock, the status or domicile of the Caymanian shall not be taken into account unless-

- (a) he is able to prove to the satisfaction of the Caymanian Status and Permanent Residency Board that he is in fact the father of the child;
- (b) under the Affiliation Law (1995 Revision), he has been adjudged to be the putative father of the child; or
- (c) he has been ordered to pay a weekly sum of money for the maintenance and education of the child.

1995 Revision

21. In this Part-

Caymanian as of right

“Caymanian as of right” means a child-

- (a) born on or after the 1st January, 2004 whether in or outside the Islands, at the date of whose birth at least one of his parents was settled in the Islands and was Caymanian;
- (b) born outside the Islands, after the 1st January, 2004, at the date of whose birth at least one of his parents was Caymanian otherwise than by descent; or
- (c) acquiring the status of Caymanian under section 21 of the repealed Immigration Law (2003 Revision) or under any earlier law conferring the same or similar rights.

2003 Revision

22. (1) The Caymanian Status and Permanent Residency Board may, subject to section 24, grant the right to be Caymanian to any of the persons referred to in this section.

Acquisition of the right to be Caymanian by grant of the Board

(2) Any person who-

- (a) has attained the age of eighteen years;
- (b) satisfies the Board that he is the child or grandchild of a Caymanian born in the Islands; and

(c) *repealed by section 5 of Law 2 of 2012*

(d) is not otherwise entitled to the right to be Caymanian,

may apply to the Board for the grant of the right to be Caymanian.

UK Act

(3) Any person who is a British Overseas Territories Citizen by reason of a certificate of naturalisation or registration issued under the British Nationality Act, 1981 by virtue of his connection with the Islands, or any Act preceding, amending or replacing that Act, may, if he has been legally and ordinarily resident in the Islands for at least fifteen years or at least five years after the receipt of that grant, apply for the grant of the right to be Caymanian.

(4) Any person-

(a) who has been married to a Caymanian-

(i) for at least five years immediately preceding the application, where the marriage took place prior to the 1st January, 2004; or

(ii) for at least seven years immediately preceding the application, where the marriage took place on or after the 1st January, 2004;

(b) whose marriage is not a marriage of convenience;

(c) who is not living apart from his spouse under a decree of a competent court or under a deed of separation;

(d) who has not lived apart from his spouse for an aggregate period of three months-

(i) out of the five years immediately preceding the application where the marriage took place prior to the 1st January, 2004; or

(ii) out of the seven years immediately preceding the application where the marriage took place on or after the 1st January, 2004;

(e) who is legally and ordinarily resident in the Islands immediately preceding his application; and

(f) who has not in any country been convicted of an offence for which a sentence of imprisonment not exceeding twelve months has been passed other than for non-payment of a fine unless-

(i) the conviction has been quashed on appeal or has been the subject of a free pardon;

(ii) the act or omission giving rise to such conviction would not be an offence if done or omitted in the Islands in similar circumstances; or

(iii) the conviction is one which, in the interest of justice, the Board directs to be ignored for the purposes of this section,

may apply to the Board for the grant of the right to be Caymanian.

(5) The Board, in calculating under subsection (4) the period of time that the applicant and his spouse have spent apart, shall not, where the absences are occasioned by one or other of the spouses having been away from the Islands, take into account those occasions when such absences were temporary for medical, educational, business or similar reasons.

(6) The surviving spouse of a Caymanian who-

- (a) was married to the deceased for at least seven years;
- (b) immediately before the death of the deceased was not living apart from the deceased-
  - (i) under the decree of a competent court;
  - (ii) under a deed of separation; or
  - (iii) in circumstances where, in the opinion of the Board, the marriage had irretrievably broken down;
- (c) has been legally and ordinarily resident in the Islands immediately preceding the death of the deceased; and
- (d) either has not in any country been convicted of an offence or has in any country been convicted of an offence for which a sentence of imprisonment, not exceeding twelve months, has been imposed other than for non-payment of a fine unless-
  - (i) such conviction has been quashed on appeal or has been the subject of a free pardon;
  - (ii) the act or omission giving rise to such conviction would not be an offence if done or omitted in the Islands in similar circumstances; or
  - (iii) the conviction is one which, in the interests of justice, the Board directs to be ignored for the purposes of this section,

may apply to the Board for the grant of the right to be Caymanian.

(7) Where the marriage referred to in subsection (6)(a) has not subsisted for a period of seven years or the grant of the right to be Caymanian has been refused by the Board, the surviving spouse may apply to the Chief Immigration Officer for the right to permanently reside in the Islands and the Chief Immigration Officer shall take into account -

- (i) the length of the marriage;
- (ii) whether there are any children of the marriage;
- (iii) whether immediately prior to the death the marriage was no longer subsisting as evidenced by a decree of a competent court, a deed of separation or what appears to be the breakdown of the marriage;
- (iv) the applicant's ability to support himself and any dependants; and
- (v) the applicant's health and character.

(8) Where, under subsection (7), permanent residence is granted, the Chief Immigration Officer shall issue to the successful applicant a Residency and Employment Rights Certificate, which Certificate shall entitle the holder-

- (a) to accept employment from any employer of his choice; and
- (b) to have reside with him within the Islands such of his dependants as were listed in his application and were approved by the Chief Immigration Officer,

but the Certificate shall restrict him to working within the particular occupation specified by the Chief Immigration Officer; and such certificate may be varied by the Chief Immigration Officer.

(9) A person who-

- (a) has attained the age of seventeen years;
- (b) has Caymanian status which-
  - (i) will expire when he attains the age of eighteen years; or
  - (ii) has expired upon his having attained the age of eighteen years; and
- (c) has been legally and ordinarily resident in the Islands for at least five out of the seven years immediately preceding the date of the application,

may apply to the Board prior to reaching the age of twenty-four for the grant of the right to be Caymanian, and such application shall be granted unless the Board has compelling reasons for refusing it, and such grant shall take effect when he attains the age of eighteen years or, where he is already eighteen years, from the date of the grant.

(10) In relation to the qualification for legal and ordinary residence referred to in this Part-

- (a) where any question arises as to whether an applicant was or was not, during any material period, legally and ordinarily resident in the Islands, such question shall be decided by the Board;
- (b) where an applicant has been legally and ordinarily resident in the Islands and has been absent from the Islands for any period for the purpose of his education, health or business, the Board may count such period of absence as a period of legal and ordinary residence in the Islands if the Board is satisfied that, but for such period of absence, the applicant would have in fact continued to be legally and ordinarily resident in the Islands; and
- (c) nothing in this subsection shall have effect so as to preclude any applicant from appealing to the Immigration Appeals Tribunal, under section 15, on the grounds that the Board came to a wrong



decision on the question of whether during any material period he was or was not legally and ordinarily resident in the Islands.

(11) The Board, in its discretion, may require or allow any applicant to attend before it or any committee of the Board in support of his application, but subject as aforesaid no applicant shall be entitled to appear before the Board.

(12) Subject to this Part, where a person is the grantee of the right to be Caymanian or of Caymanian status under this or any earlier law, no person shall be entitled to apply for the right to be Caymanian by virtue only of that grant save for those persons acquiring such right by entitlement.

(13) An applicant who is aggrieved by the refusal of the Board to grant him the right to be Caymanian may, subject to section 15, appeal to the Immigration Appeals Tribunal against such refusal.

23. A person who-

- (a) was born in the Islands between the 27th March, 1977 and the 1st January, 1983;
- (b) is a British Overseas Territories Citizen by virtue of being born in the Islands; and
- (c) has resided in the Islands since birth save for absences abroad for purposes of education or medical treatment,

Persons who may apply to the Chief Immigration Officer for the right to be Caymanian

may, within one year from the 21st December, 2006, apply to the Chief Immigration Officer for the right to be Caymanian and the Chief Immigration Officer shall, save in exceptional circumstances, grant such application.

24. In the course of processing an application for the right to be Caymanian, the Board shall satisfy itself that-

Matters for Board's consideration

- (a) such grant would be in the public interest;
- (b) adequate consideration has been given to the number of dependants who would be entitled to reside in the Islands or become Caymanian by entitlement should the application be granted;
- (c) that it would be in the interest of the Islands to grant such application if the number of dependants becoming Caymanian by entitlement would be more than three;
- (d) the applicant has not committed an act of insolvency or bankruptcy, or been involved as a shareholder or director of any company or other entity which has been the subject of liquidation especially where creditors have been adversely affected;
- (e) the applicant-
  - (i) is of good character and conduct;

- (ii) has to his credit three good character references received by the Board directly from three Caymanians; and
- (iii) has a clean criminal record and has not been involved with illegal drugs;
- (f) the applicant is of good health and does not suffer from any form of communicable or mental disease that would make him a danger to the community;
- (g) the applicant has not been involved in organising or engaging in any subversive political activity, nor has he organised, caused or promoted racism or any illegal activity within the Islands or elsewhere;
- (h) the continued residence of the applicant and his family will contribute to the well being of the Islands;
- (i) the economic situation of the Islands and the protection of persons already engaged in similar gainful occupations have been duly considered;
- (j) adequate consideration has been given to the desirability of granting the right to be Caymanian to applicants with different backgrounds and from different geographical areas so that a suitable balance in the social and economic life of the Islands may be maintained; and
- (k) adequate consideration has been given to the desirability of retaining the economic resources of the Island in the control of Caymanians.

Procedure in relation to applications for grant under section 22

25. (1) Applications under section 22, which shall be made to the Board through the Secretary shall-

- (a) be in duplicate in the prescribed form;
- (b) be accompanied by the prescribed fee; and
- (c) state whether or not the applicant wishes to be heard in person.

(2) A copy of every application shall be forwarded by the Secretary to the Commissioner of Police, who may make such representations to the Board as he may deem proper.

(3) In granting or rejecting an application under section 22, the Board shall be deemed to have acted administratively and not judicially.

(4) Where an application has been rejected, the applicant shall not be permitted to make any further application until after the lapse of one year from the date of the communication of the decision.

(5) Notwithstanding subsection (4), where a person-

- (a) is qualified under any subsection of section 22 to apply for the grant of the right to be Caymanian; and
- (b) made an application under that subsection,

and the application was rejected, he may apply at any time after such rejection under any other subsection of section 22 under which he is also qualified to apply.

26. The Secretary shall keep a record of every application for a grant of the right to be Caymanian and the result thereof, and such grant shall be evidenced by a certificate under the hand of the Chairman or by the Governor, as the case may be, in the form in the Schedule and shall cause notice thereof to be published in the Gazette.

Record to be kept of applications and grants

Schedule

27. (1) The right to be Caymanian granted by the Board may be lost-

Loss of right to be Caymanian

- (a) where the holder has supplied false or misleading information in a material particular, to the Board;
- (b) where the holder has ordinarily resided outside the Islands for a period of five years and can no longer be said to be settled in the Islands;
- (c) where the marriage of the holder, being the spouse of a Caymanian, is deemed by the Board to have been a marriage of convenience; or
- (d) where within three years of the grant to the spouse of a Caymanian of the right to be Caymanian under this or any earlier Law, the marriage of the holder-
  - (i) in the opinion of the Board or the Chief Immigration Officer has broken down;
  - (ii) has declined to the point where the parties have separated as a result of a decree of a competent court or a deed of separation; or
  - (iii) no longer subsists.

(2) The holder of the right to be Caymanian by entitlement under this Law or under any analogous provision in an earlier law-

- (a) may lose that right where he has not been legally and ordinarily resident in the Islands for a period of seven years immediately before reaching the age of eighteen years; and
- (b) shall notify the Chief Immigration Officer forthwith of the relevant circumstances involving his legal and ordinary residence in the Islands and wilful failure to do so is an offence.

(3) The Board may, by order, divest any person who has been granted the right to be Caymanian under section 22, or Caymanian status under any earlier law, of such right or status if it is satisfied that the grant was obtained by means of

fraud, false representation or the concealment of any material fact; and with respect to such order-

- (a) the Board shall, by notice, inform the person affected, of the order and of his right to appeal to the Immigration Appeals Tribunal as hereinafter provided;
- (b) if the person affected is aggrieved by the order, he may, subject to section 15, appeal to the Immigration Appeals Tribunal against the order; and
- (c) in the event of there being no appeal or if an appeal is disallowed, the Board shall notify the Chief Immigration Officer of the order and shall cause notice thereof to be published in the Gazette.

(4) Any person who, having possessed the right to be Caymanian, ceases by virtue of subsections (1) to (3) to possess or to be deemed to possess the right to be Caymanian shall, for the purposes of this Law, be treated as if he had never acquired, possessed or enjoyed the right to be Caymanian and the provisions of this Law shall thenceforward apply and have effect accordingly.

(5) Nothing in subsections (1) to (4) shall have effect so as to preclude a person who has, by virtue of such subsections, ceased to possess the right to be Caymanian from applying to the Board for the grant of that right under section 22.

Revocation on conviction

28. (1) Where the grantee of the right to be Caymanian or of Caymanian status under this or any earlier law is convicted by any court in the Islands or elsewhere of an offence-

- (a) for which he is sentenced to an immediate term of imprisonment of twelve months or more, other than for non-payment of a fine; and in respect of which conviction his rights of appeal have been exhausted; or
- (b) which, in the opinion of the grantor, was made possible by, facilitated by or connected with the grant,

the grantor may revoke the grant on his own motion.

(2) Where the court referred to in subsection (1) is a foreign court, the offence committed must have been an offence that would be recognised as an offence in the Islands.

Right to relinquish grant

28A. In respect of any rights granted under this Part or Part IV, the holder may relinquish such rights of his own free will by advising the Board or the Chief Immigration Officer in writing and upon that relinquishment that person shall cease to enjoy any of the rights associated with that grant.

**PART IV - Permanent Residence and Extended Residence Categories**

29. (1) The Caymanian Status and Permanent Residency Board and the Chief Immigration Officer may grant to non-Caymanian applicants- Categories of permanent residence

- (a) the right to reside permanently in the Islands, to persons who have been legally and ordinarily resident in the Islands for a minimum period of eight years; and
- (b) the Residency and Employment Rights Certificate, to spouses of Caymanians.

(2) Subject to sections 34 and 34A, the Chief Immigration Officer may grant the right to reside in the Islands to persons of independent means.

(2A) In this Part, unless the context otherwise requires, a reference to the Chief Immigration Officer in relation to the granting of permanent residence under section 30 or a Residency and Employment Rights Certificate under section 31 shall be construed as a reference to anyone specifically designated by him to perform those duties.

(2B) All or any of the powers conferred upon the Chief Immigration Officer under subsection (1) may be delegated by him to any members of his staff.

(3) A person who is a British Overseas Territories Citizen by virtue of a connection with the Islands, by registration by entitlement under the British Nationality Act, 1981, or any Act preceding, amending or replacing that Act, shall have the right to remain permanently in the Islands and shall cease to have such right where- UK Act

- (a) he ceases to be a British Overseas Territories Citizen;
- (b) he has, subsequent to the grant of the certificate, been ordinarily resident outside the Islands continuously for a period of five years or acquires a domicile other than a domicile in the Islands, unless the Cabinet rules otherwise;
- (c) the Cabinet is satisfied that the grant of the certificate was obtained by fraud, false representation or the concealment of any material fact;
- (d) he engages in gainful occupation or any trade or business without the permission of the Work Permit Board, the Business Staffing Plan Board, the Caymanian Status and Permanent Residency Board or the Chief Immigration Officer; or
- (e) he falls into one of the categories enumerated in section 38.

30. (1) Any person who has been, and is legally and ordinarily resident in the Islands for a period of at least eight years but not more than nine years, other than- Persons legally and ordinarily resident in the Islands for at least eight years

- (a) the holder of a Residency Certificate for Persons of Independent Means;
- (b) the holder of a Residency Certificate for Retirees;
- (c) the holder of a Certificate of Direct Investment or a Direct Investment Holder's (Dependant's) Certificate;
- (d) the holder of a Residency Holders (Dependant's) Certificate;
- (e) the holder of a Certificate of Permanent Residence for Persons of Independent Means; or
- (f) a person who was granted permanent residence under any earlier law in circumstances analogous to paragraphs (a) or (b),

may apply in the prescribed form and manner to the Board or the Chief Immigration Officer for permission for himself, his spouse and his dependants, if any, to reside permanently in the Islands and such application shall be accompanied by the prescribed application fee, issue fee, dependant fee and the annual fee with respect to the first year.

Law 23 of 2013

(2) Notwithstanding subsection (1), where at the commencement of the Immigration (Amendment) (No. 2) Law, 2013, a person has already been legally and ordinarily resident in the Islands in excess of nine years, he shall be entitled to a period of ninety days from such commencement within which to apply under this section for the right to reside permanently in the Islands.

(3) For the purpose of assessing the suitability of an applicant for permanent residence, a points system shall be prescribed by the Cabinet.

(4) In considering an application for permanent residence under subsection (1), the Board or the Chief Immigration Officer upon applying the criteria set out in the points system shall grant permanent residence to all applicants attaining one hundred and ten points or more.

(5) Where an application under subsection (1) has been refused and the applicant has not appealed against such refusal or has appealed against such refusal and lost his appeal, he is debarred from re-applying under the provisions of that subsection and shall leave the Islands upon the expiration of any period during which he was allowed to work under section 52(4) unless he is entitled to remain by virtue of any other provision of this Law; and such debarment shall continue -

- (a) in the case of a worker, until he re-qualifies under the criteria contained in this section having taken the break in stay required under section 52(1); or
- (b) in the case of a Government employee, for a period of nine years following the date of the refusal of his application or any subsequent appeal in respect of that application.

(6) Upon the grant of permanent residence, the Board or the Chief Immigration Officer shall issue to the successful applicant a Residency and Employment Rights Certificate, which Certificate shall entitle the holder-

- (a) to accept employment from any employer of his choice; and
- (b) to have reside with him such of his dependants as were listed in his application and were approved by the Board or the Chief Immigration Officer,

but the Certificate shall restrict him to working within the particular occupation or occupations specified by the Board or the Chief Immigration Officer; and such Certificate may be varied by the Board or the Chief Immigration Officer, but there shall be no entitlement to be self-employed.

(7) For the avoidance of doubt where the prescribed fees have not been submitted as required under subsection (1), the Board or the Chief Immigration Officer shall have no power to entertain the application.

(8) Where the Board or the Chief Immigration Officer varies a Certificate under subsection (6) to change an occupation, the original occupation specified by the Board or the Chief Immigration Officer shall remain and shall be the occupation upon which the annual fee is based unless the new occupation is in a higher fee category.

(9) When applying under this section for the right to reside permanently in the Islands the applicant shall provide full particulars of his spouse and all dependants whether or not it is intended that they would accompany him if his application is successful; and the failure to provide such particulars in his application is an offence.

(10) Where an application for the right to reside permanently in the Islands, or an appeal before the Immigration Appeals Tribunal is pending, and there is a change with respect to the dependants named in the application, the applicant or the appellant, as the case may be, shall so inform the Board or the Chief Immigration Officer in writing and may request that such dependants be included in the application or appeal when it is being determined.

