

Spotlight on The Bahamas

THURSDAY 29 NOVEMBER 2018 – THE REFORM CLUB, LONDON

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AGENDA

08:30 Registration and coffee

09:00 Opening remarks

09:20 Securities industry update

- Christina Rolle, Executive Director, The Securities Commission of The Bahamas

09:40 Panel discussion: The Bahamas value proposition – products and services deep dive

Moderator: James Williams, Managing Editor, Hedgeweek

- Michael Paton, Head of Corporate & Commercial, Investment Funds and Banking & Securities Group, Lennox Paton
- Ryan Pinder, Partner, Graham Thompson
- Linda Beidler-D'Aguilar, Partner, Ginton Sweeting O'Brien
- Heather L. Thompson, Of Counsel, Higgs & Johnson

10:30 Q&A and networking

11:00 Event closes

OVERVIEW

The Bahamas: The Clear Choice for Investment & Financial Services will showcase the jurisdiction for those wishing to expand their investment and financial services capabilities.

Opening remarks will address the investment climate in The Bahamas and cover such matters as incentives under the Commercial Enterprises Act, Immigration Policy and a brief overview of the financial services sector in the jurisdiction.

This will be followed with a presentation by The Securities Commission of The Bahamas (SCB), which provides for the supervision and regulation of the activities of the investment funds, securities and capital markets, during which

Christina Rolle, Executive Director, SCB, will bring the audience up to speed on the Investment Funds Bill, 2018 and the regulatory environment for investment funds.

An in-depth 50-minute panel discussion will then focus on, and debate, the main product and operational developments taking place in The Bahamas, and why it is a compelling place for service providers to do business; particularly as its funds industry continues to grow and institutionalise. Where are the key growth drivers coming from and what product innovations are helping to further deepen the expertise and capabilities of the country's financial services firms?

SPEAKERS & PANELLISTS



Christina Rolle, Executive Director, The Securities Commission of The Bahamas

Christina has over 20 years of experience in the financial services industry. Over the course of her career, she has acted as Director and Deputy CEO for a prominent international private bank and held various senior managerial positions with local and other international institutions including Head of Trust and Fiduciary, Head of Risk, Compliance and Corporate Governance and Manager of Banking Services. She is highly skilled in quantitative and statistical analysis, marketing, operations and business strategy. Christina was a member of the FATCA advisory group for the Government of The Bahamas and has served on the Board of Directors of The Bahamas Financial Services Board and the Society of Trust and Estate Practitioners, Bahamas branch.



Michael Paton, Head of Corporate & Commercial, Investment Funds and Banking & Securities Group, Lennox Paton

Michael has specialist experience with wealth management structures. Ranked Band 1 in both Chambers Global and the Chambers High-Net-Worth Guide, he is considered one of the top lawyers in The Bahamas. Michael is former chairman of the Bahamas Financial Services Board, current deputy chairman of the Securities Commission of the Bahamas, a member of the government Tax Steering Committee and a qualified Certified Public Accountant (non-practising) in the USA.



Ryan Pinder, Partner, Graham Thompson

Ryan has been a partner at Graham Thompson since 2016. His practice areas include banking law, corporate and commercial law, investment funds, securities law, capital markets, trusts and estate planning and structuring. He specialises in financial services solutions, planning and wealth management for high net worth individuals and families, and their associated companies and businesses throughout the world. A former Member of Parliament, Ryan has previously served as Minister

of Financial Services and Trade, in The Bahamas Government. During his time as Minister, the Investment Condominium (ICON) legislation was developed and enacted, in addition to other key innovations and developments.



Linda Beidler-D'Aguilar, Partner, Ginton Sweeting O'Brien

Linda joined Ginton Sweeting O'Brien as a partner in 2015. She specialises in the structuring and creation of vehicles (including investment funds) for multinational institutional clients as well as private clients; she also advises on corporate transactions, securities law (including public and private offerings) as well as general commercial matters.

Linda served as a Director of the Bahamas Financial Services Board from 2010 to 2014, and continues to be active in BFSB's regulatory, legislative and product development initiatives. She speaks regularly at BFSB events. Linda has written articles for magazines including BFSB's Gateway, the IFC Review and LatAm Fund Manager, as well as informational and promotional pieces for BFSB. She was a member of BFSB's ICON Working Group that received the Development and Promotion Award in 2014; in 2016 she received BFSB's Minister's Award for services to the financial services industry. Linda is a non-executive member of the board of directors of Clairmont Trust Company Limited.



Heather L. Thompson, Of Counsel, Higgs & Johnson

Heather is a recognised leader in the private client sector, advising individuals, trustees and beneficiaries in international trust and company creation and ownership structures. She counsels trust companies on the development of new services and issues arising in trust administration, and advises diverse clientele on all aspects of wills, probate applications, estates administration, foundations, private trust companies, issues in company law and international commercial contracts.

A sought after conference speaker and contributor to the STEP Journal, Heather has received the STEP Founder's Award for Outstanding Achievement (2009) and the Bahamas Financial Services Board 'Executive of the Year' Award (2003). She is ranked by Chambers Global in General Business Law (2010 - 2017) and Chambers High Net Worth Guide (2017-2018). Heather has been named to Citywealth Leaders List (2012 - 2013); Guide to the World's Leading Women in Business Law (2012); and the IFC Power Women Top 200 list (2012-2017).



James Williams, Managing Editor, Global Fund Media

James joined Global Fund Media, a fully digital newswire wire service that covers all aspects of the global hedge fund industry, in June 2010. He reports on key developments spanning fund performance and strategy, legal and regulatory issues, technology and risk management. In addition, James has contributed articles on the hedge fund industry to the *Financial Times*, *Dow Jones Financial News* and *Citywire Global* as well as writing white papers for SEI and Misys.



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Contact: Katie Gopal | katie.gopal@globalfundmedia.com | +44 (0)7876 024191



About BFSB

The Bahamas Financial Services Board (BFSB), launched in April 1998, represents an innovative commitment by the financial services industry and the Government of The Bahamas to promote a greater awareness of The Bahamas' strengths as an international financial centre. The Board is a multidisciplinary body that embraces active contribution from individuals within government, banking, trust and investment advisory services, insurance and investment fund administration as well as interested legal, accounting and management professionals.

BFSB represents and promotes the development of all sectors of the industry, including: banking, private banking and trust services, mutual funds, capital markets, investment advisory services, accounting and legal services, insurance, and corporate and shipping registry. In addition to its coordinated programs to increase confidence and expand knowledge of The Bahamas among international businesses and investors, the private sector-led BFSB will continue to consult with government to develop new initiatives to meet the rapidly changing demands of international financial markets.

Contact: Bahamas Financial Services Board | info@bfsb-bahamas.com | +1 242 393 7001
www.bfsb-bahamas.com