PARLIAMENT
OF THE CAYMAN ISLANDS

PARLIAMENTARY QUESTION NO. 53
Answered on 18 November, 2026
Third Meeting 2026-2027 Session – First Sitting

PARLIAMENTARY QUESTION
ASKED BY

HON. KENNETH V. BRYAN
DEPUTY LEADER OF THE OPPOSITION, ELECTED MEMBER FOR THE CONSTITUENCY OF GEORGE TOWN CENTRAL

TO

HON. MICHAEL MYLES
MINISTER OF CAYMANIAN EMPLOYMENT & IMMIGRATION

QUESTION:

Can the Honourable Minister say what statutory criteria or legal definition the Work Permit Board and the Director of Workforce Opportunities & Residency Cayman (WORC) currently use to evaluate whether an applicant is of "good character" under Parts 5 and 6 of the Immigration (Transition) Act (2022 Revision)?

ANSWER:

The Caymanian Protection Act (2022 Revision) does not contain a statutory definition of "good character". The term is applied according to its ordinary meaning and established administrative decision-making principles, including the rules of natural justice.

The Act requires the immigration Boards and the Director of WORC to be satisfied that an applicant is of good character before granting a work permit, immigration permissions, residency rights and other benefits. The Director may delegate decision-making authority to civil servant administrators. Each application is assessed case by case, on its own facts and circumstances, using all relevant information available at the time.

Factors that may be considered include, but are not limited to:

a) the applicant's criminal history, in the Cayman Islands or any other jurisdiction, including convictions for offences involving dishonesty, violence, drugs or other criminal conduct;
b) pending criminal proceedings;
c) compliance with Cayman Islands immigration laws and other laws, including employment and regulatory requirements where applicable;
d) the provision of false, misleading or fraudulent information in support of an application;
e) evidence of the applicant's integrity, honesty and general conduct, including honesty in dealings with the Cayman Islands Government and evidence of rehabilitation; and
f) any other information reasonably relevant to the applicant's character and suitability for the benefit sought.

The assessment is therefore not limited to criminal convictions. Where adverse information exists, each matter is considered on its merits, taking into account its nature, seriousness, frequency, recency and overall relevance. The Boards and the Director retain discretion to weigh all relevant evidence before reaching a decision.

This approach allows the full circumstances of each case to be considered, so that decisions are evidence-based, fair, reasonable and made in the public interest.