(11) An applicant referred to in subsection (10) shall also inform the Board or the Chief Immigration Officer in respect of his application if there is any change in his circumstances since making the application, in relation to-

- (a) any convictions he may have received;
- (b) whether he has become unemployed;
- (c) whether he has been charged with an offence;
- (d) whether he no longer holds any of the assets listed in the application; and

(e) any change in his marital status or in respect of his dependants, and failure to do so is an offence.

(12) Where there is a change in the number of children who are dependants of the holder of a Residency and Employment Rights Certificate born subsequent to the issue thereof, the holder shall so inform the Board or the Chief Immigration Officer of the fact and the Board or the Chief Immigration Officer may amend the Certificate to include any additional children subject to such conditions as the Board or the Chief Immigration Officer may, in its or his absolute discretion, determine.

(13) The holder of a Certificate issued under subsection (6) or section 34 or 34A shall provide annually a declaration containing prescribed particulars in respect of himself and his dependants and his failure to provide such declaration is both an offence and a ground for revocation of the Certificate.

(14) Upon the grant to reside permanently in the Islands under this section, it shall be a condition of such grant that where the holder sells property that was listed in his application for permanent residence for the purpose of purchasing alternative property, such purchase shall be completed within one hundred and eighty days of the sale unless there are exceptional circumstances and he shall inform the Board or the Chief Immigration Officer of the details of the new property including the purchase price and the date on which the transaction was completed and such notification shall be made within thirty days of such transaction.

(15) Where a person possesses permanent residence granted under any law that has been repealed, the Caymanian Status and Permanent Residency Board or the Chief Immigration Officer shall have the power to vary or amend the terms of the grant to add or remove dependants; but a dependant so removed shall have the right to apply to the Board or the Chief Immigration Officer for the grant of a Residency and Employment Rights Certificate in his own right.

(16) The spouse of a permanent resident may apply to the Board or the Chief Immigration Officer for a Residency and Employment Rights Certificate, which if granted, will be subject to the same conditions and entitlements as specified in subsection (6).

(17) It shall be the duty of the holder of a Residency and Employment Rights Certificate granted under this section and his employer to report to the Board or the Chief Immigration Officer any change in the holder's employment circumstances such as-

- (a) the holder being employed; or
- (b) the holder being terminated, promoted, demoted or re-designated,



and the failure to do so is an offence and shall render both the holder and his employer, both previous and current, liable.

(18) Upon the death of the holder of a Residency and Employment Rights Certificate issued under subsection (6) or upon the dissolution of his marriage the right of his surviving spouse or former spouse to reside in the Islands may be revoked at the discretion of the Board or the Chief Immigration Officer, but the said surviving or former spouse may, within a period of three months of the revocation apply for the grant of a Residency and Employment Rights Certificate upon satisfying the requirements of this section.

(19) Upon the death of the holder of a Residency and Employment Rights Certificate issued under subsection (6), or upon the dissolution or breakdown of his marriage, it shall be the duty of-

- (a) the spouse of the deceased Certificate holder; and
- (b) the holder of the Certificate and his spouse in the case of the dissolution or breakdown of their marriage,

to notify the Board or the Chief Immigration Officer within six months of the death, dissolution or breakdown, and the failure to make such notification in the case of paragraph (b) is an offence for which the holder and his spouse shall be liable.

(20) Where an application for a Residency and Employment Rights Certificate has been made under subsection (18) within the said period of three months from the date of any revocation, the applicant's right to reside in the Islands shall continue upon the same terms and conditions until the Board or the Chief Immigration Officer determines the application or the Immigration Appeals Tribunal determines any subsequent appeal.

(21) The right of a dependent child of the holder of a Residency and Employment Rights Certificate issued under subsection (6) or (18) to reside in the Islands as a dependant shall cease upon reaching the age of eighteen years unless his parent's Residency and Employment Rights Certificate has been varied to reflect the fact that the dependent child is engaged in full-time tertiary education, or the Chief Immigration Officer is satisfied that there are special circumstances.

(22) A person who enjoys the status of permanent resident granted prior to 1st January, 2004, may apply to the Board or the Chief Immigration Officer for a variation of that status to enable him to acquire the rights outlined in subsection (6), and in the absence of exceptional circumstances the Board or the Chief Immigration Officer shall approve the application.

(23) Where the Chief Immigration Officer or his designate entertains an application under this section or section 31, it shall be their responsibility to

record and keep, or cause to be recorded and kept, minutes of the deliberations including decisions taken.

Residency and  
Employment Rights  
Certificate for spouse of  
a Caymanian

31. (1) The spouse of a Caymanian may apply to the Chief Immigration Officer or the Caymanian Status and Permanent Residency Board for permission to reside in the Islands and if such application is successful the Chief Immigration Officer or the Board, as the case may be, shall grant to the applicant a Residency and Employment Rights Certificate for a period of seven years and such Certificate when granted may, upon application, be renewed at the discretion of the Chief Immigration Officer or the Board.

(2) The application shall be accompanied by evidence as to the stability of the marriage and a statement as to the number of dependants, if any, of the spouse.

(3) The Chief Immigration Officer or the Board shall take into account the following, namely that-

- (a) the spouse of the applicant is Caymanian;
- (b) the marriage is not a marriage of convenience;
- (c) the applicant is of good character;
- (d) the applicant is in good health as evidenced by a recent medical certificate;
- (e) the marriage is stable; and
- (f) the applicant and his spouse have sufficient financial means to support himself and his dependants listed on the application as accompanying him.

(4) A person to whom a Residency and Employment Rights Certificate is granted under this section shall, as long as the marriage remains stable, be entitled-

- (a) to remain and work in the Islands in any occupation without the need to possess a work permit; and
- (b) to have such of his dependants as were listed on the application and were approved by the Board or the Chief Immigration Officer reside in the Islands until they have attained the age of eighteen unless the Certificate has been varied to reflect the fact that the dependant is engaged in full-time tertiary education or the Board or the Chief Immigration Officer is satisfied that there are special circumstances.

(5) Subsection (4)(b), insofar as it relates to the listing of dependants and their approval by the Board or the Chief Immigration Officer, shall not apply to a person who became the holder of a Residency and Employment Rights Certificate prior to the 21st December, 2006 and such person shall continue to enjoy the

same rights to which he was entitled immediately prior to the 21st December, 2006.

(6) The spouse of a Caymanian shall have no right to reside or be gainfully employed in the Islands unless he is the holder of a Residency and Employment Rights Certificate granted under this section and he shall not be entitled to apply for, or to be granted, a work permit or the renewal of a work permit, but where a work permit is in effect on the date of the marriage he may continue to work under the terms and conditions of the work permit until its expiration.

(7) Notwithstanding subsection (6), whenever the Board or the Chief Immigration Officer is satisfied that there are exceptional circumstances it or he may grant or renew a work permit for the spouse of a Caymanian for a period not exceeding three years in total after which no further permits may be granted or renewed in respect of that person unless the marriage is dissolved.

(8) Notwithstanding subsection (6)-

- (a) where the holder of a Residency and Employment Rights Certificate granted by the Board or the Chief Immigration Officer applies prior to its expiration to have it renewed, he may continue working after it has expired until such time as his application is determined by the Board or the Chief Immigration Officer, or where he has appealed the Board's or the Chief Immigration Officer's decision, by the Immigration Appeals Tribunal; and
- (b) where the spouse referred to in paragraph (a) is the holder of a work permit and he applies for a Residency and Employment Rights Certificate prior to the expiration of his work permit, he may continue to work during the period between the expiration of the work permit and the final determination of his application for the said Certificate by the Board or the Chief Immigration Officer, or where he has appealed the Board's or the Chief Immigration Officer's decision, by the Immigration Appeals Tribunal.

(9) Where a person who is the spouse of a Caymanian and who has at any time been-

- (a) the holder of a work permit;
- (b) employed by the Government of the Islands; or
- (c) employed in the Islands by the Government of the United Kingdom,

applies for a Residency and Employment Rights Certificate under this section, then in the absence of exceptional circumstances the Board or the Chief Immigration Officer shall approve his application.

Dependants of  
Residency and  
Employment Rights  
Certificate holders

32. (1) A dependant of a Residency and Employment Rights Certificate holder, having attained the age of eighteen years, may apply to the Board or the Chief Immigration Officer for a Residency and Employment Rights Certificate and shall, at the discretion of the Board or the Chief Immigration Officer, be granted the right to permanently reside in the Islands under section 30(1) if-

- (a) he was declared in the original application for the Certificate;
- (b) he is found to be of good character and conduct;
- (c) he has been legally and ordinarily resident in the Islands for at least seven years immediately prior to the application; and
- (d) the holder of the Residency and Employment Rights Certificate continues to possess it or has become a Caymanian.

(2) An application under subsection (1) shall be made prior to his attaining the age of nineteen, if his parent's Residency and Employment Rights Certificate has not been varied so that he may remain a dependant during his tertiary education or within six months of the end of such education but in either case it shall be made no later than his twenty-fourth birthday.

Loss of Residency and  
Employment Rights  
Certificate

33. (1) Subject to subsection (2), the holder of a Residency and Employment Rights Certificate who is the spouse of a Caymanian or has obtained a Residency and Employment Rights Certificate as a result of his marriage to the holder of a Residency and Employment Rights Certificate under section 30(16) or any other earlier analogous provision, shall forfeit his rights under that Certificate if-

- (a) he falls within any of the provisions of section 38;
- (b) his spouse ceases to be a Caymanian or to be a Residency and Employment Rights Certificate holder;
- (c) within ten years of the marriage, it is dissolved or annulled;
- (d) he ceases to be legally and ordinarily resident in the Islands; or
- (e) he and his spouse are living apart-
  - (i) under a decree of a competent court;
  - (ii) under a deed of separation; or
  - (iii) in circumstances where, in the opinion of the Board, the marriage has irretrievably broken down.

(2) The holder of a Residency and Employment Rights Certificate who is or was the spouse of a Caymanian and who is the parent of a Caymanian child may apply to the Board or the Chief Immigration Officer for a continuation of the Residency and Employment Rights Certificate-

- (a) until the child reaches the age of eighteen years; or
- (b) where the child is enrolled in tertiary education, until he completes his education or has reached the age of twenty-four years, whichever happens earlier.

(3) Where the holder of a Residency and Employment Rights Certificate is the surviving spouse of a Caymanian, he shall be allowed to make representations to the Board or the Chief Immigration Officer on his own behalf following which the Board or the Chief Immigration Officer may, in its or his discretion-

- (a) revoke the Certificate; or
- (b) allow the continuation of the Certificate.

(4) Where the Board or the Chief Immigration Officer revokes a Certificate under subsection (3) the previous holder shall-

- (a) if he has applied for a work permit, be entitled to work by operation of law on the same terms and conditions as applied to his previous Residency and Employment Rights Certificate; or
- (b) if he has applied for the grant of permanent residence under Part IV, be entitled to apply to the Chief Immigration Officer under section 52(4) for permission to continue working under the provisions of that section,

until the outcome of the application for a work permit or for permanent residence and any subsequent appeal, but in the case of paragraph (b) before doing so he shall comply with the requirements of section 52(6).

34. (1) A person of independent means who has attained the age of eighteen years and who satisfies the requirements of this section may apply to the Chief Immigration Officer for a Residency Certificate for Persons of Independent Means.

Residency Certificate for  
Persons of Independent  
Means

(2) An applicant under this section shall be granted a Residency Certificate for Persons of Independent Means, without the right to work, valid for twenty-five years and renewable thereafter at the discretion of the Chief Immigration Officer, if he satisfies the Chief Immigration Officer that-

- (a) he has no serious criminal conviction;
- (b) he is in good health and possesses adequate health insurance coverage; and
- (c) he has attained the financial standing required by subsection (3).

(3) The applicant will be deemed to have attained the financial standing referred to in subsection (2) if, as a minimum he can show that he has-

- (a) a continuous source of annual income in the prescribed amount without the need to engage in employment in the Islands;
- (b) invested the prescribed sum in developed residential real estate in the Islands; and
- (c) made other local investments in the prescribed amount.

Certificate of Permanent Residence for Persons of Independent Means

34A. (1) A person of independent means who satisfies the requirements of this section may apply in the prescribed manner to the Chief Immigration Officer for the grant of the right to reside permanently in the Islands.

(2) Subject to subsection (4) an applicant under this section shall be granted a Certificate of Permanent Residence for Persons of Independent Means, without the right to work, if he satisfies the Chief Immigration Officer that-

- (a) he has invested the prescribed sum in developed real estate in the Islands;
- (b) he and his spouse (where applicable) have a clean criminal record;
- (c) he, his spouse and dependent children (where applicable) are in good health and possess adequate health insurance coverage; and
- (d) his financial resources are sufficient to adequately maintain himself and his dependents.

(3) Notwithstanding subsection (2) and section 35(1) the holder of a Certificate of Permanent Residence for Persons of Independent Means issued under this section, or his spouse, if he holds a Certificate of Permanent Residence for Dependants of Persons of Independent Means issued under section 35, may apply to the Caymanian Status and Permanent Residency Board or the Chief Immigration Officer for a variation of his Certificate to allow the right to work for any employer but only in the particular occupation or occupations specified by the Board or the Chief Immigration Officer.

(4) The Cabinet shall establish a quota that would restrict the number of Certificates granted under this section and such quota shall be gazetted.

Spouse and dependants of the holder of a Residency Certificate for Persons of Independent Means or a Certificate of Permanent Residence for Persons of Independent Means

35. (1) The spouse and such dependants of the holder of a Residency Certificate for Persons of Independent Means or a Certificate of Permanent Residence for Persons of Independent Means as were listed on the application and were approved by the Chief Immigration Officer shall be granted a Residency Holders (Dependant's) Certificate or a Certificate of Permanent Residence for Dependants of Persons of Independent Means, respectively, the holder of which is permitted, subject to this section, to reside in the Islands without the right to work save that in the case of a Certificate of Permanent Residence for Dependants of Persons of Independent Means such Certificate may be varied under section 34A(3) to allow the right to work.

(2) Upon the death of the holder of a Residency Certificate for Persons of Independent Means or a Certificate of Permanent Residence for Persons of Independent Means or upon the dissolution of the marriage, the right of the surviving or former spouse to reside in the Islands may be revoked at the discretion of the Chief Immigration Officer but the said surviving or former

spouse may, within a period of three months of any revocation, apply for the grant of a Residency Certificate for Persons of Independent Means or a Certificate of Permanent Residence for Persons of Independent Means upon satisfying the requirements of this section.

(3) Where an application for a Residency Certificate for Persons of Independent Means or a Certificate of Permanent Residence for Persons of Independent Means has been made within the said period of three months from the date of any revocation, the applicant's right to reside in the Islands shall continue upon the same terms and conditions of the revoked certificate until the Chief Immigration Officer determines the application.

36. (1) The right of a dependant child to reside in the Islands as a dependant shall cease upon his reaching the age of eighteen years unless his parent's Residency Certificate for Persons of Independent Means or Certificate of Permanent Residence for Persons of Independent Means has been varied to reflect the fact that the dependant child is engaged in full-time tertiary education, or the Chief Immigration Officer is satisfied that there are special circumstances.

Dependants of the holder of a Residency Certificate for Persons of Independent Means or a Certificate of Permanent Residence for Persons of Independent Means

(2) Where a Residency Certificate for Persons of Independent Means was issued under this Law or any corresponding provision of an earlier Law, the Chief Immigration Officer may vary it.

(3) A dependant child of the holder of a Residency Certificate for Persons of Independent Means or a Certificate of Permanent Residence for Persons of Independent Means who-

- (a) was listed in the original application for the certificate;
- (b) has attained the age of eighteen years; and
- (c) is of proven good character and conduct,

may apply for permanent residence under section 30.

36A. The holder of a Certificate of Permanent Residence for Persons of Independent Means or a Certificate of Permanent Residence for Dependants of Persons of Independent Means may, at the discretion of the Chief Immigration Officer, have his right to reside in the Islands revoked if-

Revocation of Certificate of Permanent Residence for Persons of Independent Means or Certificate of Permanent Residence for Dependants of Persons of Independent Means

- (a) he fails to maintain the required prescribed level of investment in developed real estate in the Islands; or
- (b) in the opinion of the Chief Immigration Officer, any of the matters referred to in section 38(1)(a) to (j) applies to the holder or his dependants.

37. The holder of a Residency Certificate for Persons of Independent Means or the holder of a Residency Certificate for Retirees acquired under the Immigration

Revocation of Residency Certificate for Persons of Independent Means Law 34 of 2003

Law, 2003 may, at the discretion of the Chief Immigration Officer, have the right to reside in the Islands revoked if-

- (a) he fails to maintain his financial standing stipulated in section 34;
- (b) he was not physically present in the Islands for a minimum of thirty days in aggregate in any calendar year; or
- (c) in the opinion of the Chief Immigration Officer, any of the matters referred to in section 38(1)(a) to (j) applies to the holder.

Certificate of Direct Investment

37A. (1) A person who-

- (a) has made or proposes to make, an investment equal to or greater than the minimum prescribed amount in any licensed employment generating business or businesses in the Islands, whether already existing or a new venture, and in which he does or will exercise substantial management control;
- (b) has a substantial business track record or an entrepreneurial background, including specific professional, technical and other knowledge relevant and necessary to carry on the pertinent business or businesses; and
- (c) *repealed by section 10 of Law 2 of 2012*
- (d) can prove-
  - (i) that he has available to him and under his personal control funds to the value of the proposed investment amount; or
  - (ii) that he has already invested the minimum prescribed sum of money in a licensed employment generating business in the Islands,

2007 Revision

may apply to the Chief Immigration Officer for a Certificate of Direct Investment but such Certificate shall not confer any right to a licence under the Local Companies (Control) Law (2007 Revision) or the Trade and Business Licensing Law (2007 Revision).

2007 Revision

(2) Where the Chief Immigration Officer is satisfied that-

- (a) the applicant and his spouse (where applicable) have a clean criminal record;
- (b) the applicant, his spouse and dependent children (where applicable) are in good health and possess adequate health coverage; and
- (c) the applicant has provided satisfactory evidence with respect to subsection (1),

he may, taking into account the views of the Department of Commerce and Investment, issue an Approval-in-Principle Certificate of Direct Investment valid for six months.



(3) Where before the expiry of the Approval-in-Principle Certificate of Direct Investment the applicant can demonstrate that he has made the investment proposed and has obtained all required licences, then the Chief Immigration Officer may, upon receipt of the prescribed fees, and having taken into account the views of the Department of Commerce and Investment, issue a Certificate of Direct Investment valid for twenty-five years renewable on application and at the discretion of the Chief Immigration Officer.

(4) Where a Certificate has been issued under subsection (3) the holder is required to submit to the Chief Immigration Officer audited financial statements and details of the employment that has been generated at the end of the second and fifth year of his investment and at any time thereafter upon request by the Chief Immigration Officer.

