



PARLIAMENT
OF THE CAYMAN ISLANDS



OFFICIAL HANSARD REPORT

2025/2026 Session

**SWEARING-IN CEREMONY OF
THE SPEAKER & MEMBERS OF PARLIAMENT**

**Tuesday
6 May, 2025**

(Pages 1-11)

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PRESENT WERE:

EX OFFICIO MEMBERS OF THE CABINET

Hon. Franz I. Manderson, MBE, Cert. Hon., JP	Deputy Governor, ex officio Member responsible for the Portfolio of the Civil Service
Hon. Samuel W. Bulgin, KC, JP	Attorney General, ex officio Member responsible for Legal Affairs

ELECTED MEMBERS

Mrs. Julie J.T. Hunter, JP	Elected Member for West Bay West
Mr. Rolston M. Anglin, JP	Elected Member for West Bay North
Hon. M. Katherine A. Ebanks-Wilks	Elected Member for West Bay Central
Mr. André M. Ebanks	Elected Member for West Bay South
Mr. Joseph X. Hew	Elected Member for George Town North
Mr. Kenneth V. Bryan	Elected Member for George Town Central
Mrs. Pearlina L. McGaw-Lumsden	Elected Member for George Town West
Mr. Gary B. Rutty	Elected Member for George Town South
Mr. Roy M. McTaggart, JP	Elected Member for George Town East
Mr. A. Royston Tatum Jr., Cert. Hon.	Elected Member for Red Bay
Mr. Michael S. Myles	Elected Member for Prospect
Hon. G. Wayne Panton, JP	Elected Member for Newlands
Ms. Heather D. Bodden, OCI, Cert. Hon., JP	Elected Member for Savannah
Mr. Christopher S. Saunders	Elected Member for Bodden Town West
Mr. Dwayne S. Seymour, CCI, JP	Elected Member for Bodden Town East
Mr. Johany S. Ebanks	Elected Member for North Side
Mr. Isaac D. Rankine, JP	Elected Member for East End
Mr. Nickolas T. A. DaCosta, JP	Elected Member for Cayman Brac West and Little Cayman
Hon. Juliana Y. O'Connor-Connolly, JP	Elected Member for Cayman Brac East

**OFFICIAL HANSARD REPORT
SWEARING-IN CEREMONY
TUESDAY
6 MAY, 2025
2:10 PM**

**ARRIVAL OF HER EXCELLENCY
THE GOVERNOR, MRS. JANE OWEN**

[All stand]

The Clerk: I now call on Mrs. Anika Jefferson to sing the National Anthem and the National Song.

**NATIONAL ANTHEM AND
NATIONAL SONG**

[National Anthem and National Song sung by Mrs. Anika Jefferson]

The Clerk: The prayers will now be delivered by Rev. Dr. Yvette Noble-Bloomfield.

PRAYERS

Rev. Dr. Yvette Noble-Bloomfield: Let us pray.

God of life and hope, Lord of righteousness and truth: We seek your divine blessing on this new Government of the Cayman Islands. We pray that you would grant wisdom and courage to the Members of Parliament and all in positions of responsibility. May they know that new occasions teach new duties, and that ancient values test integrity.

We pray that they will lead the nation in the paths of righteousness, unity and peace. Cause Holy Spirit that each Member would seek for the common good of all who live and dwell in these beautiful Cayman Islands that you have founded upon the seas and where your glory is reflected everywhere.

We pray that the Members of Parliament will lead the nation through love for you and their fellow human beings and not through love of power, desire to please the powerful or those with vested interest, or because of unworthy ideals. Instead, Oh Lord, may they keep abreast with the truth, build relationships of peace and unity, and remember those in greatest need. May the Members of this Parliament guard each one's dignity and save each one's pride as they perform their daily duties.

Keep our Members of Parliament in perfect peace, good health in body, mind and spirit. Keep them mindful of your will and purpose for their lives, and above all, Oh God, we pray that their families will be blessed in new ways and that they would provide the support needed at this time.

We pray, Almighty God, that the Members of this Parliament would be mindful of the importance of their position as benefactors of goodwill, peace and freedom. Teach them each day to uphold Godly values so that the Cayman Islands may continue to be a nation that reflects God's justice and compassion.

Dear God, we pray that good governance would be their hallmark, that they would remain committed to duty, intellectual debate and that they may lead this nation with good example in their own personal lives. May those who come behind them, find them faithful.

Lord God, we pray for the people of the Cayman Islands. May we respect and pray for our Leaders, and may we remember our Leaders and bless them; and may they in turn be a blessing to God, because Your word tells us, blessed is the nation whose God is the Lord.

Renew each of us now through the power of your Holy Spirit and grant us your divine blessing as we pray in the name of Christ. Amen.

Our Father, who art in Heaven, Hallowed be Thy Name. Thy kingdom come, Thy will be done on earth as it is in Heaven. Give us this day our daily bread, forgive us of our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us. Lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil. For Thine is the Kingdom, the power and the glory, forever and ever.

Amen.

The Clerk: Please be seated.

**ADMINISTRATION OF OATHS
OR AFFIRMATIONS**

The Clerk: Administration of Oaths of Allegiance and Oaths for Due Execution of Office by Her Excellency the Governor.

