



**Statement on behalf of  
the Honourable Attorney General on  
the “Exceptional Circumstance” Transaction Incurred During  
the 2018 Financial Year for Portfolio of Legal Affairs**

**Second Meeting of the 2018/2019 Session of the Legislative  
Assembly – Commencing 14 November 2018**

Mister Speaker, pursuant to Section 11(6) of the Public Management and Finance Law (2018 Revision), I wish to make a statement to Members of this Honourable House regarding exceptional circumstances which were approved by the Cabinet for the Portfolio of Legal Affairs during the 2018 financial year that ends on 31 December 2018.

Mister Speaker, the exceptional circumstances required making changes to appropriations - which I will briefly explain.

**\$62,812 for Purchase of software**

1. In order to provide robust document-control and document management with respect to the revision and publication of the legislation of the Cayman Islands, in 2018 the Portfolio of Legal Affairs (POLA) requested on behalf of the Law Revision Commission additional funding via Section 11 (5) for the purchase of a legislative software system.
2. The current statute book of the Cayman Islands legislation consists of approximately 900 pieces of legislation. Those numbers are increasing as the Cayman Islands Government now produces approximately 50-60 pieces of new legislation per annum. This software would serve to provide ready access to the entirety of the statute book of the Cayman Islands legislation on a modern platform in keeping with global standards for access to legislation expected of world class financial centres.
3. The purchase of this system was necessary as there was no automated version control system for the legislative workflow. Neither was there any automated system

capable of assisting with the verification of cross-references between and among individual pieces of legislation. This system would address the above.

4. The anticipated cost of the software system was up to US\$75,000 (C\$62,812). POLA's 2018 capital budget of \$20,000 was insufficient to cover the purchase of software. Therefore, in accordance with section 11 (5) of the Public Management and Finance Law (2017 Revision) POLA requested Cabinet approve additional funds to appropriation EI 34 in the amount of \$62,812 for the purchase of a legislative software system.

### **Conclusion**

Mister Speaker, the above exceptional circumstances which were approved by the Cabinet for the Portfolio of Legal Affairs during the 2018 financial year on 13 February 2018, along with the overall effect on the Government's compliance with the Principles of Responsible Financial Management, can be found in the 2018 Supplementary Plan and Estimates which was tabled in this Honourable House.

Thank you Mister Speaker.