(5) A Certificate issued under subsection (3) shall entitle the holder-

- (a) to reside in the Cayman Islands; and
- (b) to work in the business or businesses in which he has invested for the purpose of obtaining the Certificate in an occupation or in occupations approved by the Chief Immigration Officer.

(6) The spouse and dependent children (where applicable) of the holder of a Certificate of Direct Investment shall be granted a Direct Investment Holder's (Dependant's) Certificate, the holder of which is permitted, subject to this section, to reside in the Cayman Islands.

(7) Upon the death of the holder of a Certificate of Direct Investment or upon the dissolution of the marriage, the right of the dependant spouse to reside in the Islands may be revoked at the discretion of the Chief Immigration Officer but the said surviving spouse may within a period of three months of any revocation apply for the grant of a Certificate of Direct Investment upon satisfying the requirements of this section.

(8) Where an application for a Certificate of Direct Investment has been made within the said period of three months from the date of the revocation, the applicant's right to reside in the Islands shall continue upon the same terms and conditions until the Chief Immigration Officer determines the application.

(9) The right of a dependent child to reside in the Islands as a dependant shall cease upon reaching the age of eighteen years unless his parent's Certificate of Direct Investment has been varied to reflect the fact that the dependent child is engaged in full-time tertiary education, or the Chief Immigration Officer is satisfied that there are special circumstances.

(10) Where there is a change in the number of children who are dependants of the holder of a Certificate of Direct Investment or where he marries, divorces

subsequent to the issue of the Certificate, or changes his occupation within the business or businesses, he shall so inform the Chief Immigration Officer of the fact and the Chief Immigration Officer may amend the Certificate accordingly and subject to such conditions as he may, in his absolute discretion, determine.

(11) When paying the prescribed fee the holder shall also submit a declaration signed by him confirming that-

- (a) he has provided to the Chief Immigration Officer audited financial statements pertaining to his investments at the required intervals;
- (b) he maintains the prescribed level of investment;
- (c) none of his business licences has been revoked;
- (d) he was physically present in the Islands for a minimum of ninety days in aggregate in the preceding calendar year; and
- (e) the business or businesses are complying with the prescribed employment generating requirements.

Revocation of  
Certificate of Direct  
Investment

37B. The holder of a Certificate of Direct Investment may at the discretion of the Chief Immigration Officer have his right to reside in the Islands revoked if-

- (a) he fails to provide audited financial statements pertaining to his investments at the required intervals or when requested by the Chief Immigration Officer;
- (b) he fails to maintain the required prescribed level of financial investment;
- (c) any of his business licences has been revoked;
- (d) he was not physically present in the Islands for a minimum of ninety days in aggregate in any calendar year;
- (e) the business or businesses in which the investments are made cease to be employment generating;
- (f) he fails to pay the prescribed fees in respect of himself or his dependants; or
- (g) in the opinion of the Chief Immigration Officer, any of the matters referred to in section 38(1)(a) to (j) applies to the holder or his spouse.

Certificate for Specialist  
Caregivers

37C. (1) The employer or former employer of a person who meets the criteria contained in subsection (2) may apply to the Work Permit Board or the Chief Immigration Officer for the grant or renewal of a Certificate for Specialist Caregivers in respect of that person.

(2) The criteria mentioned in subsection (1), in respect of a person's eligibility for employment under a Certificate for Specialist Caregivers, are as follows -

- (a)
  - (i) the person shall hold a final work permit;
  - (ii) where the person held a final work permit which has expired, the application for employment under a Certificate for Specialist Caregivers may be made if the person is otherwise legally resident in the Islands;
  - (iii) where the person held a final work permit which has expired and the person has departed the Islands, the application for employment under a Certificate for Specialist Caregivers shall be made within one year from the date of that departure;
  - (iv) the person holds permission granted under section 52(4); or
  - (v) where the person held permission granted under section 52(4) which has expired, the application for employment under a Certificate for Specialist Caregivers may be made if the person is otherwise legally resident in the Islands or remains in the Islands on the basis of permission granted under section 67,  
and in relation to subparagraphs (i) to (v), such final work permit or permission is or was for employment by an employer (including, the Government or a nursing home approved by the Cabinet) as a domestic helper, nurse or nanny, or in some other care giving capacity;
- (b) the person is or was employed with the employer or former employer making the application, as a domestic helper, nurse or nanny, or in some other care giving capacity, for at least three years immediately before the permission to be employed in that capacity terminated;
- (c) the person is or was employed for the purpose of caring for a sick person, elderly person or person with a disability; and
- (d) the person is in good health and possesses health insurance coverage.

(3) Where, having received an application under subsection (1), the Work Permit Board or the Chief Immigration Officer, as the case may be, is satisfied that the criteria in subsection (2) are met, the Work Permit Board or the Chief Immigration Officer, having regard to the criteria contained in section 44(3) may, upon payment of the prescribed fee, issue a Certificate for Specialist Caregivers, valid for five years, to take effect upon the expiry of the employee's final work permit or permission granted under section 52(4) or, in the event that the employee's final work permit or permission granted under section 52(4) has expired, upon the date of the decision of the Board or the Chief Immigration Officer; and such Certificate shall be renewable for a period of five years, on application to the Board or the Chief Immigration Officer and upon payment of the prescribed fee, if the criteria contained in subsection (2) remain satisfied.

(4) Upon the issue of a Certificate for Specialist Caregivers, the name of the person being cared for shall be inscribed on the Certificate.

(5) A Certificate for Specialist Caregivers shall entitle the employee named in it to continue to work, or return to work, for the employer with whom the employee has been, or was, employed prior to the expiry of the employee's final work permit or permission granted under section 52(4) in the capacity of a domestic helper, nurse or nanny or in any other care giving capacity, caring for the sick person, elderly person or person with a disability named in the Certificate.

(6) Where, during the currency of any final work permit or permission granted under section 52(4), an application had been made to the Work Permit Board or to the Chief Immigration Officer -

- (a) for the grant of a Certificate for Specialist Caregivers where the applicant is eligible to make such an application; or
- (b) for the renewal of a Certificate for Specialist Caregivers prior to the expiry of the current Certificate,

then, if such application -

- (i) has not yet been determined by the Work Permit Board or the Chief Immigration Officer; or
- (ii) has been refused by the Work Permit Board or the Chief Immigration Officer and that refusal has been appealed under section 15 to the Immigration Appeals Tribunal within the prescribed time for doing so,

notwithstanding the fact that the final work permit, permission granted under section 52(4) or the Certificate for Specialist Caregivers has expired, it shall not be an offence for the employee to whom the application relates to continue to be engaged in gainful occupation on the same terms and conditions of the final work permit, the permission granted under section 52(4) or the Certificate for Specialist Caregivers while awaiting a notification of the determination of the application or appeal.

(7) A Certificate for Specialist Caregivers shall not confer any rights on the employee's spouse or dependants with respect to residence and employment rights in the Islands.

(8) Where during the currency of a Certificate for Specialist Caregivers, the employer who is the holder of the Certificate dies or is no longer capable of holding the Certificate, the Certificate may be transferred at the discretion of the Work Permit Board or the Chief Immigration Officer to another competent holder

provided that the employee will continue to care for the same sick person, elderly person or person with a disability named in the Certificate.

(9) An application for the renewal of a Certificate for Specialist Caregivers, where the applicant was eligible to make such application, may be refused and a Certificate may be revoked by the Work Permit Board or the Chief Immigration Officer if -

- (a) the employee named in the Certificate ceases to be employed by the employer named in the Certificate;
- (b) the person named in the Certificate as being the employer dies or becomes in the opinion of the Work Permit Board or the Chief Immigration Officer no longer capable of holding the Certificate;
- (c) the person named in the Certificate as being cared for dies or ceases to be a sick person or a person with a disability; or
- (d) in the opinion of the Work Permit Board or the Chief Immigration Officer, any of the matters referred to in section 38(1)(a), (c), (d), (e), (f), (g), (h), (k) or (n) applies to the employee named in the Certificate.

(10) Where the employment arrangement between the employee and the employer who is the Certificate holder ceases or the Certificate holder or the person named in the Certificate as being cared for dies or ceases to be a sick person or a person with a disability, it shall be the duty of the employee named in the Certificate or the employer who is the Certificate holder, as the case may be, to inform the Board or the Chief Immigration Officer within thirty days of the cessation or the death or the change in circumstances with respect to the person being cared for, and failure to do so is an offence for which both the Certificate holder and the employee named in the Certificate, as the case may be, shall be liable.

(11) Upon the expiry of a Certificate for Specialist Caregivers and where no application is made for its renewal, or such application is not permitted to be made, or an application is made but is refused and no appeal has been made, the employee named in the Certificate shall leave the Islands unless the employee is allowed to remain under some other provision of this Law, and neither the Board nor the Chief Immigration Officer shall grant or renew a work permit for the employee for not less than one year after the employee has left the Islands.

37D. (1) A person who is or proposes to be legally and ordinarily resident in the Islands for a minimum period of ninety days in each calendar year and who-

Residency Certificate  
(Substantial Business  
Presence)

- (a) owns, or proposes to own, either directly or indirectly, a minimum of ten percent of the shares in an approved category of business in the Islands through which he has established, or will establish, a substantial business presence in the Islands; or

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- (b) proves to the satisfaction of the Chief Immigration Officer that he is or will be employed in a senior management capacity of an approved category of business in the Islands,

may apply to the Chief Immigration Officer for a Residency Certificate (Substantial Business Presence) but such Certificate shall not confer any right to a licence under the Local Companies (Control) Law (2007 Revision) or the Trade and Business Licensing Law (2007 Revision).

(2) For the purposes of this section, the expressions “approved category of business”, “senior management capacity” and “substantial business presence” shall have the meanings ascribed to them in the Regulations.

(3) Where the Chief Immigration Officer is satisfied that-

- (a) the applicant and his spouse (where applicable) have a clean criminal record;
- (b) the applicant, his spouse and dependent children (where applicable) are in good health and possess adequate health insurance coverage; and
- (c) the applicant has provided satisfactory evidence with respect to subsection (1),

he may, taking into account the views of the Department of Commerce and Investment-

- (i) in the case of an applicant who proposes to become a shareholder in an approved category of business as referred to in subsection (1)(a) but does not meet the shareholding or substantial business presence requirements or has not yet obtained all required licences, issue an Approval-in-Principle Residency Certificate (Substantial Business Presence) valid for six months; or
- (ii) in the case of an applicant under subsection (1)(b), or an applicant under subsection (1)(a) who already meets the shareholding and substantial business presence requirements, or the holder of an unexpired Approval-in-Principle Residency Certificate (Substantial Business Presence) who now meets all shareholding and substantial business presence requirements and has obtained all required licences, issue a Residency Certificate (Substantial Business Presence) valid for twenty-five years.

(4) A Certificate issued under subsection (3)(ii) shall be renewable on application and at the discretion of the Chief Immigration Officer.

(5) A Certificate issued under subsection (3) shall entitle the holder-

- (a) to reside in the Cayman Islands; and
- (b) to work in the business in which he is an owner or is employed in a senior management capacity in an occupation approved by the Chief Immigration Officer.

(6) The spouse and dependent children (where applicable) of the holder of an Approval-in-Principle Residency Certificate (Substantial Business Presence) shall be granted a Substantial Business Presence (Dependant's) Certificate, the holder of which is permitted, subject to this section, to reside in the Islands.

(7) Upon the death of the holder of an Approval-in-Principle Residency Certificate (Substantial Business Presence) or a Residency Certificate (Substantial Business Presence) or upon the dissolution of his marriage, the right of the dependent spouse to reside in the Islands shall cease after a period of one year from the date of the death or the dissolution unless-

- (a) the spouse can demonstrate to the satisfaction of the Chief Immigration Officer that he can support himself and any dependent children without having to become gainfully occupied in the Islands; or
- (b) the holder is granted permission to remain under any other provision of this Law.

(8) The right of a dependent child to reside in the Islands as a dependant shall cease upon completion of his full time tertiary education or when he reaches the age of twenty-four years, whichever happens earlier, unless the Chief Immigration Officer is satisfied that there are special circumstances.

(9) Where there is a change in the number of children who are dependants of the holder of a Certificate issued under this section or where he marries or divorces subsequent to the issue of the Certificate, or changes his occupation within the business, he shall so inform the Chief Immigration Officer of the fact and the Chief Immigration Officer may amend the Certificate accordingly and subject to such conditions as he may, in his absolute discretion, determine.

(10) When paying the prescribed annual fee the holder shall also submit a declaration signed by him confirming that-

- (a) his permission to operate or work in the business has not been lost as a result of the revocation or non-renewal of a required licence; and
- (b) he was physically resident in the Islands for a minimum of ninety days in aggregate in the preceding calendar year.

(11) The holder of a Certificate issued under this section may at the discretion of the Chief Immigration Officer have his right to reside in the Islands revoked if-

- (a) his ability to operate or work in the business to which the Certificate relates is lost as a result of the revocation or non-renewal of a required licence;
- (b) he was not physically resident in the Islands for a minimum of ninety days in aggregate in any calendar year;
- (c) the business in relation to which the certificate was granted no longer exists;
- (d) he ceases to comply with the provisions of subsection (1);
- (e) he fails to pay the prescribed fees in respect of himself or his dependants within thirty days of the due date; or
- (f) in the opinion of the Chief Immigration Officer, any of the matters referred to in section 38(1)(a) to (j) applies to the holder or his spouse.

General provisions  
relating to loss of  
permanent residency

38. (1) The Board or the Chief Immigration Officer may, in respect of any person who has been granted permission to reside permanently in the Islands, revoke such permission where-

- (a) he organises or engages in subversive political activity, or organises, causes or promotes racism within the Islands or elsewhere;
- (b) the Board or the Chief Immigration Officer is satisfied that the information given in his application for permission to remain permanently in the Islands was false in a material particular or concealed a material fact;
- (c) he has been convicted of an offence against the laws of the Islands;
- (d) he has been convicted of an offence under the laws of another country, the nature of which offence would, in the opinion of the Board or the Chief Immigration officer make his continued presence in the Islands contrary to the public interest;
- (e) he becomes destitute;
- (f) he becomes mentally disordered or mentally defective as defined in the Mental Health Law, 2013;
- (g) he is medically certified to be suffering from a communicable disease that makes his continued residence in the Islands dangerous to the community;
- (h) he is reasonably believed-
  - (i) to be a prostitute and to have come to the Islands for the purpose of prostitution; or
  - (ii) to be living on, or receiving the proceeds of prostitution;
- (i) he fails to maintain the level of financial investment stated in his application for permission to remain permanently in the Islands;

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- (j) he fails to make the annual declaration in respect of himself, his dependants, and other prescribed matters, as required by section 30(13);
- (k) he is or has been working in an occupation not specified in his Certificate;
- (l) either the Board or the Chief Immigration Officer is of the opinion that he is no longer supporting, or able to support, a dependant previously included in the grant of permanent residence;
- (m) he is delinquent, for a period of more than ninety days, with respect to the payment of prescribed fees relating to the right to reside permanently in the Islands;
- (n) he is deemed by the Cabinet to be an undesirable inhabitant of the Islands; or
- (o) he has been ordinarily resident outside the Islands continuously for a period of one year or more.

(1A) The offence referred to in subsection (1)(d) must have been an offence that would be recognised as an offence in the Islands.

(2) Where the substantive holder of permanent residence loses his right to permanent residence under this Law, a person who had acquired permanent residence and a Residency and Employment Rights Certificate by virtue of his being a dependant of the substantive holder, shall be allowed to make representations to the Board or the Chief Immigration Officer on its or his own behalf as to why he should not lose his right to permanent residence and the Board or the Chief Immigration Officer in its or his discretion shall determine the matter.

39. In relation to the qualification for legal and ordinary residence referred to in this Part-

Qualification for legal and ordinary residence in Part IV

- (a) where any question arises as to whether a person was or was not, during any material period, legally and ordinarily resident in the Islands, such questions shall be decided by the Board or the Chief Immigration Officer; and
- (b) nothing in this subsection shall have effect so as to preclude any person from appealing to the Immigration Appeals Tribunal under section 15 on the grounds that the Board or the Chief Immigration Officer came to the wrong decision on the question of whether during any material period he was or was not legally and ordinarily resident in the Islands.

**PART V - Gainful Occupation of Non-Caymanians**

Persons exempted

40. (1) This Part does not apply to-
- (a) (i) a person employed by the Government of the Islands in respect of his employment;
  - (ii) a person employed in the Islands by the Government of the United Kingdom;
  - (iii) a consular officer and his staff;
  - (iv) an accredited representative or agent of a government of any part of the Commonwealth; or
  - (v) a member of Her Majesty's armed forces;
  - (b) any person who may, from time to time, be declared by the Governor to be exempt for any purpose either unconditionally or subject to such conditions as may be prescribed;
  - (c) a member of the crew of any vessel that does not operate full-time in the Islands, while engaged in his duties as such;
  - (d) the beneficial owner of up to two units of property whose lawful presence in the Islands is to facilitate rental or lease arrangements in respect of those units and whose spouse does not own, operate or have an interest in those units; or
  - (e) such other class or classes of persons as may, from time to time, be prescribed.

(2) A certificate issued by the Governor, acting in his discretion, shall be final in determining whether or not a person falls within one of the categories (i) to (v) referred to in paragraph (a) of subsection (1).

Provisions not applicable to special economic zone developer and special economic zone enterprise

40A. Sections 44(2)(b) - (c), (3)(b) - (c) and (4), 45, 46, 48(10)(f) and 51 shall not apply in the case where the employer is a special economic zone developer or a special economic zone enterprise operating in a special economic zone for which a career development bureau has been established.

Who may be gainfully occupied

41. (1) Subject to subsection (2), no person shall carry on gainful occupation in the Islands unless-
- (a) he is Caymanian;
  - (b) he has acquired permanent residence with a right to work under this or any earlier law;
  - (c) he has acquired the right to reside and to work in the Islands as a result of the issue of a Residency and Employment Rights Certificate;
  - (ca) he is authorised to do so by a visitor's work visa granted under this Law;
  - (d) he is authorised to do so by a work permit granted under this or any earlier law; or

- (e) he is a person entitled to work under any other provision of this Law.