*Administered by Her Excellency the Governor,
Mrs. Jane Owen*

EX-OFFICIO MEMBERS

**Deputy Governor
Hon. Franz I. Manderson, MBE, Cert. Hon., JP**

OATH OF ALLEGIANCE

The Deputy Governor, Hon. Franz I. Manderson: I, Franz Ireland Manderson, do swear that I will be faithful

and bear true allegiance to His Majesty King Charles III, His heirs and successors, according to Law. So help me God.

OATH FOR DUE EXECUTION OF OFFICE

The Deputy Governor, Hon. Franz I. Manderson: I, Franz Ireland Manderson, do swear that I will well and truly serve His Majesty King Charles III, His heirs and successors, and the people of the Cayman Islands in the Office of Member of Parliament. So help me God.

Attorney General
Hon. Samuel W. Bulgin, KC, JP

OATH OF ALLEGIANCE

The Attorney General, Hon. Samuel W. Bulgin: I, Samuel Washington Bulgin, do swear that I will be faithful and bear true allegiance to His Majesty King Charles III, His heirs and successors, according to Law. So help me God.

OATH FOR DUE EXECUTION OF OFFICE

The Attorney General, Hon. Samuel W. Bulgin: I, Samuel Washington Bulgin, do swear that I will well and truly serve His Majesty King Charles III, His heirs and successors, and the people of the Cayman Islands in the Office of Member of Parliament. So help me God.

ELECTED MEMBERS OF PARLIAMENT

Mrs. Julie Joy Theresa Hunter, JP
Elected Member for West Bay West

OATH OF ALLEGIANCE

Mrs. Julie J.T. Hunter: I, Julie Joy Theresa Hunter, do swear that I will be faithful and bear true allegiance to His Majesty King Charles III, His heirs and successors, according to Law. So help me God.

OATH FOR DUE EXECUTION OF OFFICE

Mrs. Julie J.T. Hunter: I, Julie Joy Theresa Hunter, do swear that I will well and truly serve His Majesty King Charles III, His heirs and successors, and the people of the Cayman Islands in the Office of Member of Parliament. So help me God.

Mr. Rolston Malachi Anglin, JP
Elected Member for West Bay North

OATH OF ALLEGIANCE

Mr. Rolston M. Anglin: I, Rolston Malachi Anglin, do swear that I will be faithful and bear true allegiance to His Majesty King Charles III, His heirs and successors, according to Law. So help me God.

OATH FOR DUE EXECUTION OF OFFICE

Mr. Rolston M. Anglin: I, Rolston Malachi Anglin, do swear that I will well and truly serve His Majesty King Charles III, His heirs and successors, and the people of

the Cayman Islands in the Office of Member of Parliament. So help me God.

Hon. Katherine Anne Ebanks-Wilks
Elected Member for West Bay Central

OATH OF ALLEGIANCE

Hon. Katherine A. Ebanks-Wilks: I, Margaret Katherine Anne Ebanks-Wilks, do swear that I will be faithful and bear true allegiance to His Majesty King Charles III, His heirs and successors, according to Law. So help me God.

OATH FOR DUE EXECUTION OF OFFICE

Hon. Katherine A. Ebanks-Wilks: I, Margaret Katherine Anne Ebanks-Wilks, do swear that I will well and truly serve His Majesty King Charles III, His heirs and successors, and the people of the Cayman Islands in the Office of Member of Parliament. So help me God.

Mr. André Martin Ebanks
Elected Member for West Bay South

OATH OF ALLEGIANCE

Mr. André M. Ebanks: I, André Martin Ebanks, do swear that I will be faithful and bear true allegiance to His Majesty King Charles III, His heirs and successors, according to Law. So help me God.

OATH FOR DUE EXECUTION OF OFFICE

Mr. André M. Ebanks: I, André Martin Ebanks, do swear that I will well and truly serve His Majesty King Charles III, His heirs and successors, and the people of the Cayman Islands in the Office of Member of Parliament. So help me God.

Mr. Joseph Xavier Hew
Elected Member for George Town North

OATH OF ALLEGIANCE

Mr. Joseph X. Hew: I, Joseph Xavier Hew, do swear that I will be faithful and bear true allegiance to His Majesty King Charles III, His heirs and successors, according to Law. So help me God.

OATH FOR DUE EXECUTION OF OFFICE

Mr. Joseph X. Hew, Leader of the Opposition: I, Joseph Xavier Hew, do swear that I will well and truly serve His Majesty King Charles III, His heirs and successors, and the people of the Cayman Islands in the Office of Member of Parliament. So help me God.

Mr. Kenneth Vernon Bryan
Elected Member for George Town Central

OATH OF ALLEGIANCE

Mr. Kenneth V. Bryan: I, Kenneth Vernon Bryan, do swear that I will be faithful and bear true allegiance to

His Majesty King Charles III, His heirs and successors, according to Law. So help me God.

OATH FOR DUE EXECUTION OF OFFICE

Mr. Kenneth V. Bryan: I, Kenneth Vernon Bryan, do swear that I will well and truly serve His Majesty King Charles III, His heirs and successors, and the people of the Cayman Islands (and the good people of George Town Central) in the Office of Member of Parliament. So help me God.

