
Shari Walton-Rankin

Telephone: (345) 922-0261

Email: sharivwalton@gmail.com

Address: P.O. Box 563, Grand Cayman KY1-1502, Cayman Islands

LinkedIn Profile URL: [linkedin.com/in/shari-walton-rankin-6aa46a8b](https://www.linkedin.com/in/shari-walton-rankin-6aa46a8b)

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Crown Counsel II, Attorney General's Chambers (Solicitor General's Office), Cayman Islands Government *(September 2022 – Present)*

Policy & Procedure Advice, Development & Implementation

- Legal Advisor to Government Departments, Ministries, Statutory Authorities and Enforcement Agencies on a wide range of legal issues related to the administration, interpretation and enforcement of laws to ensure the lawfulness of decision-making, good governance and statutory and regulatory compliance.
- Provide legal guidance on beneficial ownership; economic substance; anti-money laundering and counter-terrorist financing; anti-bribery and corruption; FATCA and CRS reporting; sanctions; regulatory developments; and data protection.
- Provide legal advice on various civil matters, including contract, immigration, planning, pensions, property law, children's law, and tort law.
- Draft briefs and prepare memorandum, letters and other documents.

Civil Litigation Practice and Procedure

- Conduct settlement negotiations on behalf of the Cayman Islands Government to resolve disputes relating to debts owed to the Government or claims against the Government on matters pertaining to employment law, immigration law, planning, contract, personal injury, etc.
- Develop strategies and skeleton arguments in conjunction with the Solicitor General to prepare for tribunal and Court proceedings.
- Draft and prepare letters before action, witness statements, affidavits, summons, pleadings, court applications and submissions.
- Provide legal representation to Government Departments, Ministries, Statutory Authorities and Enforcement Agencies before tribunals and all tiers of Court.

Contract Review & Negotiation

- Draft, review and negotiate Government contracts promptly and effectively to ensure the commercial aptness of contracts and legality with procurement regulations.
- Draft, review and negotiate Government leases, licences and other agreements.

Legal & Professional Knowledge Management and Support

- Update and manage the Portfolio of Legal Affairs' internal legislation database.
- Provide frequent updates to the Solicitor General's Office (SGO), Office of the Director of Public Prosecutions (ODPP) and Judicial Administration as to regulatory developments and new and proposed legislation.
- Assist with the drafting and circulation of case law updates to Crown Counsel of the SGO.

- Develop precedents and practice guides for use by the SGO.
- Provide training to paralegals and new Crown Counsel of the SGO on the availability of the internal legislative database and regarding online legal resources such as WestLaw, LexisNexis, Practical Law, Justis and the Judicial Administration Search System.

Articled Clerk (Secondment), Portfolio of Legal Affairs, Cayman Islands Government
(September 2020 – April 2022)

Civil Advice/Contracts

- Reviewed and negotiated Government contracts alongside Senior Crown Counsel to ensure commercial practicality and legality with procurement regulations.
- Drafted legal opinions to various Government Departments, Ministries, Administrative Bodies, Statutory Authorities and Enforcement Agencies on various public law matters, including immigration, company, planning, property, data protection, anti-corruption, public health, contract, tort, police law, children’s law and constitutional law.
- Proffered advice to the Chief Valuation Officer of the Department of Lands and Survey regarding the modernisation of the Stamp Duty Act (2019 Revision).
- Assisted the Land Registrar in contemplating the regime for the planned E-Conveyancing system.

Litigation Practice and Procedure (Criminal and Civil)

- Developed strategies and legal arguments in conjunction with the Solicitor General to prepare for tribunal proceedings, Summary Court, Grand Court, the Court of Appeal, and the Judicial Committee of the Privy Council.
- Drafted letters before action, affidavits, summons, court applications and submissions for civil litigation matters.
- Assisted Crown Counsel of the SGO on a number of matters before the Courts. These included the following cases which comprised novel legal issues - Cause No. 169/2020 - Kattina Anglin v The Governor v Colors Caribbean (Intervener); CICA 15 & 16/2021 - Douglas and Ramoon v The Governor; FAM#259/20 & FAM#288/20 – In the matter of the Legal Practitioner’s Act – Contempt of Court - (Carlington Dawson); and Case ID JCPC 2020 0033 Day & another (Appellants) v The Government of the Cayman Islands and another (Respondents).
- Provided draft rulings to assist Crown Counsel of the ODPP in determining whether there was sufficient evidence to pursue charges against alleged offenders.
- Assisted ODPP Crown Counsel in preparing witnesses for trial and drafting summaries of interviews to adhere to disclosure requirements under the Criminal Procedure Rules.
- Supported prosecution submissions on matters relating to murder, drugs, financial crime and international requests for cooperation.
- Assisted Crown Counsel of the ODPP during Grand Court proceedings on a number of high-profile cases, for example Indictment 2+4/20 R v Canover Norbert Watson & Charmaine Moss.