(2) No person shall carry on gainful occupation in the Islands, in respect of any restricted area of employment, unless -

- (a) he is Caymanian;
- (b) at the date of commencement of the Immigration (Amendment) Law, 2013, he is a key employee in a restricted area of employment;
- (c) he has acquired permanent residence with a right to work under this or any earlier Law;
- (d) he has acquired the right to remain and to work in the Islands as a result of the issue of a Residency and Employment Rights Certificate;
- (e) he is the parent of a Caymanian under the age of eighteen;
- (f) he is the holder of a work permit issued under section 31(7) or issued in accordance with a quota fixed by the Cabinet under section 46(A)(2);
- (g) he is a person whose employment under a temporary work permit is, in the opinion of the Chief Immigration Officer, justified due to exceptional circumstances; or
- (h) he is a person whose employment (otherwise than under a temporary work permit) is, in the opinion of the Work Permit Board, the Business Staffing Plan Board or the Cayman Brac and Little Cayman Immigration Board, justified due to exceptional circumstances,

but where, at the date of commencement of the Immigration (Amendment) Law, 2013, in respect of such person - Law 12 of 2013

- (i) a work permit is in force, he may continue to work under the terms and conditions of the permit until its expiration; or
- (ii) an application for a work permit was received but did not come before the Work Permit Board, the Business Staffing Plan Board, the Cayman Brac and Little Cayman Immigration Board or the Chief Immigration Officer until after that date, then the relevant Board or the Chief Immigration Officer, as the case may be, shall give consideration to such application using the law that was in effect immediately before that date.

42. (1) In this Part, unless the context otherwise requires, a reference to the Chief Immigration Officer in relation to the granting or renewal of work permits shall be construed as including a reference to anyone specifically designated by him to perform those duties.

Application for work permit

(2) All or any of the powers conferred upon the Chief Immigration Officer under subsection (5) may be delegated by him to any members of his staff.

(3) A person who seeks to be self-employed or a prospective employer of any person may apply for a work permit or the renewal thereof-

- (a) to the Work Permit Board, the Business Staffing Plan Board or the Chief Immigration Officer, as the case may be, where the application is for gainful occupation in Grand Cayman; or
- (b) to the Cayman Brac and Little Cayman Immigration Board where the application is for gainful occupation in Cayman Brac or Little Cayman.

(4) An application for the grant or renewal of a work permit or a Term Limit Exemption Permit shall be in the prescribed form and accompanied by-

- (a) the administrative filing fee, the work permit fee and where applicable the dependant fee and repatriation fee and such documentary evidence as may be prescribed; and
- (b) a written undertaking by the worker to submit to being fingerprinted and to the fingerprints being recorded electronically.

(5) Notwithstanding anything contained in this Law, the Chief Immigration Officer or his designate shall process applications and otherwise make determinations in respect of-

- (a) the grant or renewal of a work permit or a Term Limit Exemption Permit;
- (b) the grant of a work permit under section 52(10);
- (c) the grant of a final (non-renewable) work permit where permanent residence has been refused and an appeal against such refusal has not been lodged; and
- (d) an amendment to a work permit.

(6) For the avoidance of doubt the Chief Immigration Officer or his designate may amend but may not grant or renew a Business Staffing Plan.

(7) A delegation under subsection (2)-

- (a) shall be in writing or if made orally shall be reduced to writing as soon as possible afterwards;
- (b) may be made subject to such limitations and conditions as are specified in the instrument of delegation; and
- (c) may be revoked at any time by the grantor.

(8) Where the Chief Immigration Officer or his designates entertain an application under subsection (3) or section 53, it shall be his or their responsibility, as the case may be, to record and keep all minutes of the meetings and proceedings, including decisions taken.

43. In performing the functions of granting or renewing work permits, sections 44, 46A, 48, 55 and 56 with necessary amendments shall be construed as applying also to the Cayman Brac and Little Cayman Immigration Board.

Application of certain sections to Cayman Brac and Little Cayman Immigration Board

44. (1) The Work Permit Board, the Business Staffing Plan Board or the Chief Immigration Officer, as the case may be, in considering an application under section 42-

Consideration of application for work permit by Board or Chief Immigration Officer

- (a) shall, in respect of an application for a grant; or
- (b) may, in respect of an application for a renewal,

subject to any general directions which the Cabinet may, from time to time, give in respect of the consideration of such application, take into account the matters listed in subsections (2) to (4).

(2) In relation to the prospective employer, that-

- (a) he has demonstrated his genuine need to engage the services of the prospective worker;
- (b) he has, unless he has been exempted by the Cabinet or by the Board, sought, by advertising in at least two issues for two consecutive weeks in a local newspaper, to ascertain the availability of any one or more of the following in the order in which they are listed-
  - (i) a Caymanian;
  - (ii) the spouse of a Caymanian;
  - (iii) the holder of a Residency and Employment Rights Certificate; and
  - (iv) a person legally and ordinarily resident in the Islands who is qualified and willing to fill the position;
- (c) in the case of an application in respect of a professional, managerial or skilled occupation, the Board or the Chief Immigration Officer, as the case may be, is satisfied as to the extent to which he has established adequate training or scholarship programmes for Caymanians; and
- (d) in the case of a worker who has a ten year term limit which took effect prior to the commencement of the Immigration (Amendment) (No. 2) Law, 2013, the extent to which the employer has contributed to the national training initiative.

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(3) In relation to the worker-

- (a) his character, reputation and health, and where relevant, the character, reputation and health of his dependants;
- (b) his professional and technical qualifications and his experience and competence to undertake the position applied for;

- (c) the economic and social benefits which he may bring to the Islands;
- (d) the sufficiency of the resources or the proposed salary of the worker and, where his spouse is employed within the Islands, those of his spouse, and his or their ability to adequately maintain his or their dependants;
- (e) his facility in the use of the English language; and
- (f) the location, type and suitability of the accommodation available for the worker and his dependants, if any, throughout the term of the work permit.

(4) Generally-

- (a) the protection of local interests and in particular of Caymanians, including without limitation and where applicable, the provisions set out in section 44(2)(c);
- (b) the availability of the services of a suitable person already legally and ordinarily in the Islands; and
- (c) the requirements of the community as a whole, the demographics referred to in section 24(j) and such other matters that may arise from the application.

(5) A person who, when making an application under section 42 to the Board or the Chief Immigration Officer, wilfully-

- (a) withholds information that a Caymanian, the spouse of a Caymanian or the holder of a Residency and Employment Rights Certificate has applied for the position for which a work permit is sought; or
- (b) provides inaccurate or incomplete information with respect to paragraph (a) in an attempt to deceive the Board or the Chief Immigration Officer, either by act or omission,

commits an offence and is liable on summary conviction in respect of the first offence to a fine of twenty thousand dollars and to imprisonment for one year; and in respect of a second or subsequent offence to a fine of thirty thousand dollars and imprisonment for two years.

(6) General directions given under this section shall be published in the Gazette.

Business Staffing Plan

45. (1) Every company, firm or other business enterprise which-

- (a) has carried on business for six months or more on or after the 1st January, 2004; and
- (b) employs fifteen or more persons on work permits,

shall, no later than the 31st March, 2007, submit to the Business Staffing Plan Board, a Business Staffing Plan in accordance with Schedule 3 to the Regulations.

(2) Every company, firm or other business enterprise, other than those referred to in subsection (1), carrying on business within the Islands shall, as of the date they commence employing fifteen or more persons on work permits, submit to the Business Staffing Plan Board, a Business Staffing Plan in accordance with Schedule 3 to the Regulations within six months of such date.

(3) Every company, firm or other business enterprise which has no or fewer than fifteen persons on work permits, may submit to the Business Staffing Plan Board, a Business Staffing Plan in accordance with Schedule 3 to the Regulations.

(4) Where a Business Staffing Plan Certificate is about to expire, its holder shall apply in the prescribed manner and form for the renewal of his Business Staffing Plan and he shall not be regarded as being in breach of subsection (1) or (2) if the application for the renewal of his Plan was submitted before the date of the expiration of the certificate; and, where the certificate expires prior to the renewal of his Plan, he shall be entitled to operate under the terms and conditions of his Plan pending the renewal.

(5) Subject to subsection (6), neither the Work Permit Board, the Cayman Brac and Little Cayman Immigration Board nor the Chief Immigration Officer may entertain an application for a work permit or a temporary work permit, by way of grant or renewal, where the applicant is in breach of subsection (1) or (2); and, where the application is in respect of a worker who was employed on a work permit or a temporary work permit on the date of the application, the worker's right to be engaged in gainful occupation shall cease upon the expiration of the work permit or temporary work permit, as the case may be, notwithstanding section 56(2), save that upon the applicant filing his Business Staffing Plan, notwithstanding that it has been filed late, the granting or renewing of work permits by the entities referred to in this subsection shall resume for that applicant.

(6) Notwithstanding subsection (5), where an application for a Business Staffing Plan is submitted after any deadline provided for in this section, it shall be accompanied by a fee amounting to double that which would otherwise have been paid if the application had been submitted within time.

(7) The Business Staffing Plan Board or the Chief Immigration Officer may, upon the written application of the holder of a Business Staffing Plan Certificate, vary or amend the Business Staffing Plan to which the certificate relates.

(8) Where a company, firm or other business enterprise has submitted a Business Staffing Plan to the Business Staffing Plan Board as required by subsection (1) or (2) but the Work Permit Board, the Cayman Brac and Little Cayman Immigration Board and the Chief Immigration Officer are of the opinion, having first made enquires of the Business Staffing Plan Board and the applicant for the Business Staffing Plan Certificate, that the applicant has failed or refused to take reasonable steps to pursue and conclude such application, then the Work Permit Board, the Cayman Brac and Little Cayman Immigration Board and the Chief Immigration Officer may, upon giving not less than ninety days notice to the applicant of their intention so to do, cease granting and renewing work permits submitted by the applicant; and where the application is in respect of a worker who was employed on a work permit or a temporary work permit on the date of the application, the worker's right to be engaged in gainful occupation shall cease upon the expiration of the work permit or temporary work permit, as the case may be, notwithstanding section 56(2).

Responsibility of the Board in processing applications for professional employees

46. In considering an application for a work permit for a professional employee, the Work Permit Board, the Business Staffing Plan Board or the Chief Immigration Officer, as the case may be, shall-

- (a) consult with the appropriate authority;
- (b) have regard to the expressed views of the appropriate authority in respect of the requirements in the Islands of professional employees in the particular profession;
- (c) notify the appropriate authority of the details of every work permit applied for, whether granted or not;
- (d) not, except in exceptional circumstances, grant a work permit to a person wishing to enter into self employment as a professional employee; and
- (e) not grant a work permit to a professional employee unless-
  - (i) the appropriate authority has satisfied the Board that the applicant has applied for and been granted registration or such other approval, consent or permission as may be required under the relevant law, as a practitioner in his field; and
  - (ii) he is legally and ordinarily resident in the Islands or intends to be so legally and ordinarily resident.

Restricted areas of employment

46A. (1) The Cabinet may, by Order, designate certain professions, trades, businesses, occupations, vocations and types of employment, as restricted areas of employment for the purposes of section 41(2) but an Order made under this subsection has no effect unless it is subsequently ratified by the Legislative Assembly.



(2) The Work Permit Board, the Business Staffing Plan Board or the Cayman Brac and Little Cayman Immigration Board, as the case may be, shall in respect of restricted areas of employment, grant or renew work permits in accordance with a quota to be fixed by the Cabinet, which quota shall be gazetted.

47. The Board or the Chief Immigration Officer, as the case may be, shall give priority to employers who show a special need for work permits for domestic helpers.

Employers in need of domestic helpers

48. (1) Subject to section 52, the Board or the Chief Immigration Officer in considering an application under section 42 may-

Grant or refusal of work permit

- (a) refuse an application for a work permit; or
- (b) grant such an application with or without limitations or conditions.

(2) Subject to section 52, on the grant or renewal of an application under section 42, the work permit applied for shall be issued in the prescribed form for such period of up to three years generally, as the Board or the Chief Immigration Officer may determine, save that the Board or the Chief Immigration Officer, may grant a work permit for a period of up to-

- (a) five years to domestic helpers, teachers, doctors, nurses and ministers of religion;
- (b) five years to workers for positions authorised by the Board in a Business Staffing Plan Certificate;
- (c) five years to a director, officer or employee of a special economic zone developer or special economic zone enterprise operating in a special economic zone for which a career development bureau has been established; and
- (d) any period remaining in his term limit in the case of a worker who has a ten year term limit which took effect prior to the commencement of the Immigration (Amendment) (No. 2) Law, 2013,

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and the work permit shall be endorsed with particulars of the conditions and limitations, if any, imposed by the Board or the Chief Immigration Officer on the grant or renewal.

(3) Upon granting an application under section 42 with respect to a worker of eighteen years of age or older, the Board or the Chief Immigration Officer shall cause to be taken and retained electronically, the worker's fingerprints.

(4) Neither the Board nor the Chief Immigration Officer shall, except in exceptional circumstances, grant a work permit to a person wishing to enter self-employment.

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(5) The granting under this section of a self-employed work permit shall confer on the applicant therefor the right to be granted, on the payment of the prescribed fee under the Trade and Business Licensing Law (2007 Revision), any licence required under that Law for the carrying on of the gainful occupation authorised by the work permit, but such grant shall not of itself confer any right to a licence under the Local Companies (Control) Law (2007 Revision).

2007 Revision

(6) The work permit shall contain the names of any dependants of the employee in respect of whom permission to reside with him during the currency of the work permit has been granted by the Board or the Chief Immigration Officer.

(7) The Board or the Chief Immigration Officer may vary or modify the terms of a work permit upon application made by the employer or the worker and, in considering such application, shall take into account the applicable provisions of section 44 (2) to (4).

(8) Where a work permit is granted in respect of the gainful occupation of a person, the earlier gainful occupation of whom had been authorised by a previous work permit, such grant shall not give rise to any right to, or any expectation of a right to, any further new work permit thereafter, and the Board or the Chief Immigration Officer may, in any case, refuse an application for such further new work permit without any right arising to the applicant concerned to appeal against such refusal either to the Immigration Appeals Tribunal or the Grand Court on the grounds that the previous grant gave rise to any right or expectation of any right to a further work permit.

(9) Where a person has been continuously authorised by a gainful occupation licence or a temporary gainful occupation licence granted under any earlier law, or a work permit, to be gainfully employed and by virtue of such authorisations he or any other person has been lawfully legally and ordinarily resident in the Islands for any period which is one of the qualifications for application for a grant of the right to be Caymanian or the right permanently to reside in the Islands, such residence shall not of itself give rise to any right or expectation of a right to such a grant.

(10) An application for the grant or renewal of a work permit may be refused and a work permit may be revoked by the Board or the Chief Immigration Officer on any of the following grounds-

- (a) that there is refusal or inability on the part of the applicant and his spouse, if relevant, to properly support his dependants;
  - (b) that there are reasonable grounds for suspecting that the applicant uses or is involved in illegal drugs;
  - (c) that the applicant has a background of subversive political activity, racism or any illegal activity;
  - (d) that the applicant has committed an act of insolvency or bankruptcy or been as a shareholder or director of any company or other entity that has been the subject of liquidation especially where the creditors have been adversely affected;
  - (e) that the applicant has been convicted of an offence in the Islands or elsewhere or has been fined by an immigration officer of the rank of Assistant Chief Immigration Officer or above;
  - (f) that the work permit holder has been promoted or re-designated by his employer without the prior approval of the Board or the Chief Immigration Officer;
  - (g) that the applicant is in the Islands as a tourist visitor or as the holder of a visitor's work visa;
  - (h) that the Board or the Chief Immigration Officer considers that the applicant has not fully met any of the applicable requirements of section 44;
  - (i) for any of the applicable matters referred to in section 44(2) to (4) that the Board or the Chief Immigration Officer in its discretion considers appropriate;
  - (j) that, in respect of an application for a temporary work permit, the Chief Immigration Officer is of the opinion that the number or frequency of temporary work permits previously obtained or continuing to be sought in respect of a worker suggests more than temporary employment and constitutes a deliberate attempt to circumvent the operations of the provisions of section 52(1) and (14); or
  - (k) that the applicant failed to give the written undertaking referred to in section 42(4)(b).
- (11) Prior to the revocation of, or refusal to renew, a work permit-
- (a) all objections shall be considered;
  - (b) the applicant shall be given notice of all objections and allegations relating to him and he shall be afforded an opportunity to make written representation to the Board in respect thereof or, at the discretion of the Board, to appear before the Board to address such objections and allegations;
  - (c) an inquiry shall be made into the applicant; and
  - (d) all allegations that are taken into account in considering the application shall so far as reasonably practicable be corroborated

and a full investigation of such allegations shall so far as reasonably practicable, be carried out.

Key employees  
Law 23 of 2013

49. (1) Any application for key employee designation received prior to the commencement of the Immigration (Amendment) (No. 2) Law, 2013, shall be determined in accordance with this section.

(2) Where applicable, the worker nominated by his employer under this section to be a key employee may, upon the expiration of his final work permit issued under section 52(1), continue to work on the terms and conditions of his final work permit unless and until such time as the Board denies his employer's application to designate the worker as a key employee under subsection (4).

(3) *Repealed by section 32 of Law 23 of 2013*

(4) Before the Board or the Chief Immigration Officer can designate a worker as a key employee, the employer shall, at the time of such application, provide such particulars as to satisfy the Board or the Chief Immigration Officer that the worker fulfils one or more of the following requirements and if so satisfied the Board or the Chief Immigration Officer may designate the worker as a key employee after taking into account such particulars, if any, under section 44(3) or (4) as relate to the application-

- (a) he is recognised as having particular expertise in his field of practice, trade or employment and the Board or the Chief Immigration Officer recognises that there is difficulty in attracting such persons to the Islands or retaining such persons within the Islands;
- (b) he is or will be directly involved in training Caymanians or developing their skills in the field in which he is employed or practises and his expertise in this regard is important to the effective continuation of such training or development;
- (c) he is a professional employee whose expertise and skills are in short supply globally and are not available in adequate measure in the Islands and it is of economic and social benefit to the business or the Islands to attract such skills to the Islands;
- (d) his absence from the Islands will cause serious hardship to his employer, to Caymanians, or be detrimental to the Islands;
- (e) his business contacts are, or will be, of importance to the continued success of the business or its contribution to the Islands;
- (f) there exist other economic or social benefits to the Islands by virtue of securing or retaining his specialist skills or expertise; or
- (g) the circumstances of his particular case are considered by the Board or the Chief Immigration Officer to be exceptional and to

justify a special reason to employ him or to allow him to be designated as a key employee.

(5) Where a worker is designated as a key employee by the Board or the Chief Immigration Officer pursuant to subsection (4), upon application by his employer for renewal of his work permit, a presumption shall exist in favour of renewals until that worker has reached his term limit save that such a presumption may be rebutted-

- (a) by any findings under section 44(4)(a), or section 48(9) and (10); or
- (b) where the key employee is in breach of any obligation placed upon him by his employer for the purposes of being designated as a key employee or he no longer meets the criteria upon which he was so designated as a key employee.

(6) *Repealed by section 32 of Law 23 of 2013*

(7) Notwithstanding section 15, any decision of the Board or the Chief Immigration Officer under subsection (4) to deny the designation of an employee as a key employee shall be final and binding and no appeal shall lie from a decision of the Board or the Chief Immigration Officer.

(8) *Repealed by section 32 of Law 23 of 2013*

50. During the currency of a work permit, the holder of that permit may not change his employer unless- Change of employer

- (a) the Board, including the Cayman Brac and Little Cayman Immigration Board, or the Chief Immigration Officer believes there are special circumstances; or
- (b) the circumstances of his employment are within a description or class of descriptions specified in a direction made by the Cabinet.