Mrs. Pearlina Lucille McGaw-Lumsden
Elected Member for George Town West

OATH OF ALLEGIANCE

Mrs. Pearlina L. McGaw-Lumsden: I, Pearlina Lucille McGaw-Lumsden, do swear that I will be faithful and bear true allegiance to His Majesty King Charles III, His heirs and successors, according to Law. So help me God.

OATH FOR DUE EXECUTION OF OFFICE

Mrs. Pearlina L. McGaw-Lumsden: I, Pearlina Lucille McGaw-Lumsden, do swear that I will well and truly serve His Majesty King Charles III, His heirs and successors, and the people of the Cayman Islands in the Office of Member of Parliament. So help me God.

Mr. Gary Burns Rutty
Elected Member for George Town South

OATH OF ALLEGIANCE

Mr. Gary B. Rutty: I, Gary Burns Rutty, do swear that I will be faithful and bear true allegiance to His Majesty King Charles III, His heirs and successors, according to Law. So help me God.

OATH FOR DUE EXECUTION OF OFFICE

Mr. Gary B. Rutty: I, Gary Burns Rutty, do swear that I will well and truly serve His Majesty King Charles III, His heirs and successors, and the people of the Cayman Islands in the Office of Member of Parliament. So help me God.

Mr. Roy Michael McTaggart, JP
Elected Member for George Town East

OATH OF ALLEGIANCE

Mr. Roy M. McTaggart: I, Roy Michael McTaggart, do swear that I will be faithful and bear true allegiance to His Majesty King Charles III, His heirs and successors, according to Law. So help me God.

OATH FOR DUE EXECUTION OF OFFICE

Mr. Roy M. McTaggart: I, Roy Michael McTaggart, do swear that I will well and truly serve His Majesty King Charles III, His heirs and successors, and the people of the Cayman Islands in the Office of Member of Parliament. So help me God.

Mr. Arlin Royston Tatum Jr.
Elected Member for Red Bay

OATH OF ALLEGIANCE

Mr. Arlin R. Tatum Jr.: I, Arlin Royston Tatum Jr., do swear that I will be faithful and bear true allegiance to His Majesty King Charles III, His heirs and successors, according to Law. So help me God.

OATH FOR DUE EXECUTION OF OFFICE

Mr. Arlin R. Tatum Jr.: I, Arlin Royston Tatum Jr., do swear that I will well and truly serve His Majesty King Charles III, His heirs and successors, and the people of the Cayman Islands in the Office of Member of Parliament. So help me God.

Mr. Michael Steven Myles
Elected Member for Prospect

OATH OF ALLEGIANCE

Mr. Michael S. Myles: I, Michael Steven Myles, do swear that I will be faithful and bear true allegiance to His Majesty King Charles III, His heirs and successors, according to Law. So help me God.

OATH FOR DUE EXECUTION OF OFFICE

Mr. Michael S. Myles: I, Michael Steven Myles, do swear that I will well and truly serve His Majesty King Charles III, His heirs and successors, and the people of the Cayman Islands in the Office of Member of Parliament. So help me God.

Hon. Gurney Wayne Panton, JP
Elected Member for Newlands

OATH OF ALLEGIANCE

Hon. G. Wayne Panton: I, Gurney Wayne Panton, do swear that I will be faithful and bear true allegiance to His Majesty King Charles III, His heirs and successors, according to Law. So help me God.

OATH FOR DUE EXECUTION OF OFFICE

Hon. G. Wayne Panton: I, Gurney Wayne Panton, do swear that I will well and truly serve His Majesty King Charles III, His heirs and successors, and the people of the Cayman Islands in the Office of Member of Parliament. So help me God.

Ms. Heather Dianne Bodden, JP
Elected Member for Savannah

OATH OF ALLEGIANCE

Ms. Heather D. Bodden: I, Heather Dianne Bodden, do swear that I will be faithful and bear true allegiance to His Majesty King Charles III, His heirs and successors, according to Law. So help me God.

OATH FOR DUE EXECUTION OF OFFICE

Ms. Heather D. Bodden: I, Heather Dianne Bodden, do swear that I will well and truly serve His Majesty King Charles III, His heirs and successors, and the people of the Cayman Islands in the Office of Member of Parliament. So help me God.

Mr. Christopher Selvin Saunders
Elected Member for Bodden Town West

OATH OF ALLEGIANCE

Mr. Christopher S. Saunders: I, Christopher Selvin Saunders, do swear that I will be faithful and bear true allegiance to His Majesty King Charles III, His heirs and successors, according to Law. So help me God.

OATH FOR DUE EXECUTION OF OFFICE

Mr. Christopher S. Saunders: I, Christopher Selvin Saunders, do swear that I will well and truly serve His Majesty King Charles III, His heirs and successors, and the people of the Cayman Islands in the Office of Member of Parliament. So help me God.

Mr. Dwayne Stanley Seymour
Elected Member for Bodden Town East

OATH OF ALLEGIANCE

Mr. Dwayne S. Seymour: I, Dwayne Stanley Seymour, do swear that I will be faithful and bear true allegiance to His Majesty King Charles III, His heirs and successors, according to Law. So help me God.

