



Democracy at Work

5 July 2010

Citizens and residents of all ages are all encouraged to embrace the Cayman Islands' governing document during Constitution Week 2010. While Constitution Day (Monday, 5 July) is traditionally a quiet holiday, the newly-established Constitutional Secretariat has this year opted to highlight Cayman's new Constitution which was formally introduced last November. Throughout the week under the theme Working Our Constitution, the public will have opportunities to meet the members of the Constitutional Commissions and others from related bodies. In so doing, residents will gain a better understanding of the document as well as insights into the work of the Commissions. Residents are encouraged to attend the scheduled events. These will include a 'Meet the Commissioners' Open House on Wednesday, 7 July from 4:30 to 6:00 p.m. at the Constitutional Secretariat on Smith Road. A special public presentation is scheduled for Cayman Brac the following day. Commissioners and Constitutional Secretariat representatives will also be available at libraries throughout Grand Cayman on Saturday, 10 July, from 10:00 to 11a.m. The finale church service takes place at Agape Family Worship Centre on Sunday, 11 July. Also featured during Constitution Week are media appearances and messages by His Excellency the Governor Duncan Taylor, CBE; Premier the Hon. McKeeva Bush, OBE JP and Opposition Leader the Hon. Kurt Tibbetts, OBE, JP. Members of the public are especially encouraged to come out, ask questions and learn how the Constitution affects them, as the document is applicable to all who live in Cayman. They may also take these opportunities to acquaint themselves with the Commission members. Pastor Al Ebanks chairs the Constitutional Commission; the Commission for Standards in Public Life is chaired by Mrs. Karin Thompson, while Mr. Richard Coles heads the Human Rights Commission. (The chairperson of the Judicial and Legal Services Commission is yet to be appointed). Other Constitution bodies such as the National Security Council and the Electoral Boundaries Commission are already established and at work. For more information on Constitution Week 2010, contact the Commissions Secretariat on 244-3685, or fax 945-8649. Details on the Cayman Islands' Constitutional process and the new document are available on the Constitution website: www.constitution.gov.ky.