51. During the currency of a work permit, the holder of that permit may not be promoted or re-designated without having applied for and received the approval of the Board or the Chief Immigration Officer, and the Board or the Chief Immigration Officer in considering the application- Prohibition against unauthorised promotion or re-designation

- (a) shall be satisfied that the employer has complied with the requirements of the Business Staffing Plan, if any; and
- (b) shall have regard to the effect that such promotion or re-designation would have on the opportunity for advancement to that level of qualified Caymanians already engaged in the same profession or capacity within that business enterprise.

Term limits

52. (1) Subject to subsections (4), (6), (8), (10) and (11) the term limit of a worker shall be nine years, whether or not he is a key employee, in any case commencing with-

- (a) the date on which the worker first entered the Islands, if the worker first entered the Islands as a work permit holder; or
- (b) the date on which the worker is granted a work permit, if the worker first entered the Islands as a tourist visitor,

whether such permits are granted and held continuously or not, and upon the expiration of his term limit, the worker shall leave the Islands and neither the Board nor the Chief Immigration Officer shall grant or renew a work permit for him until he has ceased to hold a work permit for not less than one year after he has left the Islands.

(2) A worker who leaves the Islands before the expiration of his term limit and who has ceased to hold a work permit for not less than one year, may apply for and be granted a new work permit and shall thereupon have a new term limit as provided for in subsection (1).

(3) Where a worker has left the Islands prior to the expiration of his term limit and has ceased to hold a work permit but either he or his employer wishes to apply for a new work permit prior to his having ceased to hold a work permit for one year or more, then the worker or his employer may apply for and be granted new work permits but his term limit shall remain as if his employment had not been interrupted, save that should he return after the commencement of the Immigration (Amendment) (No. 2) Law, 2013 his term limit shall be as stated in subsection (1) and, upon the expiration of such term limit, he shall be subject to the provisions of subsection (1) unless he is allowed to remain under some other provision of the Law.

Law 23 of 2013

(4) Subject to subsection (5), where a person is eligible to apply and has applied for permission to reside permanently in the Islands under section 30 during the currency of a work permit, a Term Limit Exemption Permit or whilst working by operation of law under section 52A(11) he may apply to the Chief Immigration Officer for permission-

- (a) to continue working on the same terms that applied to the work permit, the Term Limit Exemption Permit or those that applied to his working by operation of law; or
- (b) to work for a different employer but in the same occupation as that in which he was authorised to work at the time of making the application,

and such permission may be granted or renewed until such time as his application or any appeal arising from it is determined.

(5) Any permission granted under subsection (4) may be varied by the Chief Immigration Officer to add or remove a dependant or may be revoked on any of the grounds listed under section 48(10).

(6) A person who intends to work by operation of law under section 49(2) or 52A (11) shall first submit, or cause to be submitted, his passport to the Immigration Department and his employer shall pay annually all fees that would have been paid in respect of the person had he continued to be employed on a work permit and thereupon his passport shall be endorsed acknowledging him to be working by operation of law.

(7) A person who fails to comply with subsection (6) commits an offence.

(8) A person working under permission granted under subsection (4) shall, in the event that his application for permission to reside permanently in the Islands has been unsuccessful and no appeal has been filed within the time allowed for doing so or having been filed has been unsuccessful and all further appeals have been exhausted and in either event his term limit has expired, be entitled to continue receiving permission under subsection (4) for a period not exceeding ninety days from the date of the communication to him of such refusal or the determination of any appeal or proceedings arising therefrom, whichever shall be the later, and after such period expires he shall leave the Islands and neither the Board nor the Chief Immigration Officer shall issue or renew a work permit for him until he has ceased to hold a work permit for not less than one year thereafter.

(9) A person who, as an approved dependant, accompanies to the Islands a worker or employee-

- (a) of the Government of the Islands; or
- (b) of the Government of the United Kingdom, in the Islands,

may himself become a worker but his term limit shall be deemed to have commenced on the date on which he was first within the Islands as an approved dependant and he shall be thereafter subject to the provisions of this section as if he had first entered the Islands as a worker.

(10) A person-

- (a) who is married to-
  - (i) a worker;
  - (ii) a person employed by the Government of the Islands;
  - (iii) a person employed by the Government of the United Kingdom, in the Islands;

- (iv) a person employed by any statutory authority or Government owned company, the employees of which are by law not required to hold work permits; or
- (v) a person who is working by operation of law under section 49(2) or 52A(11), or with the permission granted under subsection (4) or (8),

and whose right to work in the Islands will expire before that of his spouse;

- (b) whose marriage is in the opinion of the Board or the Chief Immigration Officer not a marriage of convenience;
- (c) who is not living apart from his spouse under a decree of a competent court or under a deed of separation; and
- (d) who has not lived apart from his spouse for an aggregate period of three months out of the twelve months immediately preceding the application for the grant in circumstances which, in the opinion of the Board or the Chief Immigration Officer, have led it to conclude that the marriage has broken down,

may, during the currency of the spouse's work permit or contract of employment with the Government of the Islands or with the Government of the United Kingdom in the Islands or in the period during which his spouse is working by operation of law under section 49(2), 52A(12) or with permission granted under subsection (4) or (8), apply for the grant of a work permit or the renewal of an existing work permit; and the Board or the Chief Immigration Officer may grant the application for a period not exceeding that of the spouse's work permit or any renewal thereof or of his contract of employment as aforesaid or of the period for which his spouse is working by operation of law or under permission granted under subsection (4) or (8).

(11) A person working under subsection (10) whose spouse is granted permanent residence under section 30 and who has applied for a Residency and Employment Rights Certificate as the spouse of a permanent resident under section 30(16) will not lose his right to work and may continue to be granted work permits until the final determination of his application where that application was submitted within ninety days of the grant of his spouse's permanent residence.

(12) Where a work permit has been granted to a worker under subsection (10) and his spouse ceases to have the right to work and is required to leave the Islands, the work permit granted shall automatically terminate on the date on which his spouse ceases to have the right to work and the worker shall himself leave the Islands and not be entitled to the grant or renewal of any further work permits until he has ceased to hold a work permit for not less than one year after he has left the Islands.



(13) The Board or the Chief Immigration Officer, in calculating under subsection (10)(d), the period of time that an applicant has spent apart from his spouse, shall not take into account those occasions when either spouse's absences were because of medical, educational, business, vacation or other analogous circumstances.

(14) On the grant or renewal of a work permit, the Board or the Chief Immigration Officer shall notify the worker and his employer of the worker's term limit and its expiration date for the purposes of this Law.

(15) For the avoidance of doubt, subsection (1) does not apply to a person who had and continues to have, his normal place of work and abode for the time being outside the Islands and who enters the Islands to work on a temporary work permit for a specific purpose or occasion only and leaves the Islands at the conclusion thereof or upon the expiration of the temporary work permit, whichever first occurs, including-

- (a) legal counsel acting in any matter whether before a court in the Islands or otherwise;
- (b) visiting doctors or other specialists in the medical field;
- (c) skilled specialist tradesmen;
- (d) travelling salesmen; or
- (e) other persons in similar circumstances.

(16) For the avoidance of doubt a worker who was subject to a term limit of seven years and who left the Islands upon the expiry of such term limit prior to the commencement of the Immigration (Amendment)(No. 2) Law, 2013 without applying for any right contained in this Law to remain beyond the expiry of his term limit, shall not be entitled to return to the Islands and hold any further work permits on the basis of the term limit now provided for under subsection (1) until he has completed a break in stay of at least one year from the date of his departure.

(17) Subsection (16) does not apply to a person who, prior to the commencement of the Immigration (Amendment) (No. 2) Law, 2013 was a key employee and who-

- (a) ceased to be a key employee after the end of his seventh year but before becoming eligible to apply for the right to reside permanently under section 30; and
- (b) at the commencement of that Law was no longer residing in the Islands.

52A. (1) Notwithstanding section 52 and subject to the provisions of this section an employer or prospective employer may, in respect of any person-

Term Limit Exemption  
Permit

- (a) whose final work permit expired after the appointed date and who had not applied for permanent residence prior to such expiry; or
- (b) who, at the appointed date is working by operation of law having applied for key employee designation and such application is subsequently refused,

apply to the Work Permit Board, the Business Staffing Plan Board or the Chief Immigration Officer, as the case may be, for the grant of a Term Limit Exemption Permit.

(2) In considering an application for the grant or renewal of a Term Limit Exemption Permit the relevant Board or the Chief Immigration Officer, as the case may be, shall have regard to the provisions of section 44.

(3) A Term Limit Exemption Permit granted under this section shall be for a period of one year from the appointed date and may be renewed upon application for a further period not exceeding the cut-off date.

(4) *Repealed by section 35 of Law 23 of 2013*

(5) A Term Limit Exemption Permit granted under this section may be granted for employment with any employer.

(6) *Repealed by section 35 of Law 23 of 2013*

(7) An application for the grant of a Term Limit Exemption Permit may be refused, and a Term Limit Exemption Permit may be revoked in the same manner and on the same grounds as are applicable in the case of the refusal or revocation of a work permit.

(8) Where a worker's Term Limit Exemption Permit has been revoked within six months of its issue, the employer shall be entitled to a refund of fifty percent of the annual fee.

(9) A person aggrieved by, or dissatisfied with, the decision of the Board or the Chief Immigration Officer, as the case may be, in respect of a Term Limit Exemption Permit may appeal to the Immigration Appeals Tribunal in accordance with section 15.

(10) Where an application-

- (a) for the renewal of a Term Limit Exemption Permit is submitted prior to its expiry; or
- (b) for the grant of a Term Limit Exemption Permit (where such application was submitted prior to the expiry of the worker's final work permit and is for continued employment with the same

employer) or the renewal of a Term Limit Exemption Permit was refused and an appeal was lodged with the Immigration Appeals Tribunal in accordance with section 15,

the worker is authorised to continue to be employed on the same terms and conditions as applied to the final work permit or the Term Limit Exemption Permit pending the outcome of the application and any subsequent appeal against a refusal of that application, but such authorisation shall terminate automatically at the cut-off date.

(11) The holder of a Term Limit Exemption Permit on the cut-off date may continue to work by operation of law on the same terms and conditions until 9<sup>th</sup> December, 2013, but prior to doing so he shall comply with the requirements of section 52(6).

(12) Where the employer of the holder of a Term Limit Exemption Permit applies for the grant of a work permit in respect of that worker prior to the expiry of the Term Limit Exemption Permit on the cut-off date or while the worker is working by operation of law under subsection (11) the worker shall be entitled to continue working on the same terms and conditions as applied to his term Limit Exemption Permit until the outcome of his application and any subsequent appeal.

53. (1) The Chief Immigration Officer or his designate appointed under section 42 may on application in the prescribed form, accompanied by such documentary evidence as may be prescribed, by or on behalf of a person who desires to enter and remain in the Islands temporarily for the purposes of gainful occupation-

Temporary work permit

- (a) grant to such person a temporary work permit in the prescribed form upon payment of the prescribed fee;
- (b) vary or modify the terms of such permit upon payment of the prescribed fee;
- (c) refuse the application for the permit; or
- (d) revoke a temporary work permit so granted.

(2) A work permit granted under subsection (1) may be either-

- (a) a temporary work permit, for a continuous period of up to six months which may, if granted for a period of less than six months, be renewed so long as the total period of validity does not exceed six months; or
- (b) a temporary work permit, for a seasonal worker for a continuous period of eight months and such permit cannot be extended or renewed, nor may a work permit be issued with respect to the same worker unless that person has left the Islands for at least

three months immediately following the expiry of the temporary work permit for a seasonal worker.

(3) In order to determine whether an application under this section should be granted or refused or a temporary work permit revoked, the Chief Immigration Officer shall have regard to the criteria enumerated in sections 44(2)(a), (3) and (4) and 48(9), with the necessary modifications.

(4) Subject to subsection (5), no application for the grant of a temporary work permit in respect of a person who gained entry as a visitor shall be-

- (a) considered, unless the application was submitted after the visitor's departure from the Islands; or
- (b) approved, unless the visitor remained off the Islands during the processing of the application.

(5) Notwithstanding subsection (4), where, in his opinion, there exist extenuating circumstances, the Chief Immigration Officer acting in person may approve the application.

(6) It shall be the duty of the prospective employer or, where the application is in respect of a person who wishes to be self-employed, the applicant, to satisfy the Chief Immigration Officer that there has been compliance with paragraphs (a) and (b) of subsection (4).

(7) A prospective employer or an applicant who provides information to the Chief Immigration Officer in relation to subsection (6), which information he knows to be false or does not believe to be true, commits an offence.

(8) Where the application under subsection (1) is to engage in work as an entertainer, the Chief Immigration Officer or his designate, in addition to complying with subsection (3), shall, where appropriate, take into account-

- (a) the genuineness of the application;
- (b) the nature and content of the proposed performance;
- (c) the views of the Cayman National Cultural Foundation;
- (d) the views of the Cayman Islands Music Association; and
- (e) whether a local artist or act has been engaged to participate in the event.

(9) For the purposes of this section-

“entertainer” includes-

- (a) a person performing musical acts individually or as part of an orchestra;
- (b) a singer, disc jockey or comic; and
- (c) a circus or carnival performer.

54. (1) Any person duly carrying on business in or from within the Islands who regularly throughout each year employs persons not legally and ordinarily resident in the Islands on a temporary basis, may make a single application in each calendar year to the Chief Immigration Officer for the issue, in each calendar year, of one or more business visitors' permits and for more than one visit.

Business visitors' permit

(2) An application for business visitors' permits shall be in respect of such number of persons and visits as the company, partnership or firm wishes to have granted and shall contain, in respect of each such person, such information as may be prescribed.

(3) An application shall state the maximum number of times it is desired that each business visitor be admitted to the Islands in such year, his occupation and the maximum duration of the stay of each such business visitor during each visit.

(4) No business visitors' permit shall be issued for more than fourteen days on any one visit or in respect of a person who is ineligible to be granted a work permit by virtue of section 52(1).

(5) The Chief Immigration Officer, in considering an application under this section, shall take into account such of the matters set out in section 44(2) to (4) as he considers relevant and, when granting business visitors' permits, may impose such conditions and limitations as he thinks fit.

(6) The annual fee, in respect of such business visitors' permits, shall be such as may be laid down by regulations and shall be determined by the number of persons in respect of whom application is made and the number of visits per person in the relevant calendar year.

54A. (1) A person, except a professional employee, other than a person who is ineligible for the grant of a work permit by virtue of section 52(1), who-

Visitor's Work Visa

- (a) is employed full time by a company, individual or institution outside the Islands;
- (b) is coming to the Islands for up to five calendar days for the purpose of engaging in commercial activity with one or more persons or entities licensed to trade in the Islands under the Trade and Business Licensing Law (2007 Revision) or any other law;
- (c) would otherwise require a work permit for the activity referred to in paragraph (b); and
- (d) is being sponsored in accordance with paragraph (b),

may apply to an immigration officer upon arrival at a port of entry for the grant of a visitor's work visa.

(2) An immigration officer of the rank of Senior Immigration Officer or above, upon being satisfied that the applicant under subsection (1)-

- (a) is formally sponsored by one or more persons or entities licensed to trade in the Islands under the Trade and Business Licensing Law (2007 Revision) or any other law by virtue of a letter or letters (in the event that the applicant is conducting business with more than one local entity) of sponsorship in the prescribed form having been received by the Immigration Department prior to his arrival at the port of entry;
- (b) possesses a valid entry visa, if required;
- (c) is not a prohibited immigrant; and
- (d) has paid the prescribed non-refundable fee,

may approve the grant of a visitor's work visa valid for five calendar days.

(3) A person granted a visitor's work visa under this section shall be entitled to engage in commercial activity only with his sponsor or sponsors.

(4) An application under subsection (1) may be refused on the ground that-

- (a) the applicant is required to have and does not possess a valid entry visa;
- (b) no letter or letters of sponsorship in the required form have been received by the Immigration Department in respect of the applicant;
- (c) the applicant is a prohibited immigrant;
- (d) in the opinion of the immigration officer the sponsorship of the applicant is not genuine; or
- (e) in the opinion of the immigration officer the applicant's presence in the Islands is not conducive to the public good.

(5) A visitor's work visa issued under this section shall not be extended or renewed unless the Chief Immigration Officer is satisfied that there are exceptional circumstances and only then for a further five calendar days after which the holder shall leave the Islands unless authorised to remain under any other section of this Law.

(6) A person may not hold more than one visitor's work visa for the same sponsor or sponsors in the same calendar month.

Work permit fees

55. (1) An application for a work permit shall be accompanied by the work permit fee and the application fee, which fees shall be paid into General Revenue; but, where the application is unsuccessful, the notification of refusal shall be accompanied by an authorisation for a refund of the work permit fee to the applicant.

(2) Subsection (1) notwithstanding, no fee shall be charged in respect of a work permit authorising the gainful occupation of-

- (a) children and young persons under the age of eighteen; or
- (b) such other class or classes of persons as may be prescribed from time to time.

(3) Where a work permit authorises the gainful occupation of a worker while he is in the service of an employer, any fees payable under subsection (1) in respect of such work permit, or any prescribed security in respect of the entry of that worker into the Islands, shall be paid by the employer, and it shall be an offence for an employer-

- (a) to seek or receive from any such worker any moneys or other compensation or benefit as reimbursement of, or contribution towards; or
- (b) to make any deduction from any remuneration due by him to any worker on account of, or in respect of,

those fees or that security.

(4) A person who contravenes subsection (3) commits an offence.

56. (1) Subject to subsection (3), a person who, in contravention of this Part, engages in gainful occupation or fails to comply with any condition or limitation contained in a work permit commits an offence and is liable on summary conviction in respect of a first offence to a fine of five thousand dollars and to imprisonment for one year and in respect of a second or subsequent offence to a fine of ten thousand dollars and to imprisonment for two years.

Offence to engage in gainful occupation or to employ persons in contravention of this Part

(2) Where an offence is committed under this Law, any Immigration Officer at or above the rank of Deputy Chief Immigration Officer may, subject to such conditions as he thinks fit, stay or compound any proceeding for that offence; and the said conditions may include, but are not limited to, payment of a levy, being not less than twice and not more than five times the amount of any fees that would have been payable had the provisions of this Law been observed; and in the event that no fees are payable or would have been payable under this Law, any immigration officer at or above the rank of Deputy Chief Immigration Officer may impose a fine of up to five thousand dollars.

(3) Subject to subsection (3A), where during the currency of a work permit an application has been made to the Board or the Chief Immigration Officer for the grant or renewal of a work permit with the same employer for a period to commence immediately upon its expiration, then if such application-

- (a) has not yet been determined by the Board or the Chief Immigration Officer; or

- (b) has been refused by the Board or the Chief Immigration Officer and that refusal has been appealed under section 15 to the Immigration Appeals Tribunal,

notwithstanding the fact that the original work permit has expired, it shall not be an offence for the worker to continue to be engaged in gainful occupation of the same kind and on the same terms and conditions of the original work permit while he awaits a notification of the determination of his application or his appeal, save that no worker shall be entitled to work under the provisions of this subsection beyond the date of his term limit unless he is a worker applying under the provisions of section 52(10).