OATH FOR DUE EXECUTION OF OFFICE

Mr. Dwayne S. Seymour: I, Dwayne Stanley Seymour, do swear that I will well and truly serve His Majesty King Charles III, His heirs and successors, and the people of the Cayman Islands in the Office of Member of Parliament. So help me God.

Mr. Johany Stephan Ebanks
Elected Member for North Side

OATH OF ALLEGIANCE

Mr. Johany S. Ebanks: I, Johany Stephan Ebanks, do swear that I will be faithful and bear true allegiance to His Majesty King Charles III, His heirs and successors, according to Law. So help me God.

OATH FOR DUE EXECUTION OF OFFICE

Mr. Johany S. Ebanks: I, Johany Stephan Ebanks, do swear that I will well and truly serve His Majesty King Charles III, His heirs and successors, and the people of the Cayman Islands in the Office of Member of Parliament. So help me God.

Mr. Isaac Douglas Rankine, JP
Elected Member for East End

AFFIRMATION OF ALLEGIANCE

Parliament of the Cayman Islands

Mr. Isaac D. Rankine: I, Isaac Douglas Rankine, do solemnly and sincerely affirm and declare that I will be faithful and bear true allegiance to His Majesty King Charles III, His heirs and successors, according to Law.

AFFIRMATION OF OFFICE

Mr. Isaac D. Rankine: I, Isaac Douglas Rankine, do solemnly and sincerely affirm and declare that I will well and truly serve His Majesty King Charles III, His heirs and successors, and the people of the Cayman Islands in the Office of Member of Parliament.

Mr. Nickolas Trevor Anthony DaCosta, JP
Elected Member for Cayman Brac West and Little Cayman

OATH OF ALLEGIANCE

Mr. Nickolas T. A. DaCosta: I, Nickolas Trevor Anthony DaCosta, do swear that I will be faithful and bear true allegiance to His Majesty King Charles III, His heirs and successors, according to Law. So help me God.

OATH FOR DUE EXECUTION OF OFFICE

Mr. Nickolas T. A. DaCosta: I, Nickolas Trevor Anthony DaCosta, do swear that I will well and truly serve His Majesty King Charles III, His heirs and successors, and the people of the Cayman Islands in the Office of Member of Parliament. So help me God.

Hon. Juliana Yvonne O'Connor-Connolly
Elected Member for Cayman Brac East

AFFIRMATION OF ALLEGIANCE

Hon. Juliana Y. O'Connor-Connolly: I, Juliana [Yvonne] O'Connor-Connolly, do solemnly and sincerely affirm and declare that I will be faithful and bear true allegiance to His Majesty King Charles III, His heirs and successors, according to Law.

AFFIRMATION OF OFFICE

Hon. Juliana Y. O'Connor-Connolly: I, Juliana [Yvonne] O'Connor-Connolly, do solemnly and sincerely affirm and declare that I will well and truly serve His Majesty King Charles III, His heirs and successors, and the people of the Cayman Islands in the Office of Member of Parliament.

**STATEMENT BY HER EXCELLENCY
THE GOVERNOR, MRS. JANE OWEN**

Her Excellency the Governor, Mrs. Jane Owen: Members of Parliament, Ladies and Gentlemen, Good Afternoon.

I am greatly honoured to be taking part in this Swearing-In Ceremony following the General Election in our Cayman Islands on 30th April. I know that His Majesty King Charles III, and the British Government, including our Minister for the Overseas Territories,

Stephen Doughty, join me in celebrating Cayman's democratic tradition, and affirming the United Kingdom's commitment to continuing to build a strong partnership with the new Government.

We are gathered here today in this hallowed hall of Cayman's democracy to welcome and formally confirm the 19 representatives who were successfully returned by our electorate. Congratulations to you all, and I look forward to working with you as we plan to deliver for our people over the coming four years of this Parliament.

My thoughts are, in particular, with those newly elected Members of Parliament, here for the first time. Also, I wish a warm "welcome back" to all those who are returning to this chamber. I think I can also express, on all of our behalves, gratitude to those who stood for election, but were not successful—we recognise their endeavours and their ideas, and hope they will take heart from this experience and continue to contribute to the policy debate.

I want to take a moment here to reflect upon the last four years (two during my term as Governor) and acknowledge the leadership of Premier, Juliana O'Connor-Connolly and former Premier, Wayne Panton, to your Deputies, your Ministers, and Parliamentary Secretaries over these past years. You have all shown great commitment and dedication in your service to our communities, and your achievements will remain part of the building blocks of our history.

Today brings us to the conclusion of the election process as we stand on the threshold of our incoming administration. Since I announced the date of the election back in December, I have observed the democratic path that has brought us to this ceremony in Parliament today. Our General Election was carried out, as is our tradition, in a free, fair and transparent manner, which should make us all proud.

In that context, I pay tribute to our Supervisor of Elections, Mr. Wesley Howell; his Deputies, Mrs. Sheena Glasgow and Ms. Chevala Burke; the over 300 polling staff and volunteers, the police and special constables and many others who worked so hard to ensure a robust process.

