



The world's local bank

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### **HSBC Cayman takes on more Caymanians**

Over the past several months HSBC Bank (Cayman) Limited (HSBC Cayman) has added 15 new staff members, 13 of whom are Caymanians. These recent employees have been added to some 95 other staff members.

“HSBC is proud to count over 70 percent of its workforce as local employees, and to support their career development,” stated Chief Executive Officer, Gonzalo Jalles.

“We have made an extra effort to try to recruit qualified and experienced Caymanians who are keen to make a contribution to the operations of HSBC Bank, and in that regard, we have been quite successful. Our success has been largely due to our commitment to offer competitive salaries, good benefits and support for staff training and career development,” commented Head of Human Resources, Walling Whittaker. “The people that we recruit expect that they will have a bright future here.”

All new HSBC employees undergo a thorough orientation process, through which they learn about the various divisions of the bank. In these sessions, the CEO shares the vision and strategy for the Bank to achieve its goals and each head of department makes a

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**HSBC Bank (Cayman) Limited**

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Press Release

presentation on the role of his/her department and how that fits into the organisation as a whole.

Premier Relationship Manager, Michelle Bodden, comes to HSBC Cayman with 17 years experience in financial services that covered almost all areas in retail banking, ranging from performing as a teller to loan and credit card approvals. She also briefly worked in the captive insurance industry.

“Working at HSBC Cayman brings the excitement of being part of a new retail banking service that will be unique to Cayman. It is quite fulfilling to watch the company progress this new business from the ground up,” Michelle says.

Card Services Administrator, Rasheda Williams began working in the banking sector in 1997. Over the past 11 years Rasheda’s professional career took her through various areas including teller and customer services, wire transfers and the treasury department.

Of HSBC Cayman’s card services, Rasheda says: “Working in card services adds to my professional experiences. I am learning something new every day.”

When fresh out of John Gray High School, Settlement Administrator Kemar Scott began working in retail banking. Now the 20-year-old is part of HSBC Cayman’s Operations Division.

“Everyone here works as a team,” he says. “At HSBC Cayman I am learning so much about the banking industry and the various departments that make up the company.”

A career accountant of over 20 years, Assistant Finance Manager, Alicia Connolly, has worked in both the public and private sectors.

“I’ve found HSBC Cayman a good place to be, at a very interesting time. I see the possibility for growth here and I am looking forward to working with the rest of the team to ensure success,” she says.

Having served in retail banking, then as a senior auditor and staff accountant at another financial institution Allison Erskine takes up the post of Finance Manager at HSBC

Cayman. Allison has a Bachelor's degree in Accounting and Finance from the University of Central Florida and is currently pursuing her CPA.

"I like working at HSBC Cayman. It is different from anywhere else I have worked and it gives me a greater work-life balance," Allison states.

Assistant IT Manager/LAN Administrator, Jeff Pouchie joins HSBC with 17 years experience as an IT consultant. Before joining HSBC Cayman he provided support services to a wide range of companies in Grand Cayman.

Over the years, Jeff has received numerous IT certifications from major computer manufacturers and software companies including HP, Apple MacIntosh, Microsoft and COMPTIA.

"Being at HSBC Cayman is a change from the usual consulting that I have done for various companies. I am definitely enjoying the new environment," Jeff states.

HSBC Cayman has provided service from its Grand Cayman base for over 20 years. Its continued employment of an overriding number of Caymanians forms part of a strategy to build a strong local workforce, and towards this end there is a focus on employee training to ensure high-level performances.

With the objective of rewarding such performances, HSBC Cayman in October announced a new employee recognition scheme named the Hexagon Award, allowing any member of staff to nominate a colleague, department or team for this honour. Nominations will be examined monthly by a select committee.

There will be public announcements of the winners, and those persons will be awarded a trophy along with a monetary gift.

Historically the HSBC Cayman office has had three principal lines of business: Insurance Captives, Corporate Structures, and Private Trusts. Within the past 18 months the Bank

expanded its services to include Corporate Banking, and Personal Financial Services and in October launched its HSBC Premier service.

In July HSBC Cayman moved into its new offices located at HSBC House, 68 West Bay Road. All of the bank's services are offered in this location.

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**Caption:**

Gonzalo Jalles, Chief Executive Officer of HSBC Bank (Cayman) Limited (left) and Walling Whittaker, Head of Human Resources are photograph with recent employees of the Bank, following an employee orientation session.

The new employees are (front row, left to right): Michelle Bodden; Fame Varona; Patricia Neesome; Althea Vernon; Rasheda Williams and Alicia Connolly.

(Back row, left to right): Shelly McLaughlin; Lindsay Cox; Jefferson Pouchie; Jessica Thomas; Shaun Geils and Yohann Regnard.

**Notes to Editors:**

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**HSBC Bank (Cayman) Limited**

HSBC Bank (Cayman) Limited is a class A licensed bank that is regulated by the Cayman Islands Monetary Authority. As a leading financial services institution, the Bank offers a broad range of services encompassing fund administration, captive insurance management, corporate trust and private trust services, corporate banking and personal financial services.

**The HSBC Group**

The HSBC Group serves over 100 million customers worldwide through around 9,500 offices in 85 countries and territories in Europe, the Asia-Pacific region, the Americas, the Middle East and Africa. With assets of some US\$2,547 billion at 30 June 2008, HSBC is one of the world's largest banking and financial services organisations. HSBC is marketed worldwide as 'the world's local bank'.

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