(3A) Paragraph (b) of subsection (3) shall not apply where the original work permit was a temporary work permit unless the application for the grant of a work permit was made before the commencement of the Immigration (Amendment) (No. 2) Law, 2013.

(4) Where an application has been made to the Board, or the Chief Immigration Officer for a work permit and the application is refused or cancelled, then the employer is liable to pay the following fees in respect of any period worked by the worker between the expiration date of his previous work permit and the date of refusal or cancellation, namely-

- (a) where the period is six months or less the amount payable shall be half the annual fee that would have been paid had the work permit been approved;
- (b) where the period is more than six months but not more than twelve months the amount payable shall be the annual fee that would have been paid had the work permit been approved; and
- (c) where the refusal is appealed, the amount payable shall be the equivalent of half the annual fee for every six month period or part thereof worked by the worker pending the outcome of his appeal commencing upon the expiration of the six month period being worked at the time notice of appeal is filed.

(5) A person who employs another in contravention of this Law or in contravention of any condition or limitation contained in a permit commits an offence and is liable on summary conviction in respect of a first offence to a fine of twenty thousand dollars and to imprisonment for one year and in respect of a second or subsequent offence to a fine of thirty thousand dollars and to imprisonment for two years.

(6) It is a defence for a person charged with an offence under this section to prove that he had made reasonable enquiries to determine whether he was in contravention of this Part, and had no reasonable ground for believing, and did not in fact believe that he was in such contravention.



(7) For the purposes of subsection (4), a defendant who is charged with an offence under this section shall be deemed not to have made reasonable enquiries and not to have had reasonable grounds for believing that he was not in contravention of this Part unless he-

- (a) had inspected the work permit or permission to remain in the Islands, issued to the person concerned;
- (b) had checked the work permit or the permission-to-remain stamp in the passport of the person concerned to ensure that the particulars materially corresponded with those set out in the work permit or the permission to remain; and
- (c) had checked with-
  - (i) a named employee of the Immigration Department to determine that the work permit or permission to remain was valid at the material time and that the person concerned was not, and would not be, in breach of this Law; or
  - (ii) the employer to verify that the person concerned was employed by the employer and that the particulars of the person concerned corresponded with the records of the employer, where the name of the employer of the person concerned was specified in the work permit.

(8) For the purposes of this section, a person carrying on or employed in any profession, trade, business or other avocation in or with relation to the Islands shall be deemed to do so for gain or reward until the contrary is proved.

(9) A person who acts in contravention of this section, or is reasonably suspected of having so acted, may be taken into custody without warrant by an immigration officer or constable.

(10) Where an immigration officer is empowered to take a person into custody for an offence against this Law or on reasonable suspicion of having committed such an offence, the officer in charge of the place for the reception of arrested persons to which that person is brought, shall at once enquire into the case and if, on completion of the enquiry, there is no sufficient reason to believe that the person has committed any offence, he shall be released forthwith by an officer of the rank of Assistant Chief Immigration Officer or above.

(11) A person who, not being authorised to engage in gainful occupation, is found in the Islands, in any place of work, or on or within the vicinity of any place where work is in the process of being done or is intended to be done and at the time has in his possession or under his control any article for use in the course of or in connection with any gainful occupation, without reasonable excuse, shall be deemed to have such article with him for the purpose of work in connection with some gainful occupation unless the contrary is proved.

(12) In this section-

“place of work” includes any construction site, cleared land, woodland, field, private dwelling, commercial building, vessel or vehicle; and

“article” means any instrument used in or, reasonably suspected to be intended for use in connection with any gainful occupation, in a manner and in any place referred to in subsection (8).

Administrative fines and levies

56A. (1) The Chief Immigration Officer shall keep and maintain a register of all administrative fines and levies imposed under this Law in consequence of the breach of any of its provisions.

(2) The register shall contain particulars of-

- (a) the name and address of the person in breach;
- (b) the nature, location and date of the breach;
- (c) any measures taken by the Chief Immigration Officer in consequence of the breach; and
- (d) the amount of the fine or levy imposed and the date on which it was paid.

(3) The Chief Immigration Officer shall, within fourteen days of the end of each quarter, provide the Cabinet and the Director of Public Prosecutions with the information contained in the register in relation to that quarter.

#### **PART VI - Entry and Landing**

Discretion of Chief Immigration Officer and duty of persons arriving in the Islands

57. (1) The Chief Immigration Officer, in his discretion, shall determine which arriving vessels are to be met by an immigration officer, and it is the duty of every person in or on every vessel so met to report to an immigration officer.

(2) Where an immigration officer boards the vessel before disembarkation the report referred to in subsection (1) shall be made to that immigration officer, but where no such immigration officer boards the vessel, the report shall be made upon disembarking.

Duty of local agent of vessel to give notice of arrival

58. (1) It is the duty of the local agent of every vessel arriving in the Islands to give adequate and timely notification of the arrival of the vessel to the Chief Immigration Officer or to any immigration officer designated by the Chief Immigration Officer in that behalf, and, if required, to furnish such particulars as he may then have in his possession regarding the passengers or crew on board such vessel.

(2) A person who fails to comply with subsection (1), or with any requirement duly given thereunder, commits an offence.

59. (1) It is the duty of the master, the local agent or the captain of every vessel arriving in the Islands, other than a recreational sport fishing vessel returning from a sports fishing expedition that took place beyond the Islands' territorial waters, prior to the arrival of such vessel or as soon as practicable thereafter, to deliver to an immigration officer lists showing separately the names and particulars of-

Inward passenger and crew manifests

- (a) the passengers on board the vessel;
- (b) the passengers whose intention it is to disembark at the Islands;
- (c) the crew of the vessel; and
- (d) any other person on board the vessel.

(1A) A recreational sports fishing vessel arriving in the Islands shall comply with the prescribed arrival procedures.

(2) Where the master or captain of the vessel transports to the Islands passengers or crew-

- (a) who are required to have a valid entry visa or proof of citizenship, and are not in possession of such documents; or
- (b) in respect of whom he provides false information in relation to his duty under subsection (1) and subsection (1A),

he is liable to be fined by an Assistant Chief Immigration Officer or the Deputy Chief Immigration Officer, a sum not exceeding two thousand dollars.

(3) A person aggrieved by or dissatisfied with a decision under this section may appeal to the Chief Immigration Officer.

60. (1) It is an offence for the master of a vessel to cause or allow a passenger or member of the crew or other person on board the vessel to disembark in the Islands before permission generally to disembark has been given by an immigration officer.

Control of landing from vessels

(2) A person who fails to comply with subsection (1) commits an offence.

(3) It is a defence to a person charged with an offence under this section to prove that such disembarkation took place in an emergency and was, at the earliest time practicable, notified to an immigration officer.

61. (1) It is the duty of the master, the local agent or the captain of every vessel leaving the Islands, other than a recreational sport fishing vessel departing the Islands on a fishing expedition beyond the Islands' territorial waters, unless excused from doing so by the Chief Immigration Officer, to deliver to an immigration officer, prior to departure of such vessel, lists showing separately the names and particulars of-

Outward passenger and crew manifests

- (a) the passengers on board the vessel;
- (b) the crew on board the vessel; and
- (c) any other person on board the vessel.

(1A) A recreational sport fishing vessel shall, prior to departure on a fishing expedition beyond the Islands' territorial waters, comply with the prescribed departure procedures.

(2) A person who fails to comply with subsections (1) and (1A) commits an offence.

Government vessels

62. Sections 58, 59, 60 and 61 shall not apply to any Government controlled vessel, but the master thereof shall furnish the Chief Immigration Officer with such particulars as he may require.

Cabinet may issue entry permit

63. Notwithstanding anything contained in this Part, the Cabinet may issue a permit for the landing of any person to the Islands, and such person shall be admitted accordingly upon such terms as may be specified in the said permit.

Travel documents

64. (1) Unless exempted by this Law, every person entering and leaving the Islands shall, if required to do so by an immigration officer, produce for inspection a relevant passport or some other valid document establishing the identity and nationality or place of permanent residence of such person to the satisfaction of the immigration officer, and, in such cases as may be prescribed, a relevant visa.

(2) An application for a visa shall be in writing and accompanied by the prescribed fee.

(3) Subject to his complying with the prescribed criteria-

- (a) an immigration officer not below the rank of Assistant Chief Immigration Officer may-
  - (i) approve or refuse an application for a visa; and
  - (ii) refuse permission for a person in possession of a current visa to enter the Islands; and
- (b) the Chief Immigration Officer acting in person may-
  - (i) revoke a current visa; or
  - (ii) waive the requirement for the production of a visa to land in the Islands.

(4) A person who fails to comply with subsection (1) commits an offence.

Certain persons deemed not to have landed in the Islands

65. (1) The crew and passengers in transit in any vessel who do not leave the vessel or who disembark onto and do not leave any place reserved for such crew

and passengers in transit at any dock or airport, as the case may be, are deemed not to be persons landing in the Islands.

(2) A person who is not, *bona fide*, a passenger in transit in a vessel or a member of the crew thereof shall be deemed to have landed in the Islands if he resides in a vessel, including a yacht or houseboat, within the territorial waters of the Islands.

66. Without prejudice to any of the succeeding provisions of this Law, it is an offence for any person other than a person-

General prohibition from landing in the Islands without specific permission of immigration officer

- (a) who is Caymanian; or
- (b) who is not a prohibited immigrant and satisfies an immigration officer that he is-
  - (i) authorised to carry on a gainful occupation under section 48, 53, 54 or 54A;
  - (ii) a person named in a work permit as a dependant of the licensee;
  - (iii) a person who is exempted under section 40 or a dependant of such a person; or
  - (iv) a person who has permission to reside or to remain permanently in the Islands under Part IV,

to land in the Islands, without, in each case, specific permission, with or without the imposition of conditions or limitations, being given by an immigration officer.

67. (1) Persons other than those referred to in section 66, and who are not prohibited immigrants, may be granted permission to land in the Islands as visitors for a period of up to six months, subject to extension, from time to time, for further periods not exceeding six months on each occasion upon application made to the Chief Immigration Officer in the prescribed manner.

Entry by persons other than Caymanians or persons legally and ordinarily resident

(2) In furtherance of section 20(1)(d) where documentary evidence is produced to the Chief Immigration Officer to establish that a child is the child of a Caymanian, the child shall be allowed to enter, remain and attend school in the Islands.

(3) Where the effect of such extension is that the person to whom permission is granted will be permitted to remain for a period in excess of twelve months in total, upon such permission being granted the Chief Immigration Officer shall forthwith notify the Caymanian Status and Permanent Residency Board of such extension.

(4) Any permission granted under subsection (1) or any extension thereof may, at any time, be revoked either by the Cabinet, or by the Chief Immigration Officer acting in person.

(5) Where a passenger is proven to have gained entry into the Islands by deception and is still physically within the confines of the immigration or customs precincts, his permission to enter may be revoked by an immigration officer of the rank of Assistant Chief Immigration Officer or above.

(6) The Cabinet or the Chief Immigration Officer, so revoking under subsection (4), shall cause to be served upon the person concerned notice of any such revocation in which shall be specified a time, not being more than fourteen days, within which such person shall be required to leave the Islands.

(7) In the case of any child born in the Islands in such circumstances that it does not acquire the right to be Caymanian at birth, such child shall be reported to the Chief Immigration Officer as soon as practicable and shall thereafter be subject to immigration control in a manner appropriate in all the circumstances and having regard to the immigration status of the parents or, in the case of a child born out of wedlock, of the mother.

(8) A dependant of a Caymanian may be granted permission to reside in the Islands for a period of up to three years, subject to extension, from time to time, for further periods not exceeding three years on each occasion upon application made to the Chief Immigration Officer in the prescribed manner.

(9) In considering an application under subsection (8), the Chief Immigration Officer shall satisfy himself-

- (a) that the applicant is a dependant of a Caymanian;
- (b) as to the character and health of the dependant;
- (c) as to the ability of the Caymanian adequately to support the dependant;
- (d) that the dependant is covered by health insurance; and
- (e) as to such other matters as he shall consider relevant.

(10) An application submitted under this section shall be accompanied by the prescribed administrative fee and the prescribed repatriation fee.

(11) Any permission granted under subsection (8) or any extension thereof may, at any time, be revoked by the Chief Immigration Officer acting in his discretion.

(12) In this section-

“dependant”, in relation to a Caymanian, means the Caymanian’s parent, grandparent, brother or sister being in each case, wholly or substantially dependent upon the Caymanian.

68. (1) Before granting permission to any person under section 67, an immigration officer may require such person to satisfy him that he is in possession of a paid up return ticket or ticket entitling such person and his dependants, if any, to travel to such person's next destination outside the Islands, and is in possession of sufficient funds to maintain himself and his dependants, if any, during the period of his stay in the Islands.

Requirements to be satisfied by visitors

(2) An immigration officer, in accordance with general or special directions of the Cabinet or the Chief Immigration Officer, may attach such conditions or restrictions as he may think fit to any permission granted to any person under section 67, and the Cabinet, in respect of its own directions or those of the Chief Immigration Officer, or the Chief Immigration Officer in respect of his own directions may, at any time, vary such conditions or restrictions in such manner as he thinks fit.

(3) Notwithstanding anything in subsection (1), an immigration officer may, as a condition of granting permission to a person under section 67, require him to pay such non-refundable repatriation fee as may be prescribed; and the Chief Immigration Officer, as a condition of granting a variation of any condition or restriction attached to any such permission, may require him to pay such non-refundable repatriation fee as may be prescribed.

(4) A person who fails to comply with any condition or restriction imposed by this section commits an offence.

69. (1) A sponsor of a tourist visitor seeking permission to land in the Islands or seeking an extension of the permission may, at the discretion of an immigration officer, be required to give an undertaking in writing to be responsible for that tourist visitor's maintenance and accommodation during the period of his stay in the Islands.

Provisions relating to sponsors

(2) Where a sponsor has given an undertaking under subsection (1) in respect of any tourist visitor, the sponsor shall, within twenty-four hours of the expiration of the grant of permission, inform the Chief Immigration Officer in the prescribed manner of any failure by that tourist visitor to depart from the Islands on or before the expiration of the permission granted or any extension thereof.

(3) A sponsor who acts in contravention of subsection (2) commits an offence.

70. (1) Without prejudice to this Part, an immigration officer may examine any person who has arrived in the Islands, including any transit passenger, member of the crew of any vessel or other person not seeking to land in the Islands, for the purpose of determining-

Safeguards regarding permission to land, etc.

- (a) whether he is, or is not, such a transit passenger, crew-member or other person;
- (b) if he is not a Caymanian, whether he may, or may not, enter the Islands under section 66; and
- (c) whether, if he is not, he should be given permission to land in the Islands and for what period and under what conditions, or should be refused permission.

(2) Where a person to whom subsection (1) refers, other than a person to whom section 66 applies, is seeking to land in the Islands, an immigration officer may require him to-

- (a) provide evidence of the good character of himself and his dependants;
- (b) undergo a medical examination or furnish a medical certificate in respect of himself and his dependants, if any, acceptable to the immigration officer and with such particulars as the immigration officer may consider necessary; and
- (c) furnish such other particulars as may, in the opinion of the immigration officer, be relevant to the application.

Disembarkation and  
embarkation cards

71. (1) Subject to subsection (4), a person who, disembarking in or leaving the Islands, fails to complete and hand to an immigration officer, immediately on arrival or departure, a disembarkation card or embarkation card, as the case may be, in the prescribed form commits an offence.

(2) It is the duty of the Chief Immigration Officer to cause records to be kept and maintained of the entry of all persons into, and the departure of all persons from, the Islands.

2011 Revision

(3) Without prejudice to anything contained in the Evidence Law (2011 Revision), any such record shall be received in evidence in any court or in any tribunal in the Islands as evidence, *prima facie*, of any entry or particular entered therein.

(4) Subsection (1) does not apply to any person or category of persons specified in regulations as being exempt from the requirements of those regulations, and the duty of the Chief Immigration Officer under subsection (2) shall not apply in respect of any person or category of persons so exempted.

Detention of persons  
who have been refused  
permission to land, etc.

72. (1) Under the authority of an immigration officer-

- (a) a person who may be required to submit to examination under section 70(1), pending his examination and pending a decision to give or refuse him permission to land;
- (b) a person to whom permission to land has been refused; or



- (c) a prohibited immigrant on any vessel not intending or seeking permission to land,

may be temporarily detained at some place approved by the Cabinet for such purpose, and while so detained, shall be deemed to be in legal custody and not to have landed, and a person on board a vessel may, under the authority of an immigration officer, be removed for detention under this subsection.

(2) A person liable to detention or detained under subsection (1) may, with the leave of an immigration officer, be temporarily granted permission to land without being detained or, if detained under that subsection, may be released from detention pending a decision whether to grant him permission under section 64, but this shall not prejudice a later exercise of the power to detain him.

(3) For so long as a person has been temporarily granted permission to land under subsection (2), he shall be deemed not to have landed and shall be subject to such conditions as an immigration officer may determine.

73. (1) In any case where-

- (a) a person lands in the Islands in contravention of or without complying with this Law; or
- (b) a person is refused permission to land,

Duty of master with respect to removal of person landing unlawfully where permission to land is refused

it is the duty of the master of the vessel in which such person arrived to receive him on board the same vessel and take him away from the Islands, or if the vessel has already left or is delayed, then it is the duty of the master of any subsequent vessel, owned or operated by the same company, departing from the Islands, to receive him on board that vessel and take him away from the Islands or, with the approval of the Chief Immigration Officer, make other suitable arrangements for his departure from the Islands.

(2) A master of a vessel who fails or refuses to receive any such person and take him away from the Islands as required by subsection (1) commits an offence.

(3) Any such person may be detained by an immigration officer or constable in such manner and place as may be directed by the Cabinet until such person can be received on board a vessel, and while so detained he shall be deemed to be in lawful custody and, in the case of a person refused permission to land, shall also be deemed not to have landed.

(4) The owner, operator, master and local agent of any vessel from which any such person landed as aforesaid shall be jointly and severally liable to the Governor for all charges incurred in respect of the maintenance of such person while remaining in the Islands or of his subsequent repatriation, removal or

deportation from the Islands whether in the vessel from which the person was landed or by some other carrier.

(5) Subsections (1) to (4) apply not only to a person referred to in subsection (1) but to the dependants of such person as well.

Removal of certain persons unlawfully in the Islands

74. (1) A person who is not a Caymanian, a permanent resident, a work permit holder, nor the holder of a Residency and Employment Rights Certificate, a Residency Certificate for Persons of Independent Means or a student visa, may be removed from the Islands, in accordance with directions given under this section by an immigration officer not below the rank of Assistant Chief Immigration Officer, if-

- (a) having been granted permission to enter or remain, the person does not observe a condition attached to the permission or remains beyond the time limited by the permission;
- (b) the person has obtained permission to enter or remain by deception; or
- (c) the person is a dependant of a person who is being or has been removed from the Islands under the provisions of this section.