[Desk thumping]

Over these past weeks, I have been impressed by how our polling staff teams have enthusiastically dedicated their time and efforts in training and preparation. I have seen how the mobile and postal voting (which has doubled since the last election) has facilitated participation for those with reduced mobility, for our emergency services, our polling staff and for those travelling or living abroad.

I would also like to thank the electorate, our people, for taking part and for making your vote count. Collectively, you help foster our sense of civic pride. In this election, there were 25,643 registered voters in Cayman—an increase of over 2,000 from the year

2021. We achieved a high voter turnout of 73%, which is impressive by any international standards, although I am sure we would like to see absolutely everyone who is eligible to vote, making the effort to exercise that right, particularly, among our young people who, after all, represent the future aspirations and opportunities of Cayman.

We were joined over the last weeks by an International Election Observer Mission from the Commonwealth Parliamentary Association. I am pleased to note that their initial findings are positive, confirming a robust ballot process and highlighting Cayman's inclusive and welcoming attitude to all voters. We are also grateful for the work of our Domestic Observer Mission of seven persons, very ably led by Mrs. Deborah Ebanks.

We look forward to receiving detailed reports from both missions in due course, and I hope the incoming Government will take steps to address some key areas in their reports for future development, including more transparent campaign financing, reviewing our constituency boundaries and developing our regulations around social media.

As we gather today, we also note the results of our Referendum held concurrently with the Election on 30 April. These results are clear, although they are not binding, and the Government will therefore have to decide and have discretion in how it proceeds to develop policies in regard to the three issues under deliberation in ways that best support the will and the interests of our people.

To our incoming Premier and his Government: I pledge to work with you in partnership and trust, respecting the Government's authority and autonomy in domestic affairs, ensuring together that we uphold good governance and the rule of law, the separation of powers, and integrity in all we do. I will also work with you to fulfil my own responsibilities for internal security; in particular, as we protect and promote the security of our population in all areas of national life and work.

I want to thank today the Deputy Governor, Franz Manderson, the whole Civil Service, and the Attorney General and his Chambers, for the support you afford to me and the Cabinet in implementing the policies developed by the Government and approved by Parliament. We are fortunate in Cayman to benefit from a professional and passionate public service, and I know everyone in that public service would join me in looking forward with enthusiasm to tackling the opportunities and challenges that lie ahead.

As we prepare to welcome our incoming Government today, the United Kingdom reinforces its commitment to Cayman as a British Overseas Territory – recalling the enduring partnership that we both continue to enjoy. I hope that Honourable Members from both sides of the House will join me today in recognising that this relationship brings significant benefits through the United Kingdom's position within the UN and in many international decision-making bodies in

the fields of trade, finance, health, defence, climate and development, to name but a few. I believe there is much scope to develop our partnership further as we plan for the future. At a time of global dissonance and friction, it is a good moment to treasure close friends and shared values.

In closing, I want to say to all the Parliamentarians gathered today, to our new Premier and the Leader of the Official Opposition: we are all privileged to serve the people of the Cayman Islands. Together we have so much to be thankful for. We treasure our Islands and everything they stand for. And we treasure each other – including through our different backgrounds, different perspectives and different priorities.

It is often through finding a middle way that we can build the most successful future so, let us today also celebrate that special Cayman Kindness with each other, and the unity that it inspires. The last verse of our national song sums up eloquently our desire to respect and value each other (and you all know this one):

*“When tired of all excitement
And glam’rous worldly care,
How sweet thy shores to reach
And find a welcome there,
And when comes on the season
Of peace, goodwill to man,
’Tis then I love thee best of all,
Beloved isle, Cayman.”*

God bless our beloved Cayman Islands.

[Desk thumping]

The Clerk: Please stand.

[Departure of Her Excellency the Governor]

The Clerk: Please be seated.

READING OF PROCLAMATION

The Clerk: Cayman Islands Proclamation No. 5 of 2025 by Her Excellency, Jane Owen, Governor of the Cayman Islands:

**“JANE OWEN
GOVERNOR**

“WHEREAS section 83(1) of the Constitution of the Cayman Islands provides that the session of the Parliament of the Cayman Islands shall be held at such places and begin at such times as the Governor may from time to time by proclamation appoint:

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Jane Owen, Governor of the Cayman Islands, by virtue of the powers conferred upon me by section 83(1) of the Constitution of the Cayman Islands HEREBY PROCLAIM

that a session of the Parliament of the Cayman Islands shall begin and be held at the Parliament Building, George Town, Grand Cayman at 2 p.m. on the 6th day of May, 2025 and shall thereafter continue until such date and time as the Parliament may adjourn thereto.

GIVEN UNDER MY HAND AND THE PUBLIC SEAL OF THE CAYMAN ISLANDS AT GEORGE TOWN, IN THE ISLAND OF GRAND CAYMAN, THIS 2ND DAY OF MAY, IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD, TWO THOUSAND AND TWENTY-FIVE, IN THE THIRD YEAR OF THE REIGN OF HIS MAJESTY KING CHARLES III.”

NOMINATION AND ELECTION OF THE SPEAKER OF THE PARLIAMENT

The Clerk: I now call for nomination of a Speaker of this honourable Parliament. Nominations are now open.

