

The Cayman Islands Legal Services Council

Secretariat Law Courts Building 4th Floor Cardinall Avenue George Town Grand Cayman 345-244-3858

12 September 2025

To Firm of Attorneys-at-Law/ Sole Practitioner

Re: Introduction of the Legal Services Supervisory Authority

We are pleased to announce the official establishment of the Legal Services Supervisory Authority ("LSSA"), an AML Supervisory Authority formed to lead, strengthen and safeguard the Cayman Islands' legal services sector against money laundering, terrorist financing, proliferation financing, and related financial crimes.

Legislative Changes

Pursuant to Section 5(1)(g) of the Legal Services Act, 2020 ("LSA"), Section 4(9) of the Proceeds of Crime Act (2025 Revision) and Section 55B(C) of the Anti-Money Laundering Regulations (2025 Revision) ("AMLRs"), the Cayman Islands Legal Services Council (the "Council") is the designated AML Supervisory Authority for attorneys-at-law. Pursuant to section 5(3) of the LSA, the Council has delegated this function to LSSA. As a result, the Anti-Money Laundering, Counter Terrorist Financing, and Counter Proliferation Financing (collectively "AML") supervisory responsibilities previously administered by the Cayman Islands Legal Practitioners Association ("CILPA") and delegated to the Cayman Attorneys Regulatory Authority ("CARA") have been statutorily and formally transferred to the Council and delegated to LSSA.

LSSA is the designated AML Supervisory Authority for firms of attorneys-at-law, as well as sole practitioners engaging in or assisting other persons in the planning or execution of relevant financial business ("**RFB**") in or from within the Cayman Islands.

Its mandate is to ensure that law firms and sole practitioners conducting RFB operate in full compliance with the Cayman Islands' AML legislation as well as international standards, particularly the recommendations of the Financial Action Task Force ("FATF") and the Caribbean Financial Action Task Force ("CFATF").

Key Duties of LSSA include:

- 1) Maintain a register of all law firms and sole practitioners;
- 2) Monitor law firms and sole practitioners conducting RFB by adopting a risk-based approach to supervision;
- 3) Take necessary measures to ensure AML compliance; and
- 4) Issue guidance, directives and procedures to assist law firms and sole practitioners in complying with their AML obligations.

Registration

To facilitate the transition of supervision from CARA to LSSA, LSSA will be reaching out to all law firms and sole practitioners previously registered with CARA. Law firms and/or sole practitioners not previously registered with CARA can contact LSSA directly to register. For further information on LSSA, please visit their website at https://caymanlssa.ky/

The Council remains committed to safeguarding the integrity of the Cayman Islands' legal services sector and upholding its reputation as a premier legal jurisdiction.

We look forward to working collaboratively with all stakeholders to this end.

Yours sincerely

The Hon. Chief Justice Margaret Ramsay-Hale

Chairperson

Cayman Islands Legal Service Council

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LSSA Board

Mr. Richard H. Barton, President of CILPA