(2) Directions may not be given under subsection (1)(a) if the person concerned has made an application for an extension of his permission to remain in the Islands in accordance with this Law.

(3) Where a person has overstayed his time in the Islands or is otherwise in the Islands illegally, the Chief Immigration Officer shall cause to be served upon the person concerned written notice in which shall be specified a time, not being more than fourteen days, within which he shall be removed from the Islands.

(4) If such a notice is sent by the Chief Immigration Officer by post, addressed to the last known address of the person concerned, it is to be taken to have been received by that person on the third day after the day on which it was posted.

(5) Directions for the removal of a person under subsection (1)(c) cease to have effect if he ceases to be a dependant of the other person.

(6) Directions for the removal of a person given under this section invalidate any permission to enter or remain in the Islands given to him before the directions are given or while they are in force.

(7) The Cabinet may apply any money or property of a person against whom an order under this section has been made in payment of the whole or any part of the expenses of or incidental to the journey from the Islands, and of the maintenance until departure of such person and his dependants, if any.

75. (1) Directions under section 74 for, or requiring arrangements to be made for, the removal of a person from the Islands may include or be amended to include provision for the person who is to be removed-

Escorts for persons removed from the Islands under directions

- (a) to be detained for a reasonable period prior to removal; and
- (b) to be accompanied by an escort consisting of one or more persons specified in the directions.

(2) The Cabinet may by regulations make further provision supplementing subsection (1).

(3) The regulations may, in particular, include provision-

- (a) requiring the person to whom the directions are given to provide for the return of the escort to the Islands;
- (b) requiring the Government to bear such costs in connection with the escort (including, in particular, remuneration) as may be prescribed;
- (c) as to the cases in which the Government is to bear those costs; and
- (d) prescribing the kinds of expenditure which are to be included in calculating the costs incurred in connection with escorts.

76. (1) It is the duty of the keeper of any premises to which this section applies to keep a register in the prescribed form and containing the prescribed particulars of all persons staying at the premises who are not Caymanian.

Register to be kept and particulars furnished by hotel keepers and others

(2) The keeper of any such premises shall, where directions for the purpose are issued by the Cabinet, make to the Chief Immigration Officer such returns concerning the persons staying at the premises, at such times and in such form as may be specified in such directions.

(3) It is the duty-

- (a) of every person, whether Caymanian or not, staying at any premises to sign, when so required, a statement as to his nationality, and, if non-Caymanian to furnish and sign a statement of the particulars required under this section; and
- (b) of the keeper of any such premises to require any person who stays at the premises to sign the statement and furnish the particulars required from him under this section and to preserve such statements including any statements supplied under this section to any previous keeper of the premises for a period of two years from the date when the statements were signed.

(4) Every register kept, and all particulars furnished, under this section shall, at all reasonable hours, be open for inspection by any constable, immigration officer or person authorised by the Cabinet.

(5) This section applies to any premises, whether furnished or unfurnished, where lodging or sleeping accommodation is provided for reward.

(6) The breach of a duty imposed by this section is an offence.

Re-entry permit

77. (1) A person who is, for the time being, entitled by this Law, or permitted by reason of the exercise of any power thereunder to land in the Islands may apply to the Chief Immigration Officer for the issue of a re-entry permit.

(2) The Chief Immigration Officer shall, in respect of a person entitled under subsection (1), issue a re-entry permit in the prescribed form and on payment of the prescribed fees, valid for such periods as the applicant is, at the time of issue, entitled to land in the Islands.

(3) Nothing in subsections (1) and (2) shall have effect so as to authorise any person to land in the Islands notwithstanding his possession of a valid re-entry permit, if he has, since the issue of the permit, become a person who may be refused permission to land in the Islands.

Offences relating to illegal landing and powers of arrest

78. (1) A person who-

- (a) lands or attempts to land in the Islands;
- (b) does any act preparatory to landing in the Islands; or
- (c) remains or resides in the Islands,

where such landing, preparing, remaining or residing is or would be in contravention of this Law, commits an offence and is liable on summary conviction to a fine of twenty thousand dollars and to imprisonment for five years.

(2) A person who-

- (a) knowingly assists or causes another to land in, or to depart from, the Islands;
- (b) connives in such landing or departure; or
- (c) wilfully does an act preparatory to paragraph (a) or (b),

whether or not that other person knew that there was a contravention of this Law, in circumstances where such landing or departure is, or would be, in contravention of this Law, commits an offence and is liable on summary conviction to a fine of fifty thousand dollars and to imprisonment for seven years.

(3) The court before which a person is convicted of an offence under subsection (2) may order the forfeiture of a vehicle or vessel used or intended to be used in connection with the offence if the convicted person-

- (a) owned the vehicle or vessel at the time the offence was committed;
- (b) was at that time a director, secretary, manager or other responsible officer of a company which owned the vehicle or vessel;
- (c) was at that time in possession of the vehicle or vessel under a hire-purchase agreement;
- (d) was at that time a director, secretary, manager or other responsible officer of a company which was in possession of the vehicle or vessel under a hire-purchase agreement;
- (e) was at that time a charterer of the vessel; or
- (f) committed the offence while acting as master of a vessel.

(4) An immigration officer or constable may arrest without warrant any person who has committed or whom he reasonably suspects to have committed an offence under this Law.

(5) The Chief Immigration Officer may, if he intends to recommend the deportation of a person convicted of a criminal offence, detain him in such place and for such period, not exceeding seven days as he may direct, save that a person to whom the Board has granted permanent residence shall not, while he continues to enjoy the benefit of the grant, be subject to a deportation order.

(6) Where a person who claims to have an interest in a vehicle or vessel applies to a court to make representations on the question of forfeiture, the court may not make an order under this section in respect of the vehicle or vessel unless the person has been given an opportunity to show cause why the order should not be made.

79. There shall be provided and maintained by the Chief Immigration Officer, under the direction of the Cabinet, a central register of persons who are not Caymanian, in which there shall be registered such particulars and in such form as may be prescribed.

Register of non-Caymanians

80. Nothing contained in this Part shall affect the duty of a person to comply with the laws affecting customs, quarantine, public health and statistics, or with an order of the Cabinet, a court of law or a constable in the execution of his duty.

Application of other laws

81. (1) There shall be established by the Chief Immigration Officer a stop list in which shall be recorded the name of any person known to come within a category of section 82.

Establishment of stop list

(2) The Chief Immigration Officer may cause copies of the stop list or notification of the entry in or removal there from of any name to be given to the local agent of vessels arriving in the Islands and to travel agencies.

Prohibited immigrants

82. The following persons, not being Caymanian or permanent residents, are prohibited immigrants-

Law 10 of 2013

- (a) a destitute person;
- (b) a person who is mentally disordered or mentally defective as defined in the Mental Health Law, 2013, or suffers from epilepsy, not controlled by medication, unless in any such case he, a person accompanying him or some other person gives security to the satisfaction of the Chief Immigration Officer for his permanent support in the Islands or for his removal therefrom whenever required by the Chief Immigration Officer;
- (c) a person certified by a Health Officer to be suffering from a communicable disease that makes his entry into the Islands dangerous to the community;
- (d) a person who is reasonably believed to be a prostitute, to have come to the Islands for the purpose of prostitution or to be living on or receiving or to have lived on or received the proceeds of prostitution;
- (e) a person who has previously been deported, removed or repatriated from the Islands;
- (f) a member of a class of persons deemed by the Cabinet on economic grounds or on account of standard or habit of life to be undesirable immigrants and so declared by Order published in the Gazette;
- (g) a person who, from information or advice which, in the opinion of the Cabinet, is reliable information or advice, is deemed by the Cabinet to be an undesirable inhabitant of or visitor to the Islands; or
- (h) a person who, not having received a free pardon, has been convicted in any country of an offence for which a sentence of imprisonment of or exceeding twelve months has been passed otherwise than for non-payment of a fine.

Student visas

83. (1) Subject to section 67(2), no student may attend an educational institution in the Islands unless he is a student to whom a student visa has been issued.

(2) Leave to land may be granted for the duration of the student's course, but leave to remain shall not be granted for a period in excess of four years.

(2A) Unless the context otherwise requires, a reference to the Chief Immigration Officer in relation to the granting, extending, varying or revoking of a student visa shall be construed as including a reference to anyone specifically designated by him to perform those duties.

(3) A student may apply to the Chief Immigration Officer for a student visa on the prescribed form accompanied by the prescribed fee and any required documentary evidence.

(3A) Any of the powers conferred upon the Chief Immigration Officer under subsections (5) and (6) may be delegated by him to an immigration officer of the rank of Assistant Chief Immigration Officer or above.

(4) The Chief Immigration Officer or his designate in considering an application under this section shall, subject to any general directions that the Cabinet may, from time to time, give in respect of the consideration of such application, take particularly into account the following matters-

- (a) the character, reputation and health of the applicant and his dependants, if any;
- (b) whether he intends to leave the Island at the end of his studies;
- (c) the sufficiency of his financial resources and his ability adequately to maintain his dependants without recourse to public funds;
- (d) the quality of the living accommodation available to him and his dependants, if any;
- (e) his facility in the use of the English language;
- (f) whether he intends to engage in business or take up employment, other than unpaid student work undertaken in connection with the intended course of study; and
- (g) whether, from information available to the Chief Immigration Officer regarding the applicant's conduct and associations, the refusal of the application would be conducive to the public good.

(5) The Chief Immigration Officer or his designate-

- (a) may grant, refuse, or defer the application either unconditionally or subject to such conditions as he may think fit; and
- (b) where the application is granted, may extend, revoke, vary or modify the student visa.

(6) The holder of a four-year student visa may apply to the Chief Immigration Officer in the prescribed manner for an extension of stay as a student, which extension, if granted, shall be limited to twelve months.

(7) An applicant under subsection (6) shall satisfy the Chief Immigration Officer or his designate that-

- (a) he was admitted to the Cayman Islands as a student;
- (b) he has continued to meet the requirements of such admission;
- (c) he has been regular in attendance during the course that he has already begun and any other course for which he was enrolled in the past; and
- (d) he has made satisfactory progress in his course of study and has been successful in his examinations.

(8) Every educational institution shall-

- (a) make available to the Chief Immigration Officer or his designate, upon request, information concerning the non-Caymanians enrolled at that institution; and
- (b) await receipt of a copy of the student visa from the Chief Immigration Officer before enrolling the student at the institution.

(9) The holder of a student visa may not engage in gainful occupation in the Islands other than unpaid student work undertaken in connection with his course of study.

(10) Notwithstanding anything contained in this section, a child entering the Islands for the express purpose of adoption proceedings shall, with the express permission of the Chief Immigration Officer, be allowed to remain and attend school in the Islands.

#### **PART VII - Asylum**

Application for asylum

84. (1) A person who is in legal custody under section 72(1) or a person to whom permission to remain in the Islands has been granted under section 67(1) or 72(2) may apply to the Chief Immigration Officer for asylum, and in considering such application the Chief Immigration Officer shall have regard to the Refugee Convention and any directions given by the Governor relating to asylum applications.

(2) For the purposes of this Part, a person is eligible to apply for asylum if-

- (a) he is at least eighteen years of age or is an unaccompanied minor;
- (b) he is in the Islands; and
- (c) the application for asylum has been made by him at a place designated by the Governor.

(3) A person specified under subsection (4) may also apply for asylum for his dependant children under eighteen years of age that are with him in the Islands.



(4) A person whose application under subsection (1) has been successful shall be granted leave to remain indefinitely in the Islands and the right to work for any employer in any occupation.

(5) The Chief Immigration Officer may revoke a person's indefinite leave granted under this section if someone of whom he is a dependant ceases to be a refugee as a result of-

- (a) voluntarily availing himself of the protection of his country of nationality;
- (b) voluntarily acquiring a lost nationality;
- (c) acquiring the nationality of a country other than the Cayman Islands and availing himself of its protection; or
- (d) voluntarily establishing himself in a country in respect of which he was a refugee.

(6) Notwithstanding section 14, a person whose application for asylum has been refused may appeal to the Immigration Appeals Tribunal, within fourteen days of his being notified of the decision, against the refusal on the grounds that requiring him to leave the Islands would be contrary to the Refugee Convention.

(7) Neither an applicant for asylum nor an appellant against the decision of the Chief Immigration Officer shall be required to leave the Islands pending the outcome of his application or appeal; and, for the purposes of this section, an application or appeal is pending-

- (a) beginning on the date when it is submitted or instituted; and
- (b) ending on the date when the applicant or appellant -
  - (i) is formally notified of the outcome of the application or appeal; or
  - (ii) withdraws or abandons the application or appeal.

(8) Where an application is made for asylum, it shall be recorded by the Chief Immigration Officer who, if satisfied that the application was made as soon as reasonably practicable after the applicant's arrival in the Islands, shall-

- (a) on being satisfied that for obvious and compelling reasons the applicant cannot be returned to his country of origin or nationality, grant him exceptional leave to remain in the Islands; and
- (b) make arrangements for his support, accommodation and upkeep.

(9) The grant of exceptional leave under this section -

- (a) does not confer on the grantee any right to gainful occupation in the Islands; and
- (b) may be revoked, varied or modified by the Chief Immigration Officer.

(10) Where an applicant under this Part is to be deported to a country of which he is a national or citizen and-

- (a) he does not possess a passport or other travel document; and
- (b) the country to which he is to be deported requires the Chief Immigration Officer to provide identification data in respect of the applicant as a condition of the admission of the applicant to that country,

the Chief Immigration Officer shall provide the requested data but shall not disclose whether the applicant had sought asylum.

(11) The Governor's deportation order in respect of a person who has been refused asylum may require the master of a vessel-

- (a) to remove the person from the Islands; and
- (b) to bear the cost of such removal, including the cost of providing escorts to and from the receiving country.

(12) Where a person who has applied for or intends to apply for asylum is desirous of voluntarily leaving the Islands for a country in which he hopes to take up residence, the Chief Immigration Officer may render to him-

- (a) advice and other help in relation to his proposed journey; and
- (b) financial assistance to defray the cost of his travel and upkeep.

(13) For the purposes of this Part, the Governor may give directions to the Chief Immigration Officer in relation to the consideration of applications for asylum and promulgate rules for the hearing of appeals under subsection (6), and such directions and rules shall be published in the Gazette.

Limitations on rights of appeal under section 84

85. Section 84 does not entitle a person to appeal against a refusal of an application if-

- (a) the Governor has certified that the appellant's departure and exclusion from the Islands would be in the interest of national security; or
- (b) the reason for the refusal was that he was a person to whom the Refugee Convention did not apply by reason of Article 1(F) of that Convention,

and the Governor has certified that the disclosure of material on which the refusal was based is not in the interest of national security.

Helping asylum-seeker to enter the Islands

86. (1) A person who-

- (a) knowingly and for gain, facilitates the arrival in the Islands of an individual; and
- (b) knows or has reasonable cause to believe that the individual intends to apply for asylum under section 84(1),

commits an offence.

(2) Subsection (1) does not apply to anything done by a person acting on behalf of an organisation which-

- (a) aims to assist individuals seeking asylum pursuant to the Refugee Convention; and
- (b) does not charge for its services.

### PART VIII - Deportation

87. Nothing in this Part shall apply or have effect so as to authorise or empower the making of a deportation order in respect of a Caymanian or a person who is entitled to remain permanently in the Islands.

Non-application of this Part with respect to Caymanians

88. (1) No deportation order shall be made under this Law, otherwise than in the case of-

Report preliminary to deportation order

- (a) a convicted and deportable person;
- (b) a person who has been convicted of an offence contrary to section 56 or 78(1)(c); or
- (c) a person who has been sentenced in the Islands to imprisonment for not less than six months,

unless a magistrate shall have reported on the case and the Cabinet, having had regard to the findings of fact and conclusions of law and any recommendation contained in such report, is satisfied that such order may properly be made.

(2) Where it is intended to take proceedings against any person for the purpose of obtaining a report under subsection (1), a notice shall be served upon such person giving him reasonable information as to the nature of the facts alleged against him and the grounds upon which it is alleged that a deportation order should be made, requiring him to show cause why such order should not be made and naming the time and place for his appearance before a summary court in that behalf, and if such person should fail to appear at the time and place so named, the court may issue a warrant for his arrest.

(3) In every proceeding under subsection (2), the court shall take such evidence on oath of the parties (who may be represented by counsel) and their witnesses as may be tendered in chief and upon cross-examination and re-examination and, after considering the evidence adduced before it and making any further investigations which it may consider to be desirable, shall report to the Cabinet setting out its findings of fact, conclusions of law, if any, and making such recommendation as he thinks fit.

(4) During the proceedings and pending the decision of the Governor, the court, at its discretion, may order the person, the subject of the report, to be detained in legal custody or released on bail.

Power of Governor to make, revoke, vary or modify a deportation order and duty to report to Secretary of State

89. (1) Subject to sections 87 and 88, the Governor may, if he thinks fit, make a deportation order in respect of any person who is-

- (a) a convicted and deportable person;
- (b) a destitute person;
- (c) a prohibited immigrant who has entered the Islands contrary to this or any earlier law;
- (d) a person whose permission to land and to remain or reside in the Islands or any extension thereof has expired or has been revoked and who fails to leave the Islands; or
- (e) a person whose application for asylum has been refused under section 84.

(2) Where the Governor considers that a person is an undesirable person, or that his presence in the Islands is not conducive to the public good, he may make a deportation order in respect of such person.

(3) The Governor-

- (a) may, at any time, revoke a deportation order and may vary or modify its terms so as to permit the person in respect of whom it is made, to enter and land in the Islands for such purpose and subject to such conditions as may be specified; and
- (b) shall report any deportation order made, varied or modified by him, to the Secretary of State for Foreign and Commonwealth Affairs.

Form of deportation order

90. A deportation order shall be in such form as the Governor may approve.

Service of deportation order and power to detain deportees

91. (1) A deportation order shall be served upon the person to whom it is directed, by any immigration officer or constable.

(2) A person in respect of whom a deportation order is made or a certificate is given by a court with a view to the making of a deportation order may be detained in such manner and in such place as may be directed by the Cabinet and may be placed on board a vessel about to leave the Islands, and shall be deemed to be in lawful custody while so detained and until the vessel finally leaves the Islands.

(3) Notwithstanding subsection (2), a person who has been convicted of an offence and against whom a deportation order may be made may, whether before or after the making of such order, be allowed to leave the Islands voluntarily, with the permission of the Chief Immigration Officer and under the supervision of an

immigration officer or constable, and that person shall be deemed to be in legal custody while he is under such supervision.