NOMINATION OF MR. D. EZZARD MILLER, JP

Mr. Johany S. Ebanks, Elected Member for North Side: Madam Clerk, I, Johany Ebanks, Member for North Side, nominate D. Ezzard Miller for the next Speaker of Parliament.

The Clerk: There is a nomination.
Is there a seconder?

Mr. André M. Ebanks, Elected Member for West Bay South: Madam Clerk, I beg to second the nomination.

The Clerk: There's a Mover and a seconder for Mr. D. Ezzard Miller to be the Honourable Speaker of this Parliament.

Mr. D. Ezzard Miller, do you accept this nomination?

Mr. D. Ezzard Miller: I do.

The Clerk: Are there any other nominations? *[Pause]* Are there any other nominations? *[Pause]* If there are no more nominations, I will ask for a Motion that the nominations be closed.

Mr. Rolston M. Anglin, Elected Member for West Bay North: Madam Clerk, I beg to move a Motion that nominations be closed.

The Clerk: All those in favour, please say Aye. Those against, No.

AYES.

The Clerk: The Ayes have it.

Agreed: Nominations closed.

Parliament of the Cayman Islands

The Clerk: Mr. Ezzard Miller is hereby elected as the Honourable Speaker of this Parliament.

[Desk thumping]

**MOTION TO INVITE HER EXCELLENCY
THE GOVERNOR, MRS. JANE OWEN,
TO ADMINISTER THE
OATH OF ALLEGIANCE AND
OATH FOR DUE EXECUTION OF OFFICE
TO THE HONOURABLE SPEAKER**

The Deputy Governor, Hon. Franz I. Manderson:
Thank you, Madam Clerk.

Madam Clerk, I beg to move a Motion to invite Her Excellency the Governor, Mrs. Jane Owen, to administer the Oath of Allegiance and Oath of Due Execution of Office to the Honourable Speaker.

The Clerk: The question is that this honourable House invites Her Excellency the Governor, Mrs. Jane Owen to administer the Oath of Allegiance and Due Execution of Office to the Honourable Speaker. All those in favour, please say Aye. Those against, No.

AYES.

The Clerk: The Ayes have it.

Agreed: Governor invited to administer the Oath of Allegiance and Oath for Due Execution of Office.

The Clerk: We shall now await the arrival of Her Excellency the Governor.

The Serjeant-at-Arms: Please rise.
Her Excellency the Governor.

**OATH OF ALLEGIANCE AND OATH FOR
DUE EXECUTION OF OFFICE TO THE
HONOURABLE SPEAKER**

*[Administered by Her Excellency the Governor,
Mrs. Jane Owen]*

Her Excellency the Governor, Mrs. Jane Owen: I now call on Mr. Ezzard Miller, to come and take the Oath of Allegiance and the Oath of Due Execution to be the Honourable Speaker of the Cayman Islands.

Mr. D. Ezzard Miller
Speaker of the House of Parliament

The Clerk: Please be seated.

AFFIRMATION OF ALLEGIANCE

Mr. D. Ezzard Miller: I, Denison Ezzard Miller, do swear that I will be faithful and bear true allegiance to His Majesty King Charles III, His heirs and successors, according to law. So help me God.

AFFIRMATION OF OFFICE

Mr. D. Ezzard Miller: I, Denison Ezzard Miller, do swear that I will well and truly serve His Majesty King Charles III, His heirs and successors, and the people of the Cayman Islands, in the Office of Speaker of Parliament. So help me God.

[Pause]

The Clerk: Please stand.

We will take a short suspension to allow the Honourable Speaker to prepare for the Speaker's Procession. Please remain in your seats.

[Departure of Her Excellency the Governor]

The Clerk: Please be seated.

Proceedings suspended at 3:14pm.

Proceedings resumed 3:21pm.

The Serjeant-at-Arms: Mr. Speaker. Please rise.

SPEAKER'S PROCESSION

*The Serjeant-at-Arms
The Honourable Speaker
The Clerk
The Assistant Clerk
The Deputy Serjeant-at-Arms*

[Hon. D. Ezzard Miller, Speaker of the House, presiding]

The Speaker: Please be seated.

**STATEMENT BY THE
HONOURABLE SPEAKER**

The Speaker: Your Excellency, Mrs. Jane Owen; Honourable Chief Justice, Margaret Ramsay-Hale; Honourable Premier, André Ebanks; Honourable Leader of the Opposition, Joey Hew; Honourable Ministers of Government; Honourable Members; distinguished guests; members of the public: Good afternoon.

It is with profound humility, personal honour and with sincerest gratitude that I accept the role of Speaker in this honourable House. While it is expected by many that by its very nature this House of Parliament is one of conflict and advocational debate, I would hope that we can grab this opportunity to follow the theme of this year's emancipation celebration: *Unity* –

Strengthening Our Legacy. May I be so bold as to suggest we make respect and dignity our manual in debates? On the very rare occasion that I may be called on to exercise the authority of this position, I pledge to judge with candour, to admonish with friendship and to reprehend with mercy.

