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Appointment of Grand Court Judge

His Excellency the Governor, Martyn Roper, OBE is pleased to announce the appointment of Cheryll Richards, QC as a Judge of the Grand Court.

The Judicial and Legal Services Commission (the "JLSC") recently carried out an open recruitment process advertising the post both locally and overseas. Following a short-listing process, an interview panel interviewed four persons for this post ultimately recommending Cheryll Richards, QC as the successful candidate. His Excellency subsequently accepted the recommendation.

"Ms. Richards has earned the respect of the community through her hard work and dedication as both Cayman's first Director of Public Prosecutions and in her many other roles in the Legal Department" the Governor said. "Her extensive experiences and skills prosecuting matters in the criminal division will be an asset to our judiciary" he continued.

Ms. Richards will be appointed as a Judge of the Grand Court effective 1 December 2018 and Deputy Director of Public Prosecutions will serve as Acting Director whilst the JLSC undertakes a recruitment exercise for the post of Director. Ms. Richards may assist the Acting Director with administrative and financial matters as it relates to the Office of the Director of Public Prosecutions during the transitional period but, effective 1 December, will no longer hold constitutional responsibility to institute and undertake criminal proceedings. Once Ms. Richards formally takes up the post as Grand Court Judge, the matters and responsibilities will be allocated by the Honourable Chief Justice in a manner as to ensure no conflicts of interest arise between her former responsibilities

as Director of Public Prosecutions and her responsibilities as Judge of the Grand Court. In particular, she will of course, as a Judge have no dealings with criminal cases which she indicted as the Director of Public Prosecutions.

Notes for Editors:

Cheryll Richards, Q.C., has served as the Cayman Islands' Director of Public Prosecutions since 2011. Prior to this appointment Ms. Richards served in the Cayman Islands as Solicitor General and Chief Officer in the Portfolio of Legal Affairs from 2005 – 2011, Senior Crown Counsel from 2003 – 2004, and Crown Counsel from 1996 – 2003. Ms. Richards also served for three years in Turks and Caicos and in Jamaica in various legal posts for approximately seven years. She was called to the Bar in 1986 and took Silk in 2009.