

LEADERSHIP THROUGH INNOVATION



Godfrey Johnson



Kayla Martin

In 1903, over 115 years ago, the Cayman Islands Shipping Registry (Cayman Registry), opened its doors registering its first vessel the “El Paso”. Today, more than 2,300 vessels fly the Cayman Islands Flag totaling a gross weight of more than 6 million gross tons.

The Cayman Islands is rated top-of-class on the Flag State Performance Table, which is released by the International Chamber of Shipping (ICS). It is also “white listed”, rated as a “low risk” flag state in all major international ports as per the Port State Control Memorandums of Understanding (including Paris and Tokyo MOUs), and is qualified under the United States Coast Guard (USCG) Qualship 21 Program.

Career options available in the maritime industry include opportunities within the Cayman Registry. With its’ global network, young Caymanians choosing this path are exposed to global standards, practical and theoretical, and are able to participate in a rich Caymanian tradition, building on the maritime foundation.

Godfrey Johnson and Kayla Martin are young Caymanians who received Maritime Authority of the Cayman Islands (MACI) Scholarships and now work with the Registry.

Mr. Johnson studied Naval Architecture at Newcastle University in the United Kingdom. He was extended an opportunity from one of the Registry’s major clients to work as a supernumerary on board one of their international chemical tankers.

Mr. Johnson undertook the Standards of Training, Certification and Watchkeeping (STCW) Basic Safety Courses, as well as hands on training in firefighting, lifesaving appliances and elementary first aid before joining the crew of the 176 metre (577 feet) tanker (similar in size to some calling into the Jackson Point Terminal (JPT), George Town).

During his time at sea, Mr. Johnson was able to participate in a wide range of ship operations; from cargo loading, ballasting, bunkering, mooring, passage planning and pilotage in port to daily maintenance, tank washing, chart corrections, bridge and engine room watchkeeping and safety drills.

“From a Naval Architecture perspective, it was interesting to learn about the interdependency of the systems on board and what redundancies are built in. From a Surveyor’s perspective it was invaluable to understand the procedures and agendas needed to operate a ship and keep it sailing on schedule, day and night safely.” Mr. Johnson said about his experience.

Going to sea is a common thought when considering a career within the maritime industry. However, for Kayla Martin her focus was Maritime Administration. She earned a Bachelors in Maritime Business Management, then a Masters in Maritime Operations Management from Liverpool John Moores University.

“Working with the Cayman Registry has given me firsthand learning experiences within various areas of the organization such as, Wreck Removal and Bunkering, Survey Administration, Vessel and Mortgage Registration and Business Development.” She said, “I’ve had many invaluable opportunities such as; Internal Auditor training in Houston, Texas, attending the annual Fort Lauderdale International Boat Show, working in the European Regional Office in Southampton, UK and being a member of the WISTA Cayman Islands Board of Directors.”

She continued “I am continuously gaining knowledge and exposure within the maritime industry; and I am proud to continue my family’s strong maritime history while working for one of the best Flag States in the world.”

Today, seafaring has transitioned from “working on decks of ships” to an industry of limitless maritime opportunities. With its’ ingrained maritime culture, the Cayman Islands is proud of its position within the industry and the Cayman Registry aspires to continue its growth. ♥



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