I would like, on this occasion, on behalf of the Member from North Side and myself, to recognise the Head Boy-Mr. Rashed Watler and the Head Girl-Miss Crystal Miller, from our alma mater, the Edna Moyle Primary School.

[Desk thumping]

The Speaker: In closing, I congratulate each of the Members on being elected to this honourable Parliament. Thank you.

[Desk thumping]

NOMINATION AND ELECTION OF DEPUTY SPEAKER

The Speaker: The Floor is open for the nomination of Deputy Speaker.

Member for George Town North.

Mr. Joseph X. Hew, Elected Member for George Town North: Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Mr. Speaker, I rise to nominate Mrs. Pearlina McGaw-Lumsden for the role of Deputy Speaker.

The Speaker: Is there a seconder?

Mr. Christopher S. Saunders, Elected Member for Bodden Town West: Mr. Speaker, I beg to second the nomination.

The Speaker: Member for George Town West, you have been nominated for the position of Deputy Speaker. Do you accept?

Mrs. Pearlina L. McGraw-Lumsden, Elected Member for George Town West: Mr. Speaker, I accept. Thank you.

The Speaker: Are there any other nominations? *[Pause]* Are there any other nominations? *[Pause]* If not, I will ask for a Motion to close nominations for the posts of Deputy Speaker.

Mr. Kenneth V. Bryan, Elected Member for George Town Central: Mr. Speaker.

The Speaker: Member for George Town Central.

Mr. Kenneth V. Bryan, Elected Member for George Town Central: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I want to

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congratulate you on your position before I move a Motion to close the nominations for Deputy Speaker.

The Speaker: Is there a seconder?

Mr. Arlin Royston Tatum Jr., Elected Member for Red Bay: I second the Motion, Mr. Speaker.

The Speaker: Motion has been moved and seconded to close nomination. All those in favour, please say Aye. Those against, No.

AYES.

The Speaker: The Ayes have it.

Agreed: Nominations closed.

The Speaker: I declare that the Member for George Town West, Mrs. Pearlina McGraw-Lumsden has been elected Deputy Speaker. Congratulations.

[Desk thumping]

NOMINATION AND ELECTION OF THE PREMIER

The Speaker: The Floor is open for nominations for Premier. I recognise the Member for West Bay Central.

Hon. Katherine A. Ebanks-Wilks, Elected Member for West Bay Central: Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Mr. Speaker, it is an honour to stand here today to make a nomination for the Office of Premier. I'd like to nominate the Member for West Bay South.

The Speaker: Is there a seconder?

Ms. Heather D. Bodden, Elected Member for Savannah: Mr. Speaker, I second the nomination.

The Speaker: Member for West Bay South, you have been nominated and seconded for the position of Premier of the Cayman Islands. Do you accept?

Mr. André M. Ebanks, Elected Member for West Bay South: Good afternoon, Mr. Speaker. I humbly accept the nomination with great honour.

[Applause and desk thumping]

The Speaker: Are there any other nominations? Member for George Town Central.

Mr. Kenneth V. Bryan, Elected Member for George Town Central: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I rise to nominate the Elected Member for George Town North as the Honourable Premier of the Cayman Islands.

The Speaker: Is there a seconder?

Hon. Juliana Y. O'Connor-Connolly, Elected Member for Cayman Brac East: Good afternoon, Mr. Speaker. I beg to second the said nomination.

The Speaker: Member for George Town North, you have been nominated and seconded for the position of Premier of the Cayman Islands. Do you accept the nomination?

Mr. Joseph X. Hew, Elected Member for George Town North: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, I humbly accept the nomination.

The Speaker: Are there any other nominations? *[Pause]* Are there any other nominations? *[Pause]* Are there any other nominations? *[Pause]* If not, I would invite a Motion to close nominations for the position of Premier of the Cayman Islands.

Mr. Kenneth V. Bryan, Elected Member for George Town Central: Mr. Speaker, I rise to move the Motion to close the nomination for the election of the Honourable Premier of the Cayman Islands.

The Speaker: Is there a seconder?

Mr. Roy M. McTaggart, Elected Member for George Town East: Mr. Speaker, I second the Motion.

The Speaker: The Motion to close nomination has been moved and seconded. All those in favour, please say Aye. Those against, No.

AYES.

The Speaker: The Ayes have it.
Agreed: Nominations closed.

The Speaker: Since there is more than one person nominated, we will have the election by secret ballot to choose the Premier of the Cayman Islands.

We will suspend for a few moments to allow the Clerk and her staff to prepare the ballots. Please remain in your seats.

[Pause]

The Speaker: While the staff is preparing the ballots, the Serjeant-at-Arms will take around the box into which the ballots will be placed, so that every Member can be assured that there are not already any ballots in the box.

[Pause]

The Speaker: Honourable Members, the ballot papers are now being prepared and you have seen the ballot box. I am going to ask the Serjeant-at-Arms to ensure

that all Members had an opportunity to look into the ballot box. If you haven't seen it, let me know now.

The ballot papers are currently being handed out. In the meantime, I will ask the two scrutineers, the ex officio Members of the House, the Deputy Governor and the Attorney General, to come and take their positions please.