Legislative Drafting and Law Reform

- Produced draft Cabinet Papers and Speaking Notes for the Hon. Attorney General.
- Assisted with drafting legislation on behalf of the Legislative Drafting Department.

- Assisted the First Legislative Counsel with committee stage amendments concerning the Customs and Border Control (Amendment) Bill, 2021, Cayman Islands Coast Guard Bill, 2021, and Immigration (Transition) (Amendment) Bill, 2021 and Legal Services Act, 2020 during the relevant sittings of Parliament.
- Drafted Law Reform Commission Discussion Papers, Final Reports and draft legislation to proffer recommendations for reform (e.g. the Private Funding of Legal Services Act, 2020).

Legal Research Analyst, Portfolio of Legal Affairs, Cayman Islands Government

(January 2017 – September 2022)

- Independently reviewed the national framework relating to anti-money laundering, anti-terrorism and anti-corruption on behalf of the Hon. Attorney General to determine compliance with international requirements under the United Nation’s Convention Against Corruption and the 1999 International Convention for the Suppression of the Financing of Terrorism and to request the extension of the conventions to the Cayman Islands.
- Worked extensively with the Anti-Money Laundering Unit and National Coordinator to advance the anti-terrorism initiatives in the Islands by advising on amendments to laws and supporting inter-agency coordination to meet the Financial Action Task Force’s requirements.
- Used a range of research methods and resources to perform complex legal research and source domestic and international law.
- Identified and analysed factual and legal issues to produce legal research reports.
- Assembled, proofed and amended draft legal opinions, contracts, leases, licences, policies, court applications and other legal documents.
- Managed the Portfolio’s internal legislation database and ensured timely updates.
- Monitored, studied and developed written summaries of anticipated and endorsed legislation, regulations, court decisions, regulatory standards and other relevant publications.
- Organised case law, legislation, legal resources and other information and created reference tools for Crown Counsel.
- Served as a primary point of contact for Crown Counsel seeking legal research support.
- Managed the production of the Portfolio’s 2018-2021 Annual Reports and ensured the timely publication of the same.
- Helped establish the Law Revision Commission’s new public legislation website.

Assistant Paralegal, Property, Investment, Asset Management & Real Estate Finance Department, Pinsent Masons LLP, Birmingham, United Kingdom *(September 2015 – January 2017)*

- Conducted research on legal issues and prepared research reports.
- Drafted and reviewed title reports, deeds of assignment, leases, licences, transfers of part, and authorised guarantee agreements.
- Drafted and submitted land registry applications and replied to requisitions.
- Performed land registry, map and land charges searches.
- Managed project documentation and the negotiation of commercial leases.
- Maintained tracker documents to follow progress on matters in accordance with deadlines.
- Updated clients on the status of transactions.
- Liaised with solicitors acting for the other parties to agree on draft documents, deal with undertakings, and arrange for completion.

RELEVANT QUALIFICATIONS

June 2022	Admission to the Cayman Islands Bar
September 2019	Postgraduate Diploma in Professional Legal Practice University of Law, Birmingham, United Kingdom
March 2016	Advanced LexisLibrary Online Research Certification Lexis Nexis
2012- 2014	Bachelor of Laws (Honours) (LL.B (Hons.)) University of Law, Birmingham, United Kingdom

TRAINING & PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

November 2022	Administrative Law Intensive New Zealand Law Society Continuing Legal Education
November 2022	The Art of Cross-examination Mr. Simon Davis, Director of Public Prosecutions
September 2021	Protocol for Processing International Requests for Assistance Office of the Director of Public Prosecutions
June 2021	Stays of Registration & Official Searches Deputy Registrar of Lands, Department of Lands & Survey
June 2021	Land Registry System - Compliance Training Department of Lands & Survey
November 2019	Data Protection Awareness Seminar Office of the Ombudsman
June 2016	Regulatory Policies and Procedures Training Pinsent Masons' Risk, Compliance & Legal Regime

REFERENCES

Available upon request.