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International Anti-Corruption Day 2023

The theme of the 2023 International Anti-Corruption Day, *UNCAC at 20: Uniting the World Against Corruption*, comes at a key moment for the Cayman Islands as the jurisdiction embraces its recent October 2023 removal from the Financial Action Task Force’s (FATF) anti-money laundering “grey list”, proving that its AML regime meets the global standard.

The removal from the FATF grey list marks a significant achievement following years of sustained efforts by both the public and private sectors. The Anti-Corruption Commission (ACC) congratulates all stakeholders involved in securing this excellent result, and is pleased to have supported the efforts to delist the Cayman Islands by successfully prosecuting/investigating several cases involving corruption which were included within the Cayman Islands’ submissions to the FATF as providing further evidence of the commitment of the jurisdiction to combat money laundering.

The past year has also marked several achievements for the ACC. During the last reporting period (1 July 2022 – 30 June 2023), the ACC had 11 active investigations, 11 complaints received with 2 complaints accepted for investigation, and 87 interviews conducted. Further, there were 4 persons arrested, 1 person charged, and 2 persons convicted. Most notable during this period were the convictions of Canover Watson and Bruce Blake of offences under the Anti-Corruption Act, the Proceeds of Crime Act and the Penal Code, representing the culmination of 7 years of complex work initiated by the ACC, involving multiple international jurisdictions.

International Anti-Corruption Day 2023 honours the 20th anniversary of the United Nations Convention Against Corruption (UNCAC) – a landmark global agreement which now includes 190 parties, including the Cayman Islands, who are committed to the Convention’s anti-corruption obligations. The UN, in emphasizing the importance of International Anti-Corruption Day, states: “At its core is the notion that tackling this crime is the right and responsibility of everyone, and that only through cooperation and the involvement of each and every person and institution can we overcome the negative impact of this crime.”

The Commission joins the United Nations and affiliate anti-corruption organisations globally in the fight against corruption, today and every day. For more information about the Commission, including how to report any suspicions of corruption, visit www.anticorruptioncommission.ky, email info@anticorruptioncommission.ky, or call 244-3685.