Has everyone received a blank ballot paper? You may write the name of the person that you wish to be elected as Premier. The two people who have been nominated are Mr. Joseph Hew and Mr. André Ebanks. Write one name only please; two names would be a spoiled ballot.

[Laughter]

The Speaker: Please fold the ballots carefully and the Serjeant will now collect the ballots in the ballot box.

[Pause]

The Speaker: Have all Honourable Members placed their ballot in the box?

I now invite the scrutineers to open the box and to read the results.

The Deputy Governor, Hon. Franz I. Manderson: Mr. André M. Ebanks.

[Pause]

Mr. André M. Ebanks.

[Pause]

Mr. André M. Ebanks.

[Pause]

Mr. André M. Ebanks.

[Pause]

Mr. Joseph X. Hew.

[Pause]

Mr. Joseph X. Hew.

[Pause]

Mr. Joseph X. Hew.

[Pause]

Mr. André M. Ebanks.

[Pause]

Mr. Joseph X. Hew.

[Pause]

Mr. Joseph X. Hew.

[Pause]

Mr. Joseph X. Hew.

[Pause]

Mr. André M. Ebanks.

[Pause]

Mr. André M. Ebanks.

[Pause]

Mr. André M. Ebanks.

[Pause]

Mr. André M. Ebanks.

[Pause]

Mr. André M. Ebanks.

[Pause]

Mr. Joseph X. Hew.

[Pause]

Mr. André M. Ebanks.

[Pause]

Last ballot—Mr. Joseph X. Hew.

The Speaker: Thanks to the Honourable Deputy Governor and the Honourable Attorney General for acting as scrutineers.

The results of the secret ballot are:

André Ebanks: 11 votes.

Joey Hew: 8 votes.

I therefore declare André Ebanks Premier of the Cayman Islands.

[Applause and desk thumping]

MOTION TO INVITE HER EXCELLENCY THE GOVERNOR

TO PRESENT THE INSTRUMENTS OF APPOINTMENTS

The Speaker: I now call on the Deputy Governor to move a Motion to invite the Governor to present the Instruments of Appointment to the Honourable Premier, the Honourable Leader of the Opposition and the Honourable Deputy Leader of the Opposition.

The Deputy Governor, Hon. Franz I. Manderson: Mr. Speaker, thank you and congratulations on your appointment.

Mr. Speaker, I beg to move a Motion to invite her Excellency the Governor, Mrs. Jane Owen, to present the Instruments of Appointment to the Premier and the Leader of the Opposition and the Deputy Leader of the Opposition.

The Speaker: The question is that Her Excellency the Governor be now invited to present the Instruments of Appointment to the Premier, the Leader of the Opposition and the Deputy Leader of the Opposition. All those in favour, please say Aye. Those against, No.

AYES.

The Speaker: The Ayes have it.

Agreed: Governor invited to present the Instruments of Appointment.

The Speaker: The House will be suspended to enable Her Excellency the Governor to present the Instruments of Appointment. Please remain in your seats.

The Serjeant-at-Arm: Please rise. Her Excellency the Governor.

Her Excellency the Governor, Mrs. Jane Owen: Please be seated.

PRESENTATION OF INSTRUMENTS TO THE HONOURABLE PREMIER, LEADER OF THE OPPOSITION AND DEPUTY LEADER OF THE OPPOSITION

*[Administered by Her Excellency the Governor,
Mrs. Jane Owen, through the signing of the relevant
documents]*

Her Excellency the Governor, Mrs. Jane Owen: I now invite Mr. André Ebanks to come and receive his Instrument of Appointment as the Honourable Premier of the Cayman Islands.

[Applause and desk thumping]

Her Excellency the Governor, Mrs. Jane Owen: I would like also to invite Mr. Joseph Hew to come and

receive his Instrument of Appointment as the Honourable Leader of the Opposition of the Cayman Islands.

[Applause and desk thumping]

Her Excellency the Governor, Mrs. Jane Owen: I now invite Mr. Kenneth Bryan to come and receive his Instruments of Appointment as the honourable Deputy Leader of the Opposition of the Cayman Islands.

[Applause and desk thumping]

The Speaker: Please stand.

[Departure of Her Excellency the Governor]

The Speaker: Please be seated.

The proceedings will now resume. I wish to congratulate the Premier on his appointment, as well as the Honourable Leader of the Opposition and the Deputy Leader of the Opposition on their appointments. We will now adjourn to allow the Members to be sworn in as Members of Cabinet.

We ask everyone to remain in their seats until their section is called. We will exit in the following order. General public, spouses, Members' guests, Chief Officers, past Members of Parliament, Members of Parliament. I now call on the Honourable Premier to move the adjournment of this honourable House.

The Premier, Hon. André M. Ebanks: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I move the adjournment of this honourable House until 2pm tomorrow, Wednesday, 7 May.

The Speaker: Thank you. The question is that this honourable House do stand adjourned until 2pm on Wednesday, 7 May, 2025. All those in favour, please say Aye. Those against, No.

AYES.

The Speaker: The Ayes have it.

The House now stands adjourned until Wednesday, 7th May, 2025, at 2pm.

At 3:51pm the House stood adjourned until Wednesday, 7th May, 2025.