92. (1) Subject to section 91(3), a person in respect of whom a deportation order is made shall leave the Islands in accordance with the terms of the order, and shall thereafter, so long as the order is in force, remain out of the Islands. Duty to comply with deportation order

(2) A person who contravenes subsection (1) commits an offence.

(3) A person who returns to the Islands in contravention of a deportation order commits an offence and may again be deported under the original order, and section 91(2) shall apply accordingly in respect of such person.

93. (1) The master of a vessel about to call at any place outside these Islands shall, if so required by the Cabinet or by an immigration officer, receive a person against whom a deportation order has been made and his dependants, if any, on board the vessel, and shall afford him and them a passage to that place and proper accommodation and maintenance during the journey. Duty to afford transportation of deportee to a place outside the Islands

(2) A person who contravenes subsection (1) commits an offence.

(3) The Cabinet may apply any money or property of a person against whom a deportation order has been made in payment of the whole or any part of the expenses of or incidental to the journey from the Islands and of the maintenance, until departure, of such person and his dependants, if any.

(4) Except so far as they are defrayed under subsection (3), any such expenses shall be payable out of public funds.

94. A person who, without lawful excuse, knowingly harbours or conceals any person who is in the Islands in contravention of a deportation order commits an offence. Harbouring deportee

95. A person who acts in contravention of this Part or is reasonably suspected of having so acted or being about so to act, may be taken into custody without warrant by an immigration officer or constable. Arrest of person contravening, etc., this Part

96. In any proceedings taken under, or in connection with, this Part- Evidence in proceedings taken under this Part

- (a) the burden of proof that a person charged is exempted from the application of this Part by virtue of section 87 shall be upon such person;
- (b) any document purporting to be a deportation order shall, until the contrary is proved, be presumed to be such an order; and

- (c) any deportation order shall be presumed, until the contrary is proved, to have been validly made and to have been made on the date upon which it purports to have been made.

Proceedings to be sanctioned by Attorney General

97. No proceedings shall be instituted under this Part except by the Attorney General or with his previous sanction in writing.

#### **PART IX - General**

Identification cards

98. (1) A person to whom a work permit has been issued under section 48 shall, at the time of the granting of such work permit or permission to engage in a gainful occupation, as the case may be, have issued to him an identification card.

(2) A person to whom an identification card has been issued under subsection (1) shall produce such card for inspection upon demand being made in such regard by any police constable, immigration officer or officer appointed under the Labour Law (2011 Revision), or, if at the time of the making of such demand the identification card is not in the possession of the holder, he shall produce the same for inspection within forty-eight hours at such place as the person lawfully making the demand shall specify.

2011 Revision

(3) A person who contravenes subsection (2) commits an offence and is liable on summary conviction to a fine of one thousand dollars and to imprisonment for six months.

Regulations

99. (1) The Cabinet may make regulations generally for administering this Law and for giving effect to its objects, purposes and intentions, or with respect to any matter or thing by or under this Law that may be or is to be prescribed.

(2) Regulations made under this section may, in particular-

- (a) authorise the taking, in relation to any person who is in custody, of all such steps as may be necessary for photographing, measuring, taking the fingerprints of, or otherwise identifying that person in such manner as may be provided by the regulations;
- (b) prescribe the forms, notices, certificates, licences, permits, warrants, books, registers or other documents to be used and the particulars to be given in connection with this Law;
- (c) prescribe the fees to be payable in respect of any application, licence or permit granted or any certificate or other document issued under this Law and the circumstances under which such fees may be abated or waived;
- (d) prescribe the amount and nature of any security to be furnished for the due carrying out of any condition which may be attached

to the grant of any licence or permit, or to the issue of any certificate or other document under this Law;

- (e) provide for the submission by a company, firm or other business enterprise, to the Board, of Business Staffing Plans, prescribing the contents of and procedures concerning such plans and the method of granting work permits following approval of such plans;
- (f) prescribe the countries a national of which on landing in the Islands shall produce a visa;
- (g) prescribe the persons or categories of persons who are exempt from the requirements of section 71(1); and
- (h) prescribe the penalties that may be imposed for the contravention of regulations, directions and other forms of subordinate legislation made or issued under this Law.

100. The Cabinet may, from time to time, issue policy directions to the Boards, the Immigration Appeals Tribunal and the Chief Immigration Officer for their guidance in the exercise of their respective powers, duties and functions under this Law, and it shall be the duty of the Boards, the Immigration Appeals Tribunal and the Chief Immigration Officer to put into effect and to carry out such directions.

Directions to Board and  
Chief Immigration  
Officer

101. (1) The Boards, the Immigration Appeals Tribunal or any immigration officer, constable or other person lawfully acting in the execution of this Law may-

Power to put questions  
and require production  
of documents

- (a) put any question to any person, being a question reasonably required in connection with the proper discharge of their, its or his functions under this Law; and
- (b) require any person to produce for inspection any licence, certificate, payroll and other documents relating to gainful employment, permit, work permit identification card or other document which he may have in his possession or under his control, being a document of which the inspection is reasonably required in connection with the proper discharge of such function as aforesaid.

(2) A person who fails without lawful excuse (the proof of which shall be upon him) to answer fully and truthfully to the best of his knowledge and belief any such question, or to produce for inspection any such document, does, without prejudice to section 104, commit an offence.

(3) Any power to require the production of a document for inspection shall be construed as including a power to take copies of such document and to retain such document for a reasonable time for such purpose.

- Obstruction of persons acting in execution of Law
102. (1) A person who resists arrest or otherwise wilfully obstructs or impedes any immigration officer, constable or other person acting in the execution of his duty under this Law commits an offence.
- (2) A person who acts in contravention of this section, or is reasonably suspected of having so acted or being about so to act, may be taken into custody without warrant by an immigration officer or constable.
- Authorisation to carry arms
103. An immigration officer, with the authority of the Chief Immigration Officer given under and in accordance with the general or special directions of the Governor, is entitled in the performance of his duties to carry arms.
- Offences relating to false documents, etc.
104. (1) A person who-
- (a) in connection with the carrying into effect of any of the purposes of this Law, makes, causes or allows to be made any return, statement or representation which is false in a material particular and which he knows to be false or which he does not believe to be true;
  - (b) without lawful excuse (the proof of which shall be upon him) alters, causes or allows to be altered any certificate, licence, permit or other document issued under this Law or any entry in any document lawfully made under this Law: or
  - (c) without lawful excuse (the proof of which shall be upon him) uses or possesses, or causes or allows to be used or possessed, any forged, altered or irregular passport, visa, certificate or other connected document or any endorsement on any of such documents which has been altered or forged,
- commits an offence.
- (1A) The holder of a Certificate issued under Part IV applying for a variation of that Certificate to reflect the fact that his dependant is engaged in full-time tertiary education in an educational institution shall satisfy the Board or the Chief Immigration Officer by way of a written confirmation from the educational institution that the dependant is engaged in a full-time course of study; and it shall be an offence if-
- (a) the dependant is engaged in such education without such variation being approved; or
  - (b) he is residing in the Islands on the basis of an approved variation but is not engaged in such education.
- (2) A person who acts in contravention of subsection (1), or is reasonably suspected of having so acted or being about so to act, may be taken into custody without warrant by an immigration officer or constable.



105. A person who, without reasonable excuse, has in his possession an immigration stamp or a replica immigration stamp commits an offence.

Possession of  
immigration stamp

106. (1) A person who-

- (a) does an act which facilitates a breach of a deportation order, exclusion order or removal order in force against an individual; and
- (b) knows or has reasonable cause for believing that the act facilitates a breach of the deportation, exclusion or removal order,

Assisting entry in breach  
of deportation, exclusion  
or removal order

commits an offence.

(2) Subsection (1) applies to anything done-

- (a) in the Islands; or
- (b) outside the Islands by a body incorporated under the law of the Islands.

(3) A person who commits an offence under this section is liable on summary conviction to a fine of fifty thousand dollars and to imprisonment for seven years, and the court before which the person is convicted may order the forfeiture of a vehicle or vessel used or intended to be used in connection with the offence if the convicted person-

- (a) owned the vehicle or vessel at the time the offence was committed;
- (b) was at that time a director, secretary, manager or other responsible officer of a company which owned the vehicle or vessel;
- (c) was at that time in possession of the vehicle or vessel under a hire-purchase agreement;
- (d) was at that time a director, secretary, manager or other responsible officer of a company which was in possession of the vehicle or vessel under a hire-purchase agreement;
- (e) was at that time a charterer of the vessel; or
- (f) committed the offence while acting as master of a vessel.

(4) Where a person who claims to have an interest in a vehicle or vessel applies to a court to make representations on the question of forfeiture, the court may not make an order under this section in respect of the vehicle or vessel unless the person has been given an opportunity to show cause why the order should not be made.

(5) Where proceedings are instituted against a person for an offence under this section and either-

- (a) the proceedings do not result in his conviction; or

- (b) where he is convicted of the offence-
  - (i) the conviction concerned is quashed without a conviction for any other offence under this Law being substituted; or
  - (ii) the Governor has granted a pardon in respect of the conviction,

the Grand Court may, on an application by a person who held property which was realisable property, order compensation to be paid by the Government to the applicant.

(6) The Grand Court shall not order compensation to be paid in any case unless the Court is satisfied-

- (a) that there has been some serious default on the part of a person concerned in the investigation or prosecution of the offence concerned and that, but for that default, the proceedings would not have been instituted or continued; and
- (b) that the applicant has suffered substantial loss in consequence of anything done in relation to the property by or in pursuance of an order of the Grand Court.

(7) The amount of compensation to be paid under this section shall be such as the Grand Court thinks just in all the circumstances of the case.

(8) In this section-

“realisable property” means any property held by-

- (a) a person against whom proceedings have been instituted for an offence under this section; and
- (b) another person to whom that person has directly or indirectly made a gift caught by this section,

save that such property is not realisable property if a forfeiture order made by the Court in respect of that property is in force.

(9) A gift is caught by this section if-

- (a) it was made by a person against whom proceedings have been instituted under this section at any time since the beginning of the period of six years ending when the proceedings were instituted; or
- (b) it was made by him at any time and was a gift of property-
  - (i) received by him in connection with illegal activity carried on by him or another; or
  - (ii) which in whole or in part directly or indirectly represented in his hands property received by him in that connection.

(10) For the purposes of subsection (9), the circumstances in which a person against whom proceedings have been instituted for the offence is to be treated as making a gift include where he transfers property to another person directly or indirectly for a consideration the value of which is significantly less than the value of the consideration provided by him.

107. (1) No person may provide or purport to provide immigration advice or immigration services for any fee, gain or reward unless he is a qualified person. Provision of immigration services

(2) A person is a qualified person if-

- (a) he is registered with the Chief Immigration Officer or is employed by, or works under the supervision of, such a person;
- (b) he is a member or employee of a body which is licensed, or exempted by the Trade and Business Licensing Law (2007 Revision), or works under the supervision of such a member or employee; or
- (c) he is a person admitted to practise as an attorney-at-law under the Legal Practitioners Law (2012 Revision).

2007 Revision

2012 Revision

(3) Subsection (1) does not apply to a person who-

- (a) is certified by the Chief Immigration Officer as exempt (in this section referred to as “an exempt person”);
- (b) is employed by an exempt person;
- (c) works under the supervision of an exempt person or an employee of an exempt person; or
- (d) falls within a category of person specified in an order made by the Cabinet for the purposes of this subsection.

(4) A certificate under subsection (3)(a) may relate only to a specified description of immigration advice or immigration services.

(5) Subsection (1) does not apply to a person-

- (a) holding an office under the Crown, when acting in that capacity;
- (b) employed by, or for the purposes of, a Government department, when acting in that capacity;
- (c) acting under the control of a Government department; or
- (d) otherwise exercising functions on behalf of the Crown.

(6) An exemption given under subsection (3)(a) may be withdrawn by the Chief Immigration Officer.

(7) A person who acts in contravention of subsection (1) commits an offence.

Registration and exemption by the Chief Immigration Officer	108. (1) The Chief Immigration Officer shall prepare and maintain a register for the purposes of section 107(2)(a) and (b).  (2) The Chief Immigration Officer shall keep a record of the persons to whom he has issued a certificate of exemption under section 107(3)(a).
Human smuggling	109. (1) A person who, in contravention of this Law and whether for financial or material benefit or not, assists or facilitates the transportation, harbouring or movement into or out of the Islands, of an individual commits an offence and is liable on summary conviction to a fine of fifty thousand dollars and to imprisonment for seven years.  (2) Subsection (1) applies to anything done- <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>(a) in the Islands; or</li><li>(b) outside the Islands by a body incorporated under the law of the Islands.</li></ul>
Punishment for offences for which no penalty is provided	110. A person who commits an offence for which no penalty is provided is liable on summary conviction, in respect of a first offence, to a fine of five thousand dollars and to imprisonment for one year or, in respect of a second or subsequent offence, to a fine of ten thousand dollars and to imprisonment for two years and, where any such offence is a continuing offence, the person guilty of the offence shall, in addition to any punishment provided by this section, be liable to a fine of five hundred dollars in respect of each day during which the offence continues.
Offence to enter into marriage of convenience	111. (1) A person who enters into a marriage of convenience commits an offence and is liable on summary conviction to a fine of ten thousand dollars and to imprisonment for one year.  (2) If a marriage officer has reasonable grounds for suspecting that a marriage will be a marriage of convenience, and fails to report his suspicion to the Chief Immigration Officer without delay and in such form and manner as may be prescribed, he commits an offence.  (3) Subsection (2) also applies where a marriage is solemnised in the presence of a marriage officer who, before, during or immediately after solemnisation of the marriage, has reasonable grounds for suspecting that the marriage will be, or is, a marriage of convenience.
Offences against Law by corporations, liability of officers, etc.	112. Where a person convicted of an offence against this Law is a body corporate, then every person who, at the time of the commission of the offence, was a managing director, manager, secretary or other officer of the body corporate shall be deemed to be guilty of that offence unless he proves that the offence was committed without his knowledge or that he exercised all reasonable diligence, having regard to his office, to prevent the commission of the offence.

113. (1) In proceedings taken under, or in connection with, this Law-
- (a) the burden of proof that a person has had, at any material time-
    - (i) a particular status for the purpose of this Law;
    - (ii) a particular nationality; or
    - (iii) a particular occupation, or, as the case may be, no occupation,shall be upon that person;
  - (b) a document purporting to set forth an order or direction given under this Law shall be presumed, until the contrary is proven, to constitute any such order or direction as aforesaid; and
  - (c) an order or direction given under this Law shall be presumed, until the contrary is proven, to have been validly given and to have been given on the date on which it purports to have been given.
- Evidence in proceedings taken under, or in connection with, Law

(2) In subsection (1), a reference to the giving of an order shall be construed as including a reference to the making of an order, to the giving of a direction or a decision and to the imposing of a requirement.

114. (1) Nothing in this Law shall adversely affect the rights of any person where those rights-
- (a) were acquired under the Immigration Law (2012 Revision) or any earlier Law; and
  - (b) existed immediately prior to the commencement of the Immigration (Amendment) (No. 2) Law, 2013.
- Transitional provisions  
2012 Revision  
Law 23 of 2013

(2) Where prior to the commencement of the Immigration (Amendment) (No. 2) Law, 2013 an application for the right to reside permanently in the Islands was made and is still pending, the Caymanian Status and Permanent Residency Board and the Chief Immigration Officer shall deal with such application in accordance with the law in effect immediately prior to such commencement.

(3) For the avoidance of doubt an application for the grant of the right to reside permanently in the Islands or a work permit made on or after the commencement of the Immigration (Amendment) (No. 2) Law, 2013 shall be determined in accordance with the law in effect at the time the application is being heard by the Board or, in the case of an appeal, by the Immigration Appeals Tribunal.

(4) Where prior to the commencement of the Immigration (Amendment) (No. 2) Law, 2013 an application was made for the grant of the right to be Caymanian, the Caymanian Status and Permanent Residency Board and the Chief Immigration Officer shall deal with such application in accordance with the law in effect immediately prior to such commencement.

(5) Where prior to the commencement of the Immigration (Amendment) (No. 2) Law, 2013 an application was made for the grant, renewal or variation of a work permit, or for a Term Limit Exemption Permit, the Work Permit Board, the Business Staffing Plan Board, the Cayman Brac and Little Cayman Board or the Chief Immigration Officer, as the case may be, shall deal with such application in accordance with the law in effect immediately prior to such commencement.

(6) A person who at the commencement of the Immigration (Amendment) (No. 2) Law, 2013 holds an authorisation to work by operation of law on the basis of having submitted an application for permission to reside permanently in the Islands shall be deemed to hold permission under section 52(4) until such permission expires or is revoked.

(7) For the avoidance of doubt where an appeal to the Immigration Appeals Tribunal was made prior to the commencement of the Immigration (Amendment) (No. 2) Law, 2013, the procedure governing the making and determination of such an appeal shall be that which is in effect after the commencement of that Law, but the appellant shall have a period of sixty days from the commencement of that Law in which to file detailed grounds of appeal as required by section 15(6) and if no written submissions are received by the Tribunal during such period it may proceed to determine the appeal without further notice being given to the appellant.

Application of general provisions to Cayman Brac and Little Cayman Immigration Board

115. In performing their functions and exercising their powers generally under this Law, sections 101 and 102 with all necessary amendments shall be construed as applying also to the Cayman Brac and Little Cayman Immigration Board.

Conflict with other laws

116. Except as otherwise expressly provided, wherever any provision of this Law or of a regulation is in conflict with any other law or regulation, this Law or regulation, as the case may be, shall prevail.

Savings of other laws

117. Nothing in this Law shall be construed so as to derogate from or abridge any provision of-

1997 Revisions

- (a) the Caribbean Development Bank Law (1997 Revision); or
- (b) the Diplomatic Privileges and Immunities Law (1997 Revision),

or any law amending or replacing such laws.

118. *Repealed by section 40 of Law 23 of 2013*

119. *Repealed by section 41 of Law 23 of 2013*

**SCHEDULE**

**IMMIGRATION LAW**

section 26

**(2015 Revision)**

**CERTIFICATE OF THE RIGHT TO BE CAYMANIAN**

THIS IS TO CERTIFY THAT..... of..... has with effect from this day been granted the right to be Caymanian for all purposes of the above Law.

Dated this..... day of....., 20..... .

Chairman of the Caymanian Status and Permanent Residency Board /Governor.

*(1) A copy of the certificate shall be sent by the Secretary to the Chief Statistician and to the Chief Immigration Officer and the name of the grantee shall be published in the Gazette. The Secretary shall also retain a copy in the grantee's record.*

*(2) Until the certificate is forfeited or revoked under this Law, the certificate shall be prima facie evidence that the grantee is a Caymanian.*

*(3) In the event of the grantee's certificate becoming lost or destroyed, it shall be lawful for the Secretary to issue a duplicate thereof on payment by the grantee of the prescribed fee.*

Publication in consolidated and revised form authorised by the Cabinet this 14th day of July, 2015.

Meredith Hew  
Acting Clerk of Cabinet

(Price